

Mendlesham Parish Council

An Ordinary Parish Council meeting was held via google meet video in accordance with The Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) (England) Regulations 2020, 3.4.20, Wednesday 7th October 2020 at 7.00pm.

1.Present: Cllrs A Davey (Chairperson), P Allen, M Exley, D Foster, N Foster, B Gardiner, S Judd, D Nunn, H Orton, E Ward, S Jones (Clerk), SCC/MSDC Cllr A Stringer and three members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr S Webb.

The Mendlesham Parish Council filming statement was read out.

2. Declarations of interest:

a) To note Councillor's declarations of interest in any of the following agenda items. The Clerk declared a non pecuniary interest in the playingfield matters as she is Chair of Governors for Mendlesham Primary School which uses the area.

b) To agree any dispensations with regard to declarations of interest. Not required.

3. To approve the draft minutes of the following meetings as a true and accurate record of those meetings:

a) Ordinary Parish Council meeting 9.9.20. Pages 1785-1795 inclusive were unanimously agreed as an accurate record of that meeting. It was agreed they would be signed and dated by the Chairperson at the earliest opportunity.

b) Extraordinary meeting 29.9.20. Pages 1796-1797 inclusive were unanimously agreed as an accurate record of that meeting. It was agreed they would be signed and dated by the Chairperson at the earliest opportunity.

4. Police report: A report had been received and circulated to all Councillors.

SCC Cllr/ DCllr Stringer reports :please see reports as appended to these minutes. A question was asked about policies to protect prime farmland. Cllr Stringer reported there were no Suffolk policies specific to sites, although there were policies to " protect the Countryside."

Public Forum: Members of the public were present. The Chairperson provided the opportunity for any questions or comments, but no one spoke or raised a matter and no written questions had been received.

5. Planning:

a) Applications:

The Chairperson asked Cllr Exley to open discussions on the following applications.

DC/20/03993 34 Horsefair Close, Mendlesham. Householder Planning Application- Erection of two single storey side and single storey rear extensions (following demolition of existing side extension).

Unanimously agreed to recommend for approval with no comments.

DC/20/04104 Hill House, Norwich Road, Wetheringsett Cum Brockford Planning Application. Change of use and conversion of barn to dwelling. Unanimously agreed to recommend for approval with no comments.

b) Results:

DC/20/03470 White House Farm, Mendlesham Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: Erection, Extension or Alteration of a Building for Agricultural or Forestry use. The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development)(England) Order 2015 (as amended) Schedule 2, Part 6 -Erection of agricultural storage barn and hardstanding. Formal approval is not required.

c) Correspondence:

i) APPEAL: ref APP/W3520/C/19/3238588, APP/W3520/C/19/3238589, APP/W3520/C/19/3238590 & APP/W3520/C/19/3238591.

Appeal by Mr P Caley, Ms R Caley, Mr G Smith and Ms G Smith

Appeal against Enforcement Notice issued: 06/09/2019

Location: Plot 4- Woodlands, Land to The East of Brockford Road, Wetheringsett- cum-Brockford

Appeal Start date: 14/9/2020

To note and confirm if Mendlesham Parish Council wishes to make comments, or modify/withdraw previous representation.

It was unanimously agreed to submit the following additional information:

Photos of 27.11.19 and 20.12.19 showing flooding

Photo of 27.11.19 showing light pollution

Details of the new MSDC five year land supply, showing an increasing trend further to the Consultation document issued August 2020.

Comments regarding loss of rural aspect with more sites and occupancy since the original responses provided for the planning application(s)

(Clerks note: notwithstanding the following comments are minutes as the same as for the previous appeals , Councillors considered this application on its own merits and in full).

ii) APPEAL: ref APP/W3520/C/19/3238584, APP/W3520/C/19/3238585 & APP/W3520/C/19/3238586

Appeal by Mr G Smith, Mrs G Smith and Mr J Smith.

