

Minutes
Meeting of Ambrosden Parish Council
Held online – 7:30pm
Thursday 19th November

Present: Mark Longworth – Chair, Gemma Jennings – Clerk, Maureen Cossens, Dawn Seaward, Vicky Rose, Phil Blazdell, Tom Duff, Chris West, Councillor Dan Sames, Outdoor Gym Consultant (for item 615-20-21)

Serial No	Issue
609-20-21	Welcome
610-20-21	Apologies No apologies for absence were received
611-20-21	Declaration of Interests/Gifts No statements of gifts or hospitality were received.
612-20-21	Minutes of previous meeting The minutes of the meeting of 15 th October 2020, meeting number 139, were reviewed and approved.
613-20-21	Matters arising The action grid was received.
614-20-21	Public speaking Nothing raised.
615-20-21	Outdoor Gym Project The Council and Consultant discussed the possibility of installing an outdoor gym in the village, outlining the project processes, available designs and options as well as budget. The following key points were raised: - Consultancy could, for a fixed fee of around 10% of the total budget, oversee design, tendering and implementation of the gym - Aesthetics, particularly materials and colours, were discussed, noting that wooden equipment was primarily for cardio/agility exercises, whereas steel tended to be more flexible and long-lasting. It was noted that design would be shaped around intended use/demographics - Location, access and surface of the site was discussed, noting that a permanent surface would generally encourage greater use by preventing mud and dirt on the equipment. It was noted that equipment was generally designed to minimise the risk of vandalism as far as possible - Risk, maintenance and ongoing upkeep was discussed, noting that most equipment came with warranties, and that some minimal maintenance, including annual inspections would be required. It was noted that insurance would generally be cover under public liability A site meeting on 25th November was suggested
616-20-21	To Consider: District and County Councillor Reports Village traffic calming proposals were discussed, noting that these were subject to ongoing delays. It was stressed that this was problematic for the village as well as the Council budgeting process and ultimately could cause the entire project to be delayed as far as 2022. The Parish Council requested that the issue be escalated to the relevant portfolio holders- Councillor Sames to raise.
617-20-21	Village Matters

- S106 update (Councillors Longworth, Seward and Rose): Available S106 monies were outlined and discussed. The idea of building a sports pavilion in the village was noted, highlighting the lack of suitable land available for this project. It was noted that a suggestion of a land purchase from the Springfield Farm Management Company had been raised, or alternatively near the officers' mess, although no clear progression of these ideas had been made as yet. It was stressed that any such project would require funding support from organisations such as Sports England.
- Traffic Calming Update (Councillor Longworth, Clerk): It was noted this had been raised under District Councillor updates, although the sites for VAS units in the meantime had been agreed with the County Council
- Village Green Update (Councillor Cossens and Clerk): It was noted that Community First was reviewing available support for this application, and that so far 12 witnesses had agreed to support any application made.

618-20-21 Planning

New Applications:

Application number: 20/02778/REM

Proposal: Reserved Matters application to 18/02056/OUT for a residential development comprising 84 dwellings and associated infrastructure, highways and landscaping

Location: Land North of Merton Road

Ambrosden Parish Council objects to the 20/02778/REM plans on the following grounds:

Visual impacts on the village, particularly due to the material not being kept in keeping with the surroundings. Frontages on Merton road particularly do not display sufficient proportion of stonework. The Council also has concerns about the limited number of trees planted around the edges of the site

Connectively, particularly the failure of the perimeter path to adequately connect all housing on the site. The Council is also concerned about the access and usability of the pathway across the swale

The Council is deeply concerned that the plans do not provide adequate surface water drainage and the potential for flood damage and impacts to the road, neighbouring housing and fields.

