

# **BARKING PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the Meeting held at Barking Village Hall Annexe at 7.30pm  
on Thursday 28th November 2017

## **PRESENT:**

Cllr A Smith - Chair  
Cllr S Butler – Vice-Chair  
Cllr M Bailey  
Cllr R Fellowes  
Cllr M Smith  
Cllr A Ross

## **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mrs R J Cochrane *Clerk*  
1 member of the public

### **BPC 170/17 PUBLIC FORUM**

One member of the public spoke regarding the proposed development on land adjacent to The Acorns, Willisham Road, Barking – development to be called ‘Chapelfields’. There is plenty of visibility. The proposed dwellings are an alternative to bungalows - reference to the small development of 5 bungalows recently approved in Barking. He feels there is a demand for more housing of the type being proposed. Larger housing is needed. Site is not overlooked. Will be developed by the applicant. There was reference to an accompanying letter sent to the Parish Council by the applicant to support his application. He also referred to recent appeal decisions.

### **BPC171/17 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES**

No apologies had been received.

### **BPC172/17 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **BPC173/17 APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION**

None had been received.

### **BPC174/17 PLANNING**

#### **i) DC/17/05533 - Land adjacent to The Acorns, Willisham Road, Barking**

It was pointed out that the Planning Statement was flawed as it refers to the Barking Fox Pub. However this premises has been closed for nearly a year. It was also pointed out that a BS10175 compliant Phase 1 Investigation is required by MSDC regarding land contamination. It was suggested that screening from the road is very important. There was concern about the size of the proposed dwellings, and also the routine flooding of the road from the ditch opposite the proposed site. It was suggested that in terms of general development, smaller more affordable dwellings should be encouraged. The village already has many large properties. However the proposed dwellings would be more in keeping with neighbouring properties. It was suggested that the village has to grow but there needs to be a balance. It was also pointed out that the proposed site has not been put forward for development in either the current nor the new draft local plan. **Decision** – It was proposed and resolved that on balance, in view of the need for more housing the application for outline planning permission would be supported. Clerk to respond accordingly within the deadlines given.

Clerk

ii) **DC/17/5189 & DC/17/5190 Darmsden Hall, Darmsden Decision** – The reason for Barking Parish Council being consulted as it is a neighbouring parish was accepted, but it was proposed and resolved that in this particular case no comment would be made. Clerk to respond accordingly within the deadlines given.

Clerk

**BPC175/17 THE BARKING FOX**

It was reported that following the previous meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> November, a flier was delivered to the majority of properties in Barking with a view to establish if there was sufficient interest to register a formal Expression of Interest. Approx. 130 fliers were delivered on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018. Only 4 written replies and 3 telephone calls were received, of which only 1 negative response was received. The Clerk has subsequently received a telephone call from the Asset owner, after several attempts to get in touch with him. The owner was informed that as the premises has been registered as an Asset of Community Value, there is a clear desire for the Fox to be retained as a pub/ restaurant, as it has been for many years. He confirmed that he will be marketing it as a pub/restaurant. **Decision** – It was proposed and resolved that with there being very little formal support for a bid to buy the Fox, and due to its size, the likely market value, the short timescale involved, and the amount of work that would be needed even if purchase were secured, it would not be realistic for a very small community such as Barking to take this on as a project. Although it was recognised that other local pubs have been successfully acquired by their communities, the situation in Barking is very different. It is very much hoped that a buyer will soon be found who can invest in the premises. Clerk to inform MSDC by 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018 of the decision not to proceed.

Clerk

**BPC176/17 MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL**

Is there a new planning application in Needham for 82 houses that spills over the boundary into Barking? Clerk to check.

Clerk

**BPC177/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Date of next scheduled meeting will be Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018 to be held at Barking Village Hall Annexe at 7.30pm.

*Meeting closed at 8.40pm*

Chairman ..... Date .....