

Thompson Parish Council (TPC)
Minutes of Parish Council EXTRA MEETING
(Virtual meeting - held using Zoom)
on Tuesday 2 February 2021

Present:	Jean Kaye	Chair
	Duncan Gregory	Vice Chair
	Ian Robertson	
	Angus Welch	
	Kate Winslow	
	Kim Austin	Clerk
	Phil Cowen	District Councillor

Also present: There was 1 member of the public present, John Stanley.

The meeting opened at 18.45

1. To consider accepting apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence

2. To record declarations of interest from members in any items on the agenda

There were no declarations of interest.

3. To discuss NEW planning application - 3PL/2020/1359/F

Applicant: Mr. & Mrs Scott

Location: 36 Pockthorpe Lane, Thompson IP24 1PN

Proposal: Change of use of annexe to holiday let.

Deadline for comments: 9 February 2021

Parish Councillors voted and it was unanimous that the Parish Council had no objection to this application. It was also felt that they should support a potential increase in visitor numbers which they saw as beneficial to the village.

4. To discuss planning application - 3PL/2020/1215/PIP

Applicant: Blue Oak Developments Ltd.

Location: Land to east of Marlpit Road and South of Mill Road Thompson

Proposal: Permission in Principle for the erection of up to 4 dwellings

Cllr. Phil Cowen started by summarising the situation. For PIP applications the planners must just look at the location and not beyond. Phil was present at the Chairman's panel where there unfortunately was a split vote. This was surprising considering there had already been two applications for this site, one had gone to appeal and had been dismissed. The application was therefore 'called in' to go before the Planning Committee to determine. Need to state why this site is not suitable for development. Phil thinks the settlement boundary is actually drawn in the wrong place. It is a very wet area with no drainage. Thompson has two central triangular areas that should not be developed as it destroys the open spaces that define the character of the village. The site is not thought suitable for development.

Signed

Date

Phil confirmed that he would speak against the application for 3 minutes at the Planning meeting on 15 February 2021. The Parish Council would be allowed 3 minutes, a resident could also speak for 3 minutes and a NCC councillor could also have 3 minutes if they wished. The Clerk would contact Cllr. Fabian Eagle to see if he was able to speak.

Cllr. Angus Welch thanked PC for summarising. Angus had already prepared a 3-minute report that he had circulated to the Parish Councillors. This report currently had 3 areas of focus. A resident John Stanley was prepared to speak for 3 minutes. It was agreed that all speakers should co-ordinate their efforts so that as much was covered in the 9 minutes as possible, and not repeated. Need to muster every argument.

All speakers would need to register with the Planning Usher. Speakers should provide hard copies of their reports. Photographs allowed. The meeting 'host' is able to share screens so could call for a photo to be shared during your report. Preferably provide in pdf format. Everybody hoped they were not at the end of the agenda as agreed it can make a difference to the outcome, especially for a long meeting.

It was noted that the original application was for 6 houses. This application is for a maximum of 4 but being shoehorned into 50% of the original plot. 4 probably large houses on a small plot.

If PIP is refused, they could appeal or put in another application. A war of attrition.

If PIP is approved, there would be a technical submission to support the application. All other reports would also be required, Highways, Ecological etc. And details of proposed dwellings.

It was noted that Highways comments on planning application are inconsistent. They should have concerns about this application and seem to have none. However, they do have concerns about a recent change of use application where there would be no increase in vehicles. Need to focus on this inconsistency. Also focus on their lack of appreciation of local peoples' views and knowledge about the site that should carry weight.

The planning committee meeting will be on YouTube and is open to public viewing.

There was a vote and it was a unanimous decision to OBJECT to this application.

The meeting closed at 19.25

Signed

Date