Westwell Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council Held on Wednesday 21st June 7pm at Westwell Parish Hall

1. Present and apologies

Present: Cllrs Drury, Butcher, Richards, Bartlett and Wyatt. Clerk – Sonia Young Apologies: Cllrs Bainbridge, Lister, Farrington, Hutchinson. Borough Cllr: Larry Krause No members of the public were present.

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Planning

3.1 PA/2023/0865 Berries Mount, Gold Hill

A minor modification to the external appearance of already approved plans to deliver improved internal spatial layout.

Chair Christine Drury proposed: No objections.

Seconded: Cllr Ron Butcher.

All in agreement.

3.2 PA/2023/0949 Dean Court, Westwell Lane

The plans will provide a proportional modernising extension and an improved internal layout and kitchen location, replacing a previous sunroom extension. It will also improve the property in its landscape setting.

Clir Ron Butcher proposed: support.

Seconded: Cllr Jane Richards.

All in agreement.

3.3 21/02146/AS Land at Eureka Business Park, Trinity Road

Re-consultation. Outline application for 375 dwellings plus infrastructure including wastewater treatment plant and commercial development.

WPC submitted comment on the outline application in Feb 2022.

It was agreed that it would be a positive move to continue to liaise with Westwell's neighbouring parishes of Kennington and Boughton Aluph re the consultation and to organise, if possible, a joint meeting.

The site lies behind the east side of Sandyhurst Lane so maintaining a buffer will be key, as will working to prevent direct vehicle access onto Sandyhurst Lane which is a rural, unlit road with no footpath. WPC will also need to work to minimise the impact on Sandyhurst Lane residents during construction or afterwards, used as a 'rat-run' by vehicles.

WPC agreed that there would be more issues to consider during subsequent months re the design, visual impacts, and management of green spaces.

Chair Christine Drury proposed that WPC review the revisions against the comments made in Feb 22, talk to neighbouring parishes, and then submit an appropriate comment by the deadline of 6th July.

Action: Cllr Tony Bartlett to follow up with adjacent parishes and SLRA representative Sue Wood.

Action: Chair Christine Drury to draft comment and circulate that to all Cllrs before submission to Ashford Borough Council by deadline.

3.4 PA/2023/1029 at 3, Hoads Wood Gardens

Conversion of garage into bedroom with wet room, plus alterations to the porch. The plans will create additional ground floor space with a bathroom so Cllrs felt it would be appropriate to make comment that fenestration to the front and sides be in obscured glass for the privacy of both the residents and neighbours. The principle of garages being converted into residential space has already been set by other properties nearby.

Clir Tony Bartlett proposed: support.

Seconded: Cllr Tessa Wyatt.

All in agreement.

3.5 PA/2023/1042 at Greenlands, Watery Lane

Proposal for a replacement enlarged porch would be central to the front of the house and then open into the living space. The application would modernise and improve the layout and amenity of the house and not have an adverse impact on the neighbouring property. Clir Ron Butcher proposed: support.

Seconded: Cllr Tessa Wyatt.

All in agreement.

3.6 PA/2023/1066 at Harven Hall, Watery Lane

Application for a ground solar array on a level ground site to the east of this listed Elizabethan manor house. It was agreed that this is a modest array that will not be visible or impact on footpath AW146 to the east. Hedgerow planning proposed will screen the panels. Chair Christine Drury proposed: support.

Seconded: Cllr Jane Richards.

All in agreement.

Westwell Village Fete 27th August – arrangements so far

Chair Christine Drury updated the Cllrs present.

- it will start at 1pm
- attractions to include face painting, coconut shy, tug of war, raffle, dog agility, tombola, plus others TBC.
- there will not be a bric-a-brac stall.
- volunteers, including Cllrs, were asked to come forwards to help man stalls for 1 hr.
- the marquee has been booked.
- St John's Ambulance has been booked.
- Vice-chair Clive Bainbridge will produce a feature on the fete for the next edition of Westwell
 Eye and work on the promotional schedule for the fete with Doris Cackett and Christine Drury
 as co-organisers.

5. Items for the next Parish Council meeting

- Management of St Mary's churchyard
- Play area health and safety inspections.
- Fete update

6. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 19th July

Chair Christine Drury to circulate Parish Council dates for the remainder of the year and to confirm availability of the village hall with Doris Cackett.

Action: once availability confirmed, Clerk Sonia Young to send out calendar holds for those dates to all Clirs.

The meeting closed at 8.18pm

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