

HOCKWOLD-CUM-WILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Hockwold cum Wilton Parish Council Extraordinary Meeting, held Hockwold Village Hall on Tuesday 27th February 2024 commencing at **7:30 p.m.**

Councillors of Hockwold cum Wilton Parish Council

Present: Cllr Randall, Cllr Johns, Cllr Newman, Cllr Sismey, Cllr Williams, Cllr Royal, Cllr Morgan, Cllr Sullivan, Cllr Green

Parish Clerk Ms Hilary Cox

Members of the public - NONE

Open Forum

Members of Press and Public are invited to voice their comments and concerns in the Open Forum. However, the law does not permit members of the public and press to take part in the debates. Hilary R Cox, Parish Clerk & RFO

373. To receive and approve apologies for absence Apologies received from Cllr Sullivan and Cllr Royal.

374. To receive any declarations of interest from Members & consider requests for dispensation

NONE

Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Hockwold cum Wilton Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

375. To discuss the Gypsy and Traveller Potential Sites and Policy Consultation, January 2024

All information about this item was distributed previously. The council was unable to attain the information on existing pitches on both proposed sites within the parish prior to the meeting. The following was proposed as comments to be submitted with an objection to the Borough Council of West Norfolk & Kings Lynn Planning Policy Team.

Site references:

1. GT32 -The Parish Council (PC) do not find this site acceptable for the following reasons.

- The site is in flood zones 2 & 3, and no acceptable mitigation measures have been included. The site's possible danger to people and property is not acceptable.
- The summary is confusing and seems to contradict itself. Clearer conclusions need to be included.
- The site clearly states it *'has some significant identified constraints. The site has significant constraints. The site is within the SPA zone and any development here would likely have a significant impact to the character of the natural environment and wider landscape setting.'* Many planning applications for social and affordable housing have been denied because of the locational relation to this specific SPA area.
- The 'appropriate mitigation' needed to support the size and current state of the highway used to access were not included. This highway is poorly maintained, and is found in extreme disrepair for the majority of the year.

2. GT42 – The Parish Council (PC) do not find this site acceptable for the following reasons.

- The site is listed as being in Flood Zone 1, which is not correct as stated on the flood risk information for planning site on GOV.UK. On the official site its listed as Flood Zone 3. Looking at the stated zone using an altitude checker, the site should sit at 4m above seal level, however Cowles Drove is only at 1m above sea level in either direction (east or west) of the site entrance, so flooding could easily cut off the site from the road. This information can be found on <https://flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk>

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- The other concern is to the total number of sites(pitches) that would be located here. The council contacted the principle planner of two occasions to ask how many sites (pitches) are currently located on either site? We were not able to get that information, so it is difficult to support a plan without all the necessary information.

Proposed by Cllr Williams. Seconded by Cllr Green. Agreed by all present.

376. To confirm Community Emergency Leaflet final layout The leaflet was distributed and it was proposed to approve by Cllr Green. Seconded by Cllr Sismey. Agreed by all.

377. To receive new planning applications relevant to the village and make comment

- 24/00083/F | Two storey rear extension and front porch. | 8 Pearces Close Hockwold cum Wilton Thetford Norfolk IP26 4LU**

The council discussed the changes to the previously approved application. No objections to the application were voiced. Proposