

STONHAM PARVA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE BAPTIST
CHAPEL SOCIAL ROOM ON MONDAY 17th DECEMBER 2018

PRESENT: Cllrs I Richardson, K Dawson, T Benjamin,
S Baldry, G Davison
13 Villagers

APOLOGIES : W Brame

Public Forum: The Parish Council gave notice to the village to call an extraordinary meeting on the evening of Monday 17th December to discuss DC/18/04858 Full Planning Application – Erection 9no. dwellings, associated garages and creation of vehicular access to land on the east side of Norwich Road, Stonham Parva, Suffolk.

Introductions/SPPC

All Parish Councillors introduced themselves to the parishioners in attendance.

T Benjamin introduced the meeting and stated that the Parish Council wanted to gain the views of the village in respect of this proposed development. I would then write to Mid Suffolk Planning Department reflecting the views expressed. .

I Richardson shared a presentation with the meeting detailing the planning application in depth, including detailed plans, traffic survey results, ecology details, site plans. He told the attendees the site has always been a hay meadow and as such has a lot of wildlife in it, Suffolk Wildlife Trust have advised a full nature survey should be carried out.

I Richardson and G Davison explained that we would need to put forward strong legal planning arguments in order to reject this planning application and that if it goes ahead, we should consider what might happen in the future in terms of setting a precedent.

Public Forum

T Benjamin asked parishioners for their comments/views.

1. Concerns raised that this sets a precedent for future developments in the village and open up other areas within the village for development. This could have a negative impact on the village given that most home would have at least 2 cars and apart from the pub and Baptist Church there are no local amenities and no transport without having to walk down the A140 to the nearest bus stop. There is no safe place to cross the road. This is despite it being stated in the plans that the site is close to bus routes.
2. The plans show trees and a grassed area but there is no explanation about the trees being kept or what the grass area is to be used for and how it will be maintained. It is described as a protected area, but what does this mean? Will the trees to given preservation orders?
3. The site is currently a habitat for many types of plant and wildlife. Returning woodpeckers have been seen in the gardens backing onto the site and there is nowhere else in the village that is a natural habitat such as this.
4. Some villagers are worried about the loss of light to their properties, a loss of privacy and a potential impact upon solar panels. The new properties seem to be planned to be built close to existing properties.
5. The application seems inconsistent. It was originally planned for 12 properties but has been reduced to 9 due to crested newts but the pond that is suggested for relocation of the newts is on the other side of the site and currently a dry ditch.

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6. Poor visibility from the proposed site entrance is a concern. There are laybys on either side of the entrance which regularly have HGVs and delivery vans parked in them.
7. The proposed site entrance is directly opposite a busy car wash.
8. The site is outside the main settlement of the village. It is not in keeping with the current housing ribbon formation. If the plans were for properties to fill the gap that exists and continued on the ribbon formation this would be far more acceptable.
9. The site is potentially of archaeological interest given that it is situation next to a roman road and there are a number of listed and very old buildings nearby.
10. The meeting was asked for a show of hands of all those who were against this planning application and those who supported the application. Attendees were unanimous in opposing the planning application.

| The Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 8:25pm.

ISSUED

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