

BRANDESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall on Thursday 29 October 2009

Present

Councillors D Risk (Chairman) (DR), H Saxton (HS), W Elson (WE), S Thurlow (ST), J Fielder (JF) and P Summers (PS).

Parish Clerk and RFO A M Hounsell (AMH)

Dist Cllr R Snell

Parishioner Mr N Hayward

Mr A Payn (Brandeston Hall)

1-0910/8 – Formal Meeting Opening, Chairman’s Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chairman formally opened the meeting and welcomed Councillors. He confirmed receipt of apology for absence from Mrs W Woodland, Parish Historical Recorder.

2-0910/8 - To Receive Councillors’ Declaration of Interest in Agenda Items

ST declared interest in agenda item 5 (i)

3-0910/8 – Planning

The Clerk advised of and the Council considered application C09/1509 (Cottage at Old Wheelwrights, Low Street – Alterations including replacement windows and associated works). The Council agreed to support this application. The Clerk was instructed to so advise SCDC, Planning Dept.

The Clerk advised that previous application C09/1290 (Brandeston Hall – Replacement Pool Enclosure and New Changing Rooms) had been approved with conditions applied in respect of finishes and brickwork, requirement for a tree planting scheme and others. The Council questioned how this opposed application had been approved under delegated powers without consideration by the SCDC Development Control Sub-committee.

4-0910/8 – Planning Applications C09/1291 (Changing Rooms) and C09/1292 (Inflatable Structure) – both Brandeston Hall

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to permit discussion as set out in the notes attached to these minutes

The Chairman then reconvened the meeting.

The Council agreed to support application C09/1291 provided that any approval includes:-

- (i) a detailed requirement that will include retention/replacement of the hedge on the south side to the swimming pool /changing room
- (ii) a specific agreement by the applicant that it will not stain the board-cladding black.

The Council agreed to strongly oppose application C09/1292 and maintained its position that the proposed structure is unsightly - albeit that it is accepted that there may be benefits arising from the facilities thus provided. However, the Council did not accept that these be at the cost of this unsightly structure. The Council considered that this structure is completely unacceptable in a rural environment adjacent to a listed building. The proposal is strongly opposed. The Council agreed to request that SCDC, Development Control Sub-committee members carry out a site visit. The Council are concerned that no alternative structures have been offered for consideration.

The Clerk was instructed to advise SCDC, Planning Department of these views.

5-0910/8 - Financial Matters

The Council agreed payments as follows :-

- (i) £4.50 to Brandeston VH&RG for room hire for this meeting (26/10/09)
- (ii) The Council agreed payment of the 100+ Club licence fee of £20.00 to SCDC

6-0910/8 - Any other business as may be raised and accepted as appropriate by the Chairman

There was no discussion under this item

7-0910/8- Date of Next Meeting

Date of the next meeting was confirmed as 20 January 2010 at 8.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm

NOTES OF OPEN DISCUSSION IN RESPECT OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS C09/1291 AND 1292

Application 1291

Mr Andrew Payn stated that there had been significant contact with SCDC, Planning Department over these applications. SCDC's Mr C Harden had proposed some black boarding to "break up" the large area of brickwork. Mr Payn added that the school were happy to retain or replace the hedging to the south side and the school would resist from black staining of the boarding.

Application 1292

Mr Payn presented drawings and photographs illustrating the proposed development and explained that the school had considered various types of structure for covering the tennis courts. They had settled on a non-translucent dome style (through which light will not pass) held in place by inflation. Consultation with the Lawn Tennis Association indicated that they would fund 50% of the costs. It is not known if the LTA's terms would permit the use of area so covered for other sports.

Councillors stated that they welcomed the possible extension of the facilities at Brandeston Hall – in particular, they noted that the new facility would be available to members of the public who chose to join the tennis club. AMH and several Councillors expressed strong concerns at the construction of such an inappropriate style of building in a rural environment adjacent to a listed building (Brandeston Hall) and did not accept that the improved facilities justified such a development.

The Council strongly resist the proposal as submitted and requested that the Hall withdraw the application.

Dist Cllr Snell advised that the date of the SCDC Development Control Sub-committee meeting to consider these applications is 11 November 2009.