Appeal against Enforcement Notice issued: 06/09/2019

Location: Plot 5- Two Oaks, Land to the East of Brockford Road, Mendlesham

Appeal Start date: 09/09/2020

To note and confirm if Mendlesham Parish Council wishes to make comments, or modify/withdraw previous representation. Page 1799

It was unanimously agreed to submit the following additional information:
Photos of 27.11.19 and 20.12.19 showing flooding

Photo of 27.11.19 showing light pollution

Details of the new MSDC five year land supply, showing an increasing trend further to the Consultation document issued August 2020.

Comments regarding loss of rural aspect with more sites and occupancy since the original responses provided for the planning application(s)
(*Clerks note: notwithstanding the following comments are minutes as the same as for the previous appeals , Councillors considered this application on its own merits and in full*).

19.13pm One of the existing members of the public had left the meeting, then rejoined.

A new member of the public joined the meeting and then left.

19.17pm Another existing member of the public had left, leaving two remaining members of the public.

d) Any other planning matters: to include

Report MSDC Development Committee B meeting 30.9.20 re Old Engine Meadow DC/19/05949. It was noted that full planning permission had been approved subject to further work required regarding the SWALE and a condition closing potential access via Horsefair Close.

6. Consultations:To note and confirm response to

a) PC 11-20 Planning of the future. It was noted a consultee response to NALC (National Association of Local Councils) would not be ready in time for this deadline, but Cllr Exley, Mr Moore and the Clerk would continue to prepare a response direct to the Government and submit by this deadline of the end of October.

b) Any others: none.

7.Reports

a) Clerks report & delegated decisions

Finance:

Precept 2nd installment £20,000 notification of payment 18.9.20

CIL Neighbourhood Payment £3322.02 notification by 28.10.20 .

Revised NP:

Health Check: Now received

Next committee meeting 21.10.20

Mendlesham defibrillator: only one set of pads in machine, further to use and expiry. Still outstanding

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Land at Mendlesham Green : request from an existing tenancy holder to have a joint agreement with another farmer. After discussions with Cllr Nunn, advised we would not wish to change the existing agreement to joint names. Tenancy needs to be given up. Then Parish would probably put land out to tender.

Footpath FP6:

Attended a really positive meeting with a local resident and SCC Rights of Way Officer re particular resident's difficulty accessing part of the footpath. Work to remedy to be completed very shortly and resident "recruited" to help with similar Rights of Way issues in other parishes. Also reminded officer to investigate re outstanding reports of issues with other local paths.

Delegated decision: none

Correspondence: Details of a potential meeting regarding local Health matters. **Action: Cllr Allen** to attend if possible once date published.

b) Other organisation reports: Mendlesham Community Council Chair person and Treasurers report for the year ending 31.3.20 had been received and circulated.

c) Chairs report : Nothing to report that is not an agenda item.

d) Questions to the Chair: Arrangements for Remembrance events were discussed and wreaths ordered. Planting of a WI Tree was discussed with detailed proposal required from the WI.

8. Mendlesham Parish Council: Financial matters

a) To confirm payment of invoices.

Payment of the following were unanimously confirmed.

DD	12.42	Google monthly fee
OL	179.60	Street Cleaning September
OL	1055.24	Administration September
DD	81.20	NEST Sept payment
OL	360.00	PFK Littlejohn LLP external audit ye 31.3.20
OL	873.60	Porch Builders hire of security fencing 19.6.20-24.9.20 playingfield project
OL	30.00	SALC Birketts planning webinar 26.8.20 -Cllr Orton
OL	30.00	SALC Birketts planning webinar 10.9.20 -Cllr Orton
OL	30.00	SALC Birketts planning webinar 23.9.20 -Cllr Orton

OL *	3231.60	A.E. White Surfacing Ltd, trench and works for playingfield project
OL *	16072.32	Sports Courts UK Ltd - installation of floodlights to muga project
OL	1188.00	Professional planning advice re MSDC committee DC/19/05915
Tf **	5000.00	From C/A to saving account
OL ***	210.00	Parkers pitches playingfield grass cut £175 plus vat 6.10.20

* once S106 MSDC grant monies received.

