

# **MONK SOHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

## **(Draft) Minutes of an Extra-ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

**The meeting was convened to discuss Planning Application DC/21/03467 relating to an outline planning application (all matters reserved) for the erection of 1 (no) self-build dwelling on land to the south of Post Office Cottage, Monk Soham Green, IP13 7EX.**

**In addition, a Planning Application DC/21/03618 relating to Listed Building Consent (replacement of tiles etc) at The Long House, The Green, Monk Soham IP13 7EU was also discussed.**

The meeting commenced in 1902 at the Bedfield Community Pavilion

### ***EX06/21 - 01 Present***

- Graham Wigley (Chairman – GW), David Entwisle (Vice-Chairman – DE), Caroline Berkley – CJB), Cliff Arndt-Snelling (CAS), Julian Sayer (JS) and Julie Giles (JG).
- Geoff Robinson (GR), as Parish Clerk.
- Matthew Hicks (SCC and MSDC Ward Councillor).
- 2 members of the public spoke and submissions from two others were read to the meeting by GR.

### ***EX06/21 - 02 Apologies for Absence***

- Charles Bagnall (CRB - Approved absence).

**(a) Planning Application DC/21/03467 relating to an outline planning application (all matters reserved) for the erection of 1 (no) self-build dwelling on land to the south of Post Office Cottage, Monk Soham Green, IP13 7EX.**

### ***EX06/21 - 03 Introduction by GW***

GW opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and explained that the purpose of this meeting was to allow any comments from villagers and the for the parish council to formulate a view to be notified to MSDC. He outlined the history of the plot, which had previously been the subject of planning applications and the location of two residential caravans. He also reminded the meeting that the application referred to outline planning permission only.

### ***EX06/21 - 04 Public Open Session***

The two members of the public strongly supported the application on the grounds that sustainable “infill” housing was vital to the ongoing healthy survival of the village and to encourage younger families. They felt that this application for a family home more than filled that criteria and would be to the benefit the overall wellbeing of Monk Soham. One villager suggested that the addition of the two private cars associated with the application would be insignificant compared with the traffic already generated by businesses in the village and delivery drivers, etc. In addition, an email was read by GR from a resident supporting the application and seeing no valid reason to object.

One further email opposing the application was also read by GR to the meeting (see item EX06/21 – 05 below).

### ***EX06/21 - 05 Parish Council Discussion***

GW closed the open session and invited the councillors to express their views.

GW, DE, CJB, CJS and JS all supported the application for reasons which included introducing new life into the village, including younger families, and being able to influence any future building rather than leaving things to speculative building companies.

JG expressed concern about the resultant increase in traffic that the application would cause, especially on Chicken Alley where traffic was already high, and the lack of facilities in the village. GR read an email

from CRB (see item EX06/21 - 4 above), who opposed the application on the grounds of the potential impact on Monk Soham Green, lack of public transport, impact on the local infrastructure and the increased traffic movements on existing narrow lanes.

***EX06/21 - 06 Parish Council Recommendation***

GW thanked everyone for their views and asked the councillors to vote on the application which resulted in a 5-0 majority to support the application, with one abstention (JG).

GR reminded the councillors that this was in line with the Parish Council's submission to the MSDC Draft New Local Plan to support sustainable "one-off" building in the village.

GR to advise SCC Planning Accordingly.

**(b) Planning Application DC/21/03618 relating to Listed Building Consent (replacement of tiles etc) at The Long House, The Green, Monk Soham IP13 7EU was also discussed.**

***EX06/21 - 07 Parish Council Discussions and Recommendation***

GW explained that this replacement planning application had been received too late to be included in the agenda but suggested that it should be discussed. Disappointment was unanimously expressed that the original application had been refused by MSDC. After a brief discussion it was agreed to fully support the revised application and to stress the importance of adequately preserving significant village buildings. GR to advise MSDC accordingly.

The meeting closed 1935.

***Signed:.....***

***Chairman Monk Soham Parish Council***