If these issues can be adequately resolved, the Council would consider removing the objection

Application number: 20/02345/LDO

Proposal: Erection of up to 276 dwellings and associated outbuildings (Phase 1 reserved matters approval pursuant to 16/01802/OUT

Location: Site D And E, Graven Hill, Circular Road, Ambrosden

No objection

Application number: 20/02271/LB

Proposal: Replace one timber door with stable door. Refurbish existing windows and doors. Replace a timber stud wall with a new masonry wall. Plasterboard over new insulation in the roof. Plasterboard internal gable wall

Location: The Threshing Barn, Ploughley Road, Ambrosden,

No objection

It was noted that Council would advise Redrow of the objections being raised to 20/02778/REM. It was also suggested that developers be requested to fund the build out needed on Merton Road. Chair also to request Parish Council involved in the setting of the 278 agreement with District Councillor Sames.

Awaiting decisions:

Application number: 19/01191/OUT

Proposal: Alexandra House of Joy

Location: Care home near Rodney House roundabout

Application number: 20/01707/F

Proposal: Erection of 8 dwellings

Location: Parts of OS Parcels 1125 and 1621, North and East of Home Farm Close

Application number: 20/01762/OUT

Proposal: Outline consent, including erection of 5 dwellings

Location: Land to rear of Home Farm Close

Application number: 20/02415/F

Proposal: Proposed employment access road

Location: Street Record, Unnamed Single Carriageway 6809121, Ambrosden

20/01830/F

Graven Hill/Wretchwick Green

Proposed Roundabout Access To Graven Hill And Wretchwick Green, London Road

619-20-21 Village Hall Update

Key areas of progress, particularly against actions on the fire risk assessment, and the upcoming legionella survey were noted. Upcoming projects were outlined, including car park repairs, internal refurbishments and covid secure safety measures.

The possibility of financial contributions from the Parish Council to the Village Hall Committee was discussed, noting that such funding could possibly be budgeted for within the precept (Clerk to review), provide through donations of otherwise through S106 funding, after the Deed of Variation is confirmed. It was also highlighted that Council needed an electricity invoice for defibrillator running costs- Village Hall Committee to review.

620-20-21 Allotments

Key updates were noted as: draining and switching off of the site taps over winter and Councillor Duff to take over as the Parish Council-Allotment Committee liaison.

621-20-21 Finance

- a. The reconciled accounts were reviewed and approved. It was suggested that an in-year forecast be added to the cashbooks- **Clerk to action**
- b. Payments of £286.12 (wages), £718.18 (wages, HWA and expenses) and £136.13 (tree installation costs) were approved
- c. Council funding for Clerk training on the ILCA course was reviewed and approved (course costs £99 + VAT)
- d. ParishOnline membership (£180) for the year was reviewed and approved
- e. British Legion Donation: it was agreed that a donation could not be without a formal donation request
- f. Village Planters: A budget of £100 total annually for each village planter (divided across winter and spring and winter) was agreed
- g. The maintenance quote was reviewed and approved, subject to no additional quotes being received within 14 days
- h. VAS quotes: Quotes for both the fixed and solar VAS units were reviewed and approved. **Clerk to clarify whether fixed units have any wifi recording and submit orders. Clerk to update village via social media and website on progress here.**
- i. The upcoming budget preparation and precept request were discussed. It was stressed that the Council should take care, as far as possible, to avoid raising the precept in the current circumstance. **Clerk to draft budget in liaison with Councillors Rose and Duff.**

622-20-21 Governance and Policies

- a. The Health and Safety Policy was reviewed and approved.
- b. Parish Council lines of communication were discussed, stressing that, as far as possible, public posts on social media should be approved by the whole Council and published by the Clerk
- c. It was agreed to move discussion of Council future planning to the January agenda
- d. It was agreed to move discussion of the Village Survey to the January agenda

623-20-21 PAW (Parishes Against Wolf)

PC Meeting No- 140

- a. The Council discussed the application and agreed by majority to write a letter of objection, citing traffic impacts on local roads.
- b. The donation request was reviewed and not approved due to lack of direct impact on the Parish

624-20-21 Communications/News

Nothing raised

625-20-21 Matters Carried Forward

Budget (December)
Memorial Plaques (January)
Future planning (January)
Village survey (January)

626-20-21 Next Meeting

7.30 pm Thursday 17th December, online via Zoom.
The meeting ended at 22:20

Signed:

Chair of Ambrosden Parish Council