West Wickham Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting held at Manor Farm, West Wickham on Friday, 9th October 2015, 6.00 p.m. to 6.40 p.m.

Present: Councillors Cornish (Chairman), Grieve, Hall, Licence and Schuilenberg

Apologies: Councillors Charlton and Plumb

1. Parish Planning Forum 14th October 2015

It was noted that Councillor Hall would be attending this forum.

2. Planning Application S/1160/15/OL- 95 High Street, West Wickham

At the meeting of the Parish Council on 11th September 2015, the Council had decided to object to this application. This was reported to the next meeting of the Parish Council on 28th September. Councillor Hall had attended the meeting of South Cambridgeshire District Council's Planning Committee to present the views of the Parish Council on this application but, at the meeting it had transpired that the application had been amended so that the proposed dwelling was wholly within the Development Framework. In addition, one of the local District Councillors, Councillor Turner, had expressed his support for the application. The Parish Council were concerned that these developments had come about without any communication with the Parish Council. The Chairman indicated that he would be informing Councillor Turner of these concerns and asking for an explanation.

3. Planning Application S/2108/15/FL - Change of Use of Stables to Single Dwelling, The Meadow, Streetly End

The Parish Council gave consideration to this application for the conversion of stables into a dwelling, which involved the re-opening of an access which had been closed off as a condition of a previous planning application (S0213/03/F). The District Council had imposed this condition following concerns expressed by the Parish Council about the use of the access for farm traffic and the proliferation of accesses on this short stretch of road.

It was noted that the site lay outside the development framework for the village, although the applicant was justifying the proposal on the basis of new National policy for the re-use of redundant farm buildings.

The Parish Council noted comments made by three local residents, including objections to the proposal on the basis of proximity to a listed building and conservation area, and also concern that, should the access be re-opened, it may again be open for use by farm traffic.

The Planning Statement also referred to there being a bus stop nearby. This was misleading as the nearest bus stops were either in West Wickham or Horseheath.

It was agreed that the Council object to the application on the grounds that it is outside the development framework for the village. In addition, it was agreed that, if the application is approved, access should be for the new development only. In order to ensure that this condition is adhered to, it was recommended that the site should be physically separated to prevent through access to the adjoining farm.