

Little Bardfield Parish Council



www.littlebardfieldparish.org.uk

Emergency Planning Meeting of the Parish Council

Monday 18th January 2021

7.00pm

This meeting was held remotely due to the Covid19 pandemic

MINUTES OF MEETING

Present: Cllr Andrew Davies, Cllr Terry Cutmore, Cllr Colin Simpson, Liz Williamson (Clerk)

District Councillor – Cllr Sandi Merifield

Apologies for absence – Cllr Paul Eastall.

1. Chairs Welcome/Apologies for Absence

1.1 Cllr Andrew Davies welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The meeting was held remotely via Zoom which was hosted by Cllr Andrew Davies. Cllr Eastall sent his apologies for not attending the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 None were declared

3. Public Forum

3.1 There were no members of the public present at the meeting

4. Planning Application UTT/20/3475/CLE – Caravans at Paul's Farm

4.1 Cllr Davies welcomed District Councillor Cllr Sandi Merifield to the meeting. Cllr Merifield had spoken to Nigel Brown (Uttlesford District Council) regarding the concerns the Parish Council and residents had raised regarding this application.

4.2 The previous Lawful Development Certificate for Paul's Farm was refused by UDC and subsequently dismissed at Appeal. The current application is seeking to prove 'beyond reasonable doubt' that the caravans have been sited on the land for more than 10 years. The Parish Council have historical photos which show that in 2001 there was only one caravan on the land. The previous Certificate of Lawful Use was dismissed on appeal as the Inspector considered that 'sufficient proof has not been provided'. The current application seeks to regularise the use of a number of caravans (Mobile Homes) that are utilised for residential purposes at Pauls Farm

4.3 An Enforcement Officer representing UDC visited the site in 2013 and saw that there were caravans on the site but deemed it not expedient to take enforcement action against the landowner.

4.4 Since the appeal was dismissed and the landowner informed of the appeal decision, a member of the Parish Council witnessed an additional mobile home being delivered to the site.

4.5 Cllr Merifield stated that Nigel Brown would be willing to meet with the Parish Council to discuss ongoing concerns about this site. Cllr Merifield also suggested submitting an objection to UDC on behalf of the Parish Council, including as much factual evidence as possible.

- 4.5 Cllr Cutmore stated he would aid the clerk with her response to UDC.
Action: Clerk to draft response to UDC
5. UTT/20/2511/AG – Paul’s Farm – Erection of 3 no. Agricultural Barns
- 5.1 An appeal has been submitted following an application which was refused by UDC. An objection by the Parish Council to the previous application was submitted to UDC.
- 5.2 It was discussed and agreed that a further objection should be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate reiterating the concerns raised previously. The objection should also include that the Parish Council consider it would be unnecessary for three agricultural buildings to be erected on the land due to the land not being used to grow arable crops. Therefore the barns would not be required for agricultural purposes.
Action: Clerk to draft response to the Planning Inspectorate
6. UTT/21/0011/FUL – Ambrose Cottage
- 6.1 No objections were raised to this application by any of the Members present, providing there is no proposed floodlights on the site.
Action: Clerk to draft response to UDC
7. Any Other Business
- 7.1 A serious incident occurred within the Parish last week on land at Paul’s Farm, adjacent to the River Pant involving a 75 yr old lady who was out walking with her grandchildren and became stuck in waist high mud. The emergency services were called and the lady was rescued after being stuck for an hour and a half. Local residents have contacted The Environment Agency and the Health and Safety Executive and asked that warning signs/fencing is erected to make walkers aware of the dangers on the land. Luckily in this instance nobody was seriously hurt, however the potential hazards need to be highlighted to anyone who may venture off the public footpath and onto the land.
Action: Clerk to draft letter to UDC. ECC EA and HSE
- 7.2 Correspondence has been received regarding a local heritage list. Little Bardfield currently does not feature in the list. Cllr Cutmore is to request additional pieces of heritage within the Little Bardfield Parish are included. The crinkle/crankle wall and the wooden tombstone are two items that are considered to be worthy of inclusion.
Action: Cllr Cutmore to make contact
- 7.3 The defibrillator purchased for Little Bardfield will be installed by the owner of Rose Cottage and the Parish Council will reimburse for any costs incurred. The Hawkspur Green defibrillator and cabinet have been delivered. Installation will be pursued once the Covid lockdown has been eased
- 7.4 Correspondence has been received seeking the Parish Councils support in objecting to a proposed solar farm with the Uttlesford District. The PC does not feel it can offer an objection due to the financial gain that the solar farm at Hawkspur Green generates for the Parish.
Action Cllr Cutmore to draft a response
- 7.5 It was agreed that regarding on line bank payments that the clerk should raise any payment that does not relate directly to her (i.e. salary or expenses), Cllr Cutmore should be the first point of authorisation with Cllr Davies second and Cllr Simpson, third. Once the clerk has access to both accounts, the process to remove any persons who were previously named on the accounts would be undertaken. For audit purposes, all members of the parish council should be emailed when a payment is raised.

Date of Next meeting 9th February via Zoom
Meeting Closed at 8.00pm