** to adjust transfer last month after receipt of 2nd precept

*** On receipt of invoice)

b) To note bank reconciliation and management position as at 30.9.20.
Noted with no questions asked.

c) To note receipt of External Auditors report for the year ending 31.3.20 and confirm any actions as required. The external auditors report had been circulated to all Parish Councillors. It was also noted all statutory requirements, including Notice of Conclusion was on the Parish Noticeboards and the Mendlesham web site. No areas of concern had been raised by the External auditors, PKF Littlejohn. It was agreed no further actions were required.

d) To authorise purchase of 10 sleepers for Mendlesham's Woodland @ £26 each plus vat. Unanimously agreed.

e) Any other financial matters. None.

9. Playingfields

a) MUGA and WSA project:

i) Report: Mr Woodley reported MUGA

- court markings were completed 7.10.20
- the only thing left to do is set up the flood lights
- ok to use

WSA

- complete
- waiting for confirmation on warranty
- waiting for confirmation from Gravity Parks that a few snagging items will be picked up during the defects period
- ok to use once Gravity Park have confirmed about the snagging items

MISC

- to do signage, seating, landscaping, access ramp.
- Table tennis tables will be left to Spring before erecting.
- Need to store tables and netball nets

Discussion then included:

- £3700 left from grant monies to complete.
- Signage to be put up before use (CCTV and use of WSA)
- Concerns about the safety of the surroundings of the WSA in order to prevent potential for accidents.

Action: It was agreed Cllrs Nunn and Gardiner could order soil etc as required.

- Young persons event to paint the WSA area in the hope of encouraging ownership and preventing Anti Social vandalism.

Action: It was agreed Cllrs Fosters and Cllr Orton would take this project forward with confirmation to open to be agreed via email.

ii) Any other matters:

It was agreed to delegate hire of the MUGA, on the same fee structure and arrangement as the rest of Mendlesham playingfield to the Clerk, with the support of the working party. There was a discussion about if this applied to all requests and this was confirmed.

b) Grass cutting and maintenance

i) Report and information further to meeting with a potential volunteer. Cllr Gardiner reported a meeting with a potential volunteer to cut the grass. Further information was awaited re the cost of grass tyres for the volunteers tractor.

ii) Report and information further on meeting with JMAT Vertus. The Clerk reported a meeting planned for 6th October had been cancelled due to a representative having to isolate due to Covid. The meeting would be rearranged.

iii) Purchase of own equipment. Discussion included:

- reliance on volunteers v a professional contractor
- if other areas of grasscutting in the Parish could be included. It was noted this had only recently been considered with the decision not to take this forward.
- not to investigate further at present.

iv) To agree the way forward. To continue to investigate professional arrangements and cost of grass tyres. Long term it was considered Mendlesham should rely less on volunteers and more on contracted services.

c) Other playing field matters including:

- i) Football hire: Changes within Mendlesham Football Club, including reduced fixtures this season and reduced potential hire income was noted.
- ii) Correspondence & questions further to fee implementation. Noted.
- iii) High net project: Correspondence with a resident was noted.

iv) Amazon Smile. It was agreed to register both charities (Mendlesham Memorial Playingfields and Mendlesham Community Centre with Amazon Smile projects whereby purchasers could nominate a charity of their choice to receive financial sums as a percentage of nominated sales.

d) Any other matters. It was reported four of the Oak trees planted in the Mendlesham Playingfield new hedge, as part of the WW1 Remembrance had died. **Action:** Cllr Stringer to arrange purchase of replacements.

10. New hedges, trees: to consider MSDC email re plant availability and potential locations. It was agreed to confirm to MSDC that Mendlesham would be interested in receiving plants for as yet to be agreed locations. The Queens Canopy project was also anticipated. **Action: Clerk.**

Action: Cllrs Foster and Cllr Exley to present a proposal for a future agenda item.

12. Any other business: matters of report and future agenda items.

An offer to remove beer barrels at Mendlesham Community Centre was received.

Meeting closed at 8.39pm
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