GREAT BLAKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd December 2020.

Owing to Covid-19 regulations on public gatherings, this meeting was held via Zoom.

Present: Cllrs. Widge Bowman, Steve Plume, Will Durrant.

Clerk to the Council: Janet Gobey

Three members of the public.

The Chairman opened the Meeting at 7.32 pm.

1. To receive and approve any apologies for absence.

Cllr. Moore presented apologies due to personal reasons. Councillors unanimously accepted these apologies.

2. Declaration of any pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests.

a. Councillors declaration of interest appropriate to any item on the agenda.

None.

b. To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interest (if any).

None.

c. To grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate.

None.

3. Planning

a. To consider the following planning applications.

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| DC/20/05205 | Location: 3 Chalk Hill Lane, Great Blakenham, Ipswich, Suffolk IP6 0NA | Proposal:Application for Outline Planning Permission (some matters reserved, access to be considered). Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - Erection of up to 3No dwellings and access (following demolition of existing dwelling). |

Members of the public present raised various concerns including:

Parking, as three dwellings will mean at least six cars and no mention is made in the application of any additional parking.

Road safety risk caused by increased traffic coming out of the site entrance to traffic turning off the B113 up Chalk Hill Lane, also to cyclists and pedestrians.

Loss of trees.

Existing properties losing privacy as they will be overlooked.

Existing local infrastructure is already under strain. Any new homes will only increase the problem.

Concerns about sewerage and drainage on the site.

Councillors agreed that it was difficult for them to comment in detail on the application as there were important details missing, such as the number and size of the new dwellings. Councillors agreed to reserve the right to comment in more detail or object when further information is provided. However, they felt that potential road safety risks should be raised at this stage, as there are already four road junctions within a 50-metre radius of the site entrance and this would make a fifth, with a possible increased risk of accidents.

4. To consider possible spending plans and budgets for 2021/2022.

Councillors discussed this and agreed that road safety and speeding could be a priority for next year. Possible projects include an upgrade of the Parish Room crossing and the installation of speed indication devices. ACTION: Chairman to contact Cllr. Field about the crossing upgrade. ACTION: Clerk to get costs of SIDs.

Possible purchase of land for new allotments - ACTION: Clerk to write to local landowner to ask if it would be possible to discuss a land purchase.

Possible new preschool in the village – ACTION: Clerk to email Cllr. Field.

5. Finance

a. To approve the 2019 /20 Accounts.

Councillors approved these unanimously.

b. To note the Internal Audit Report for 2019/20.

Councillors noted this.

c. To approve the Annual Audit Return - Section 1 Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20.

Councillors approved this unanimously. Due to Covid-19 regulations on public gatherings, it was not possible to sign Section 1 at the meeting. ACTION: Clerk to arrange signatures.

d. To approve the Annual Audit Return – Section 2 Accounting Statement for 2019/20.

Councillors approved this unanimously. Due to Covid-19 regulations on public gatherings, it was not possible to sign Section 2 at the meeting. ACTION: Clerk to arrange signatures.

The Meeting was closed by the Chairman at 8.40 pm.