

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF HOUGHTON-ON-THE-HILL  
PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
VILLAGE HALL, MAIN STREET, HOUGHTON-ON-THE-HILL,  
WEDNESDAY 25<sup>th</sup> JULY 2007, AT 8:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Cllr. Mr. M. Stevenson (Chairman)  
Cllr. Mrs. A. Sharman (Vice-Chairman)  
Cllr. Mrs. E. Bent  
Cllr. Mr. P. Duke  
Cllr. Mr. W. Scott  
Ms A. M. Davies (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies from Cllr. Mrs. A. Sleath had been received and accepted.  
Apologies from Cllr. Mrs. S. Swann had been received and accepted.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest were to be made when agenda items were being discussed and recorded accordingly.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THE 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2007

The Minutes of the Meeting of the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2007 were confirmed and signed.

Council agreed that future meeting packs would, when necessary, include topical "Information for Councillors" which, although not part of the forthcoming agenda, might be of relevance to the general corporate knowledge of the Council.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Permission GRANTED:

Planning Application 07/00545/FUL – Erection of two detached dwellings and garages (revised scheme of 02/00545/FUL.

Applicant: Corlett Housing Ltd., 2A, Southern Hay Road, Leicester LE2 3TJ  
Location: 31 Main Street, Houghton on the Hill, Leics. LE7 9GE  
Planning permission granted 28<sup>th</sup> June 2007

It was reported that some issues of concern have arisen in connection with the beginning of building on this site. Mr. Clive Howe, District Engineer Highways, conducted a site visit 20/07/07 to address some issues re. damage to Highways verges and the unnecessary congestion being caused in Elizabeth Close as the result of labourers' cars being parked there and the arrival of numerous large delivery lorries arriving simultaneously. It would be very difficult, if not impossible, for emergency services vehicles to gain access to Elizabeth Close. There has already been some damage to residents' property. It was agreed on the site visit that the timber roof trusses, usually delivered by articulated lorries, would be constructed on site thus avoiding the impossible situation of articulated lorries attempting to navigate the narrow village access roads. It was also agreed that a gravel parking area for delivery and trade vehicles would be laid within the building site

The Planning Enforcement Department have been made aware that some listed conditions, which should have been complied with prior to the commencement of building work, appear to have been disregarded. A Planning Enforcement Officer will conduct a site visit this week to ensure adherence

to the listed conditions and further follow-up visits from Highways are expected. District Cllr. Mr. Simon Galton has also been made aware of the current situation and of the concerns of residents of Elizabeth Close about whether the existing sewage arrangements can sustain the extra load from the new site and if the surface over the existing system, which is believed to run down Elizabeth Close, will be made good as was (concrete not tarmac) when potential excavation and work has been completed.

The clerk is to request of the Highways Authority that, after having inspected the site and being aware of current conditions, arrangements might be made for regular cleaning of the road surface of Elizabeth Close.

Complaints had also been received from residents of Elizabeth Close that the wording of the Planning Application had been misleading; the location address on the notice was given as 31, Main Street. This led these residents to believe that access would be via Main Street. The residents of Elizabeth Close had no prior notice from the Development Control Team that the site access would be solely via Elizabeth Close, consequently potentially having a direct effect on all of their properties. These parishioners feel that all residents of Elizabeth Close should have been in receipt of a letter giving notice of this planning application and consequently the opportunity to submit comment.

Council agreed that a letter stating the Council's current dissatisfaction with some aspects of the services of the Development Control Team should be sent to the Head of Built Environment Services, with a copy to the Chief Executive of HDC.

A number of residents of Elizabeth Close were in attendance at the meeting in order to participate in the informal public session, routinely scheduled for this purpose, after the closure of the formal PC Meeting.

### Planning Applications CONSIDERED BY COUNCIL

#### 1. Planning Application 07/00987/FUL

Proposal: Erection of a single storey extension and dormer roof extension to the rear  
 Location: 5, Stretton Lane, Houghton on the Hill, Leics. LE7 9GL  
 Date received by PC: 05/07/07  
 Date of End of Consultation: 27/07/07

Having considered the plans the Council instructed the Clerk to inform HDC Development Control Team that the Council has no comment to make on this application.

#### 2. Planning Application 07/01078/TCA

Proposal: Felling of trees  
 Location: 34, Main Street, Houghton on the Hill, Leics. LE7 9GD  
 Date received by PC: 19/07/07  
 Date of End of Consultation: 08/08/07

The Council had no specific objection to this application but the clerk was instructed to inform HDC Development Control Team that the Council continues to oppose any unnecessary felling of trees and that, where possible, a replacement tree be planted.

#### 3. Planning Application 07/01050/OUT

Proposal: Erection of one detached dwelling (all matters reserved)  
 Location: 8/8A St Catharine's Way, Houghton on the Hill, Leics. LE7 9HE  
 Date received by PC: 19/07/07  
 Date of End of Consultation: 08/08/07

Prior to the meeting, at the request of a Councillor, the clerk had researched the background of building restrictions applicable to this planning application site. Council is aware that this application site is designated and recorded as Important Open Land, as indicated on the Proposals Map Insets identifying such designated areas in the HDC Local Development Plan, and is consequently subject to building restrictions stipulated in policy HS/9, 4.64 relating to Important Open Land. Council wished to know what building restrictions, pre-dating the adoption of the Local Development Plan, necessitated a planning application for a fence on this site in 1988. This application (Ref. No. 88/1651/3P), by the same applicant, was for the erection of a rear and side fence but did not include proposals for a fence enclosing the front of the site. The inclusion of the erection of such a front fence would have secured the side garden for private use. Council wished to know what building restrictions precluded the erection of a fence along the front boundary of this plot in 1988 and if these same restrictions are still currently applicable to Planning Application 07/01050/OUT.

Having been proposed and seconded:

- ***It was RESOLVED that the Clerk be reimbursed for the £8.00 expenditure incurred in obtaining Land Registry documentation and that invoices supporting this expenditure be presented for payment as part of the clerk’s variable expenses.***

*(The vote was unanimous from all those present)*

Following discussion and debate, having been proposed and seconded:

- ***It was RESOLVED that the Council request more information from the Development Control Team about Planning Application 07/01050/FUL but that, pending receipt of this information, the Council object strongly to Planning Application 07/01050/OUT.***

*(Carried by majority vote)*

The Clerk was instructed to notify HDC Development Control Team of the Council’s reasons for objection to Planning Application 07/01050/OUT and also to request more information.

There being no further business to transact the meeting was closed at 20:30 pm.

SIGNED.....

CHAIRMAN

DATE.....