

Berwick Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Berwick Parish Council held at the Berwick Village Hall, on Thursday 3rd November 2016 at 6.30pm

Present: Cllrs B. Smith (Chairman), K Winter, V Burrough, S Carnie and C Bird.
Alison Stevens (Clerk) and 7 members of the public were also present.

Minutes

BP.01.11.16 Apologies: No apologies for absence were received.

BP.02.11.16 Declarations of Interest and changes to the Register of Interest: No declarations of interest were declared nor were there any changes to the Register of Interests.

The meeting was then suspended.

BP.03.11.16 Public Question Time:

Residents raised the following objections to the revisions made in planning application WD2016/1847F;

- they (the revisions) do nothing to address the original concerns raised by residents and the Parish Council.
- the application says that permission has been given for a garage/storage building. Permission was given in 2001 but it has now expired and was granted before some of the neighbouring houses were built. The original plans were wrong as the garage is shown but it never existed.
- there would only be 6m between the front window of this property and that of a neighbouring property. Previous applications from Wealden state there has to be at least 20m.
- this application completely encloses the neighbouring property which would then have no natural light.
- the application says the property will be connected to existing mains drainage which serves the main building and surface water will be dealt with by means of a suitable soakaway. Drainage from the shop is already causing problems to neighbouring properties and there is not enough space on site to build a suitable soakaway.
- the property is close to a railway line and does not appear to have had permission from Network Rail. A soak away would also need permission.
- the application mentions that another application is in the pipeline. The two applications need to be considered together.
- it is a large building on a small plot of land and there is not enough room for a gas tank, oil tank etc.
- no consideration is being shown to neighbouring properties in terms of access. The applicant pays to use the access road and does not have permission for the occupants of the new building to use it.
- the parking arrangements are inadequate and will bring congestion to the railway line. The owner has told residents the shop is to be converted into a hairdressers with office space and flats. With the new dwelling, they will need at least 14 parking places.

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The meeting was then re-opened.

BP.04.11.16 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5th October 2016:

The minutes of the meeting held on the 5th October 2016 were read, approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting by the Chairman.

Any matters' arising were deferred to the next meeting.

BP.05.11.16 Planning Application: WD2016/1847F for Berwick Stores - Remove two roof lights and lower the height of the building;

Berwick Parish Council **objects** to this application in the **strongest possible terms** because this application does nothing to address their previous concerns;

- the density of the property remains the same.
- it is too close to neighbouring properties, overlooks them and they overlook it.
- there will be access problems because it is near the railway line.
- the balcony of the existing property will have to be removed to make way for it.

In addition the new property;

- has no access over the existing access roads.
- will cause problems with drainage.
- has no space for oil tanks, gas tanks or soakaways.
- does not have adequate parking.
- is out of keeping with neighbouring properties.
- is a massive overdevelopment to the detriment of all the neighbouring properties (not including Berwick Stores).

Berwick Parish Council is also concerned about the increase in the number of re-consultations and questions whether this is due-process.

BP.06.11.16 Questions from Members: There were no questions from members on this occasion.

BP.07.11.16 Close of Meeting; The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 7.05pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Signed: _____

Dated: 24th November 2016

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