

COTTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on April 24, 2019 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

PRESENT

Cllrs Peter Gibbs, Sarah Wenban, David Williams, Paul Howlett, and Beryl Ellis, and Rod Caird (Clerk). Cllr Andrew Stringer was also present.

1/240419 Apologies and approvals of absence

Chris Tester and Marian Cocksedge had sent apologies and their absence was approved

2/240419 Declarations of Interest and dispensations requested

None

3/240419 To receive comments from members of the public on matters on the Agenda

It was noted that Mid Suffolk's development control committee has now approved the recent planning application (19/00338) at Willow House, Mendlesham Road. The application had been opposed by the Parish Council on the grounds that the proposed houses are too large, and are not in line with the views expressed by Cotton residents during the public consultation undertaken in the village at the time of the draft Mid Suffolk Local Plan (which is still not completed).

It was felt to be disappointing that the Parish Council's open and detailed engagement with the District Council at that time did not sufficiently affect the outcome of planning applications, when the views of the Parish Council and residents were known, carefully considered and expressed in the knowledge that the right sort of housing development is needed and indeed welcomed.

4/240419 To consider a planning application:

DC/19/01572

Proposal: Erection of single storey dwelling and detached garage with new vehicular access (existing to be removed) including change of use of land to domestic (Use Class C3).

Location: Land Adjacent To Brookside, Mendlesham Road, Cotton, Stowmarket IP14 4RE

After discussion it was agreed to comment as follows:

The Parish Council does not object to the proposal. But it wants to record an important qualification: the site was identified by the PC, based on open public consultation in response to the first draft of the Mid Suffolk Local Plan, as being

potentially suitable for multiple dwellings, rather than a single home.

However, it was also noted at the time of the consultation, and should be repeated now, that essential services in Bacton are only accessible by car, which undermines the sustainability of the site; and that an additional strain will be put on the local sewage system.

5/240419 Correspondence and urgent matters to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council

It was agreed that the next meeting should consider concerns expressed by the Parochial Church Council about the future capacity of the churchyard.

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