



Ashington Parish Council

Planning Committee Meeting

Minutes of Ashington Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 22nd January 2014

Present: Councillors B Norton, J Gichovi-Elias, K Wood, T Kearney & M Woolley

Parish Clerk: K Dare

Members of the public: 1

Declarations of Interest: None

Apologies received from: Councillors N Carver (holiday) & D. Harbour (personal)

Public Adjournment

The member of the public introduced herself as Elizabeth Jones of Yew Tree Cottage, Billingshurst Road, Ashington. She has lived in Ashington for many years at this property (a Grade II listed building) and has seen much housing development taking place around this area over the years. The nature of the area is now less rural and more built up than when she first bought her property.

She is aware of the planning permission for a petrol filling station on land opposite Martins Farm and that Developers have recently shown interest in land at Martins Farm and Holmbush House along Old London Road.

She owns a small field to the southern side of her property (immediately north of the Billingshurst Road roundabout) and outside the village BUAB. She is intending to submit, in the very near future, an outline planning application proposing houses on the site. She is aware that Ashington is a Category 2 settlement with limited facilities and services.

She asked Councillors for comments on her proposal.

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council recognises the need for more homes in the District and has begun the process of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan so that residents can voice their opinion on how many new homes the village needs and the best locations for them. The Council will listen to Developers proposals and consider any potential development sites through the preparation of the Plan. It would be wrong of the Parish Council to comment on ad hoc development proposals as this would call into question the need or point in preparing a Neighbourhood Plan.

However, any Developer can submit a planning application without waiting for the Neighbourhood Plan to be published. The Parish Council will respond to all such applications. The Council will consider issues such as: how the

proposal addresses the housing needs of the village (Housing Needs Survey 2012, Older Persons Housing Survey, Village Action Plan), the impact of the proposal on the infrastructure of the village and surrounding area (school places, medical services, transport issues etc), the sustainability of location (access to facilities, transport etc), how the proposal would meet the community needs of the village (community buildings, open spaces, play spaces etc). Ashington is a Category 2 settlement with limited facilities and services and any proposed development should address the needs of the village.

Planning applications

DC/14/0011 Single storey extension to southern aspect of dwelling to create

new open plan kitchen, dining and living room – 20 Hillcrest Drive

The Council object to this application on the grounds that the proposed extension will sit well in front of the building line on the western side of the property, will be very close to the road on the western side and has, therefore, a detrimental impact on the street scene.

Amendments None

Correspondence

Letter from owner of plot of land on London Road (opposite Co-op) asking the Council's opinion on development on the site.

Councillors agreed that the Chairman's comments from earlier about preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan were relevant to this matter and agreed that the Clerk should respond accordingly.

Meeting finished at 8.15pm

Signed.....

Date.....