



EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

The meeting was held on Tuesday 9th November 2022

7.00pm Committee Room, Millennium Hall, Egerton

Present

Richard King (chairman), Peter Rawlinson (Vice-Chairman) Cllrs Tim Oliver, Jeff Hopkins, Lois Tilden, Pat Parr, Claire Foinette, Richard Wall, Sonia Young (Clerk)

Nine members of the public were present

1. Apologies

Cllr John Lawton

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. Discussion of the Planning Inspector's Appeal notification about application ref 21/00627/AS, Land to the rear of Harmers Way (North Field), the timetable and agreement on the process for representations.

Cllrs raised grave concerns via Cllr Ken Mulholland and direct to ABC about why ABC did not post the Ground for Appeal by the appellant at the time they were submitted in June, despite regular requests for such information and why it was not until November that they were posted into the public domain on the ABC planning portal. A full explanation was yet to be received.

Due to the delay a request was made by EPC via ABC to the Planning Inspectorate to extend the deadline for making representations to the Appeal and to request a Hearing.

Cllr Lois Tilden confirmed that the Planning Inspectorate had not conceded an extension to make representations on this case. The deadline remains 9 December. The question of the Inspector holding a Hearing rather than only considering written representations, is being reviewed by the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). Meanwhile it was necessary to continue on the basis of written representations.

Cllr Lois Tilden confirmed that the land subject to the Appeal to the rear of Harmers Way (North Field), was considered as a site for development by the Neighbourhood Plan and rejected. Cllrs agreed that EPC should rigorously protect the Neighbourhood Plan recently approved in a referendum by over 91% of villagers in a high 50% turnout of the electorate. It was agreed unanimously that EPC would commission professional planning consultants to make representations on EPC's behalf and to set up a fund against the Appeal by Mr Ian Bull in respect of Ashford Borough Council's refusal to approve planning application 21/00627 (North Field). It was confirmed by the Clerk that the Council had the powers to do this* and, if necessary, to raise the precept for next year, subject to the deliberations of the Finance Committee.

Proposed: Chairman Richard Kind. Seconded: **Vice Chairman** Peter Rawlinson. **All in agreement.**

**Local Government Act 1972: S.139 power to incur expenditure not otherwise authorised on anything in which the Council's opinion is in the interests of the area or all or some of the inhabitants; s.139 Power to accept donations; s.222 Power to make representations at public inquiries. EPC Financial Regulations: para 3 and para 11 a. ii: for specialist advice as provided by planning consultants*

4. Additional items

No additional items

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.