

**MINUTES of a Planning Committee Meeting of Melksham Without Parish Council held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2014 at Crown Chambers, 7 Market Place Melksham at 7.00 p.m.**

**Present:** Cllr. Richard Wood (Chairman); Cllrs. Alan Baines; Rolf Brindle; Gregory Coombes; John Glover; Mike Sankey and Steve Petty.  
Cllrs Paul Carter and Terry Chivers attended the Meeting as observers.

**Apologies:** Cllr. Adam Nardell

399/13 **Declarations of Interest:** Teresa Strange declared an interest in the item relating to 3 Beeches Green, Shaw as she played netball with one of the occupants and knew them well.

400/13 **Request to join Planning Committee:** A request had been received from Cllr. Paul Carter. Cllr. Baines proposed, seconded by Cllr. Coombes that the Planning Committee recommend that Cllr. Carter join this committee. This was unanimously agreed.

**Recommended:** *Cllr. Paul Carter be a member of the Council Planning Committee*

401/13 **Planning Applications:** The Planning Committee considered the following planning applications:

a) **W13/06407/FUL** Vernon Farm, Bowerhill, SN12 6RE.  
Replacement carport.

**Comments:** *No objections*

b) **W13/06707 Solar Farm (Shurnhold), Roundponds Farm, SN12 6EF.**

Construction of a Solar Park including the installation of solar panels, security fencing and cameras, landscaping and other associated works and cable/route trenching. Land South East of Leechpool Farm, Norrington Lane, Broughton Gifford, Wiltshire.

The Planning Committee review this application: It was noted that the proposed Solar Farm site was in the Broughton Gifford parish, adjacent to the Melksham Without parish. It was unclear from the information given what the height of the solar panels would be and what grade of agricultural land was being used for this site. Councillors welcomed the proposed native hedgerow planting and emphasised that existing rights of ways should be protected and not in any way obstructed so that they could still be used to traverse parishes.

**Resolved:** *The Council seek more information as to panel sizes and heights and the grade of land and review the application again once this information had been received.*

c) **W13 06739 Provision of new football and rugby facilities**, including changing rooms, clubhouse and football stadium, together with 11 football pitches, 4 rugby pitches, car parking, new access road and junction

It was noted that these plans had just been received so councillors had not yet had time to read all the documentation. There was concern that the plans needed to incorporate a rear access into the Melksham Oak School as well as the new sports complex. One proposed access appeared to be off Thyme Road, opposite Hawthorn Road and as this was a tight access, any coach would have to swing round to the left in order to turn right. One plan showed the entrance in a different place from the other. Cllr. Brindle expressed concern about possible noise from the pitches which would adversely affect residents living in The Spa.

**Resolved:** The Council invite the agent to make a presentation to the Parish Council about these plans at the next Council Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> January and take up these concerns with the agent direct, prior to submitting comments to Wiltshire Council.

402/13

**Planning Correspondence.**

- (i) **W13 00797/FUL 53a Beanacre:** The Planning Committee noted a response from the Admin Officer for the Central Hub to inform that the Council had not been told of the change to the roof design due to a miscommunication between officers at Wiltshire Council.
- (ii) **W13 04760/FUL 188 Woodrow ( 2 dwellings in place of 1) :** The Planning Committee noted that this application originally recommended for refusal had now been approved.
- (iii) **W13/00790/ENF 112 Beanacre –height of boundary wall:** The Planning Committee noted a reply from the Enforcement Officer to inform that the Council's complaint that the boundary wall exceeded the permitted height was being investigated. It was also noted that the occupant of 112B Beanacre had made a Freedom of Information (FOI) request regarding all the enforcement notices issued against 112 Beanacre since January 2010
- (iv) **Melksham Campus:** Cllr Petty reported that the suggested target date for completion of the new football stadium complex and pitches was November 2014 although he felt that was a bit ambitious.
- (v) **W12 01256 Hedgerow along boundary of Local Centre Land:** The Clerk reported that she had requested a site meeting with the Planning Officer and Developer to resolve the problems caused by the hedgerow being removed. Existing residents had been left with an ugly gap and no screening of the new development and the Planning Officer had informed that some of the hedgerow was due to be put back. No reply had yet been received.
- (vi) **Westlands Lane speeding review – request for comment:** Reply received from Wiltshire Council Officer Mark Stansby to offer a time extension for a request for a speed limit review on C220 Westlands Lane, providing the request was made by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January. It was agreed to request that the 30 m.p.h. speed limit sign be moved to the other side of the humped-back bridge as one enters Westlands Lane from Whitley  
**Recommended:** *The Council ask Wiltshire Council to re-position the 30 m.p.h. limit sign in Westlands Lane to the Whitley side of the railway bridge.*

*The following item was held in committee:-*

403/13 **Subsidence at 3 Beeches Green: Resolved:** *The Council seek legal advice from NALC.*

Meeting closed at 7.45 p.m.

Chairman 20<sup>th</sup> January 2014

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