



Ashington Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting

Minutes of Ashington Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 28th July 2021 at 7.30pm held at Ashington Scout Hall.

Present: Councillors M. Woolley, N. Spiers, J. Stillwell, P. Kerrey & T. Watson.

Parish Clerk: K. Dare

Apologies: T. Kearney & J. Morris

Members of the public: 2 (Rob Brown & Sam Horner, applicants for DC/21/1044)

Declarations of Interest: Cllr Spiers declared personal, prejudicial interests in planning applications DC/21/1013 and DC/21/1622.

Public Adjournment

The applicants for DC/21/1044 explained how their proposal would work:

1. Maximum of 3 dogs at any one time and a limit of 2 vehicles per booking.
2. One person makes the booking and can meet up with friends on site but are limited to 3 dogs and 2 vehicles.
3. Monitoring of the site is by the landlord.
4. Entry to the site is on trust. There is no online booking diary so people can't see when the site is empty and use it without paying.
5. There is a 5-minute gap between bookings so no congestion issues.
6. Bookings are 25 minutes or 55 minutes so no need for toilets.
7. A field shelter is the only building on site.
8. This is a good 'farm diversification' activity and is compatible with being on farmland.
9. Opening would be March/April 2022.
10. The applicants have a 10-year Lease from the landowner.
11. The applicants had previously confirmed with the Clerk that opening times would be restricted to daylight hours OR within the specified opening times when daylight hours exceed the specified hours.
12. The applicant confirmed that there would be 2 dog bins on site, owners clean up after their dog and bins are emptied by a contractor on a weekly basis.

Planning applications

DC/21/1044 Change of use of agricultural land for the exercising of dogs, with installation for perimeter fence and pathway - Land North of Hole Street (near sewage works)

The Parish Council raised no Objection subject to maximum dog limit, vehicle limit and hours of operation.

DC/21/1125 Erection of a detached storage shed/outbuilding to rear (Retrospective) - 1 Windmill Place, Rectory Lane

The Parish Council raised no Objection

DC/21/1217 Removal of existing projections and erection of single storey side and rear extensions incorporating creation of basement plant room, erection of a front porch

extension, re- roofing of front roofslope, replacement of existing windows, creation of rear swimming pool and associated works - Spear Hill, Spear Hill

The Parish Council Object to the application on the grounds of:

1. Overdevelopment – the extensions are very large and not subservient to the main building. They overwhelm the original small house.
2. The ‘extensions’ are only loosely attached to the main house by way of glazed corridors. They are not well related to the original house and there is potential to become standalone properties over time.
3. There is no submitted Design & Access statement which would be useful.
4. Questions were raised about whether the original house is Listed.

Cllr Spiers moved to the Public Gallery and took no part in discussions.

DC/21/1013 Erection of a single storey front extension and alterations to fenestration - The White House, Mill Lane

The Parish Council raised no Objection

DC/21/1622 Erection of a detached garage – Stoneleigh, Mill Lane

The Parish Council Object to the application on the grounds that:

1. Size and scale – the proposed building is 7m x 6m x @5.5m, although the height is not shown clearly on any drawings. This is very large, almost the same size as the front section of the house. It is out of proportion, not subservient and considered overdevelopment.
2. The wall of the proposed new building is sited right at the property boundary and only a few feet from the Public Footpath. There is no vegetation screening as this was removed some months ago and replaced by a close-boarded fence. Consideration should be given to replacing the screening trees/vegetation on the applicant’s land to soften the appearance of the building from the Public Footpath and from homes in Church Close.
3. The proposed building sits in front of the building line in this area, being the only built structure to the north of the private road. The street scene in this area will be adversely affected.
4. The proposed building includes a window to the upper floor, north-east facing. This will enable views directly into gardens & windows of properties in Church Close. It is unknown why windows are required for a proposed storage area.
5. No stairs are shown, access to the upper floor is unclear.
6. No details are supplied about the use of the storage area. Nor any internal plans supplied. It is unclear what this area will be used for.
7. A public notice is not on display.

Cllr Spiers returned to the meeting table.

DC/21/1431 Erection of a single storey rear/side timber orangery extension - 8 Blakiston Close

The Parish Council raised no Objection

WSCC/028/21 The continued winning, working and processing of sand from the existing Rock Common Quarry, the importation of inert classified engineering and restoration material, the stockpiling and treating of the imported material, the placement of the imported material within the quarry void and the restoration and landscaping of the quarry – Rock Common Quarry, The Hollow, Washington

The Parish Council Object to the application on the grounds that:

1. Transport – an additional 300-500 HGV movements per day will put enormous pressure on the Washington roundabout. Consideration of the cumulative impacts of all of the planned additional homes in Steyning/Storrington and villages plus the additional vehicles from the Sand Quarries at Chantry Lane and Ham Farm should be considered. The Planning Inspector commented to this effect on the recent WSCC Minerals & Waste plan.
2. Water – the quarry currently pumps water out into Honeybridge Stream which flows through Ashington. A full assessment of the impact of dewatering should be presented, including on flooding risk and on local ecology.
3. Amenity – the current planning permission states that the site should be left with a deep lake and quarry sides restored/stabilized for public amenity. Deep water is not inherently dangerous as it is possible to drown in a few inches of water.
4. Ecology - Steep exposed sides are good for some types of wildlife as is a lake. The previously agreed restoration plan was assessed as being beneficial to wildlife, there is no reason to move away from this. There are many successful examples of quarries becoming nature reserves.
5. Availability of inert material – is there sufficient inert material available to complete landfilling operations within the proposed timescales. Where is the material coming from? It is not sustainable to transport waste over long distances by HGV.

Finance

As there is no Parish Council meeting in August any invoices will need to be approved at Planning Committee meetings:

Karen Dare (Clerk)	Home office (July)	£20.00
	Laptop case	£25.49
	Mobile Phone topup	£6.00
Mark Adsett	Landscape Gardening (July)	£600.00
	Watering of baskets 3/7 to 30/7 (4 weeks x £65pw)	£260.00
WSCC	Salaries and Costs (July 2021)	£1,845.62
EON	Monthly Direct Debit Parish Yard - electricity	£11.00
Business Stream	Monthly Direct Debit Parish Yard - water	£20.00
PulseMapping Ltd	Surveys of Parish Yard	£1,614.00
		£4,402.11

The above payments were agreed by all.

The Planning Committee meeting closed at 8.20pm

Signed.....

Date.....