



NORTHCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

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Northchurch Parish Council

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EXTRAR ORDINARY MINUTES OF NORTHCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Held via Zoom on 23rd November 2020 @ 7pm.

Present:

Jon Clarke	Chair
Mark Somervail	Vice Chair
Beryl Edwards	
Neil Pocock	
Sue Rees	
Lara Pringle	

Also, present; County Councillor Terry Douris
Proper Officer Mrs. U Kilich
53 members of public

EX/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence
Cllr Godfrey sent his apologies due to technical issues.

EX/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To declare an interest linked to any item on the agenda
There were no declaration of interest to record.

EX/10 Public Participation allowed 15 minutes

For members of the public to ask questions and raise any issues on items included on the agenda.

Cllr Clarke informed members that this being the initial stage of consultation, there will be no scope for Q&A session as the information from Dacorum Borough Council has just been released. The purpose of the meeting is to update members on Local Plan Strategy 2020.

EX/11 ITEMS FOR RESOLUTION & CONSIDERATION

1. To Co-opt a councillor

Cllr Clarke informed council members that Dacorum Borough Council confirmed no requests has been received by the Returning Officer for an election to fill the vacancy on Northchurch Parish Council. Michela Capozzi expressed an interest in joining the parish council, the council discussed the situation and it was **RESOLVED** to co-opt Michela Capozzi to fill the vacancy. The relevant documents will be completed by Michela Capozzi and the Clerk. Cllr Clarke proposed Michela Capozzi to be appointed on Finance and General Purpose Committee, Road Safety Working Party and Open Spaces Committee, the proposal was unanimously **RESOLVED** by all council members.

2. To Discuss Dacorum Borough Council's Local Plan

Cllr Clarke informed members that should the Local Plan go through, Northchurch will be known as "West Berkhamsted" the proposal is unwarranted and unjustified. It is an intrusion on NPC's Green Belt and will cause irreparable harm to NPC and the residents alike. Dacorum Borough Council have put two development plan together without considering the report from Herts Highways. Cllr Clarke proposed NPC object to the proposal, 6 council members supported the proposal and 1 abstained.

Cllr Clarke also proposed to set up a short term Working Party to publicise the consultation period, encouraging people to object and to prepare detailed report based on National Planning Policy Framework 2019 (NPPF) and circulate the report. The proposal was **RESOLVED** by 6 council members and 1 abstained.

Cllr Clarke informed members that the Government have re-assessed the formulae in the way the development of housing will take place, leaving DBC to plan a huge housing surge in the area on Green Belt area which was rejected previously. The two major proposal in consideration will be on Darrs Lane (200 homes) and New Road (60 homes). Cllr Clarke went on to inform members that DBC have given 8 week notice period, in which time members may object the Local Plan. In order to object, the criteria must meet the NPPF 2019 for DBC to take any notice, the main objection for NPC is the Green Belt area. All contributions must be as personal as possible the other objection that can be raised is the impact of traffic where a detailed traffic report has not been produced by DBC. The best objection can be found on Campaign Protection for Rural England (CPRE) follow their lead.

Cllr Pringle thanked Cllr Clarke for a very good and precise introduction to Local Plan. Cllr Pringle encouraged DBC to postpone the consultation period due to Covid 19 and Christmas period. Cllr Pringle informed members that some members will be excluded from the consultation such as elderly and those without sufficient IT knowledge. Cllr Pringle asked members to contact her as their Borough Councillor and sign up for the Local Plan Working Group.

Cllr Douris stated that the consultation period is in fact 10 week period and not 8 weeks as stated earlier. Cllr Douris informed members that at a recent DBC meeting there was a unanimous agreement that leader of the council should write and object to the assertion of the number of homes being built in DBC based on a national figure of 300,000 the Office of National Statistics have revised the figure to 190,000 that should be replicated in DBC. Cllr Douris encouraged members to object to the Local Plan, DBC can produce the figures to the Planning Inspectorate to justify the objection.

EX/12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on the Monday 11th January 2021 by Virtual Meeting at 7.00pm.