

MINUTES OF A **MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE**
HELD IN THE **PAVILION ROOM, VILLAGE HALL, FOWLMERE**
on **TUESDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2019 at 7:30pm**

PRESENT: Cllr P Burge (Chairman), Cllr D Roberts, Cllr T Bearpark, Cllr P Collinson, Cllr C Howe and Cllr Lennon

IN ATTENDANCE Ms K Byrne (Clerk), and 1 member of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr L Wragg, Cllr M Vinton and Cllr S Mulholland.

2. Declarations of interest (*if any*)

Cllr Roberts declared that if an application is later placed before South Cambridgeshire District Council she will approach any new information afresh. Also, because Cllr Roberts is a District Cllr at SCDC, the same applies and she will look at any application, which goes to SCDC, afresh.

Cllr Roberts declared a non-pecuniary interest in items 5 & 6, as she is a neighbour.

3. Minutes from Previous Meeting – 25 June 2019

The minutes were agreed as a true record, and were signed by Cllr Burge.

4. S/3168/19/DC – 6 Thriplow Road, Fowlmere, (For Information Only)

Cllr Burge summarised the changes in the discharge of condition. The PC noted the changes, and there were no comments.

5. S/3219/19/FL – Homestead Barn, Lower Farm, Long Lane, Fowlmere

Cllr Roberts left the room at 19:33.

The PC considered the proposed application. Fowlmere Parish Council has no issues with the application, and recommends approval.

6. S/3220/19/LB – Homestead Barn, Lower Farm, Long Lane, Fowlmere

The PC considered the proposed application. Fowlmere Parish Council has no issues with the application, and recommends approval.

Cllr Roberts re-entered the room at 19:37.

7. Vetspeed Pet Crematorium, Thriplow – Update (for information only)

The PC noted the expired application.

8. Other Matters and Updates

Cllr Burge attended the Planning Forum last week and commented on the following points:

- Non-material amendments do not tend to be sent out to Parish Councils, but they are posted on the SCDC website and can be commented upon within 14 days. However, sometimes they are mis-used by developers. Stephen Kelly is trying to prevent this.
- SCDC said that no decision is being outsourced, despite losing about a third of Planning Officers but there were concerns.
- Greater Cambridge Local Plan – see link below. A report on the Issues and Options consultation has been published that includes the themes the Local Plan will explore.
<https://www.scams.gov.uk/planning/local-plan-and-neighbourhood-planning/emerging-local-plans-and-guidance/emerging-greater-cambridge-local-plan/emerging-greater-cambridge-local-plan-overview/>

- Section 106 policy has changed slightly, taking away pooling restrictions so more than 5 planning obligations can be pooled together.
- The combined authority has a new IT system for Planning Applications which will allow searches by boundaries within parishes rather than by whole parishes. The current system will go offline for an indeterminate period.

Cllr Roberts said that the housing supply has fallen to 5.3 years which could open the gates for speculative developments. Cllr Collinson asked with fewer officers are SCDC listening more to Parish Councils? In short, no.

Cllr Bearpark asked how the Neighbourhood Plan was going. Cllr Roberts said that it hasn't started yet and that people not on the PC will need to lead it. Cllr Burge suggested that a village meeting could be arranged to communicate to the village that Fowlmere may wish to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan.

ACTION – Clerk to put this on the next PC meeting Agenda

Cllr Roberts reported that the development on the land behind Appleacre was refused at appeal, but the agents are still in discussions with the planning department. A plan outside the village envelop used to be allowed only as an exception site but now the government have decided to allow 'early level exception sites'; these will allow market houses to be built for first-time buyers who would no longer need to claim a local connection, therefore a needs survey may not be mandatory. The proposed scheme behind Appleacre is likely to include a similar number of houses as before but they may be smaller (2/3 bedroom).

Regarding the Appleacre Park Applications, Cllr Roberts said that they will be discussed on 13 November, and the appeal to the inspectorate is continuing.

ACTION – Cllrs Burge and Wragg to check if they can attend the Appleacre meeting on 13 November

The meeting closed at 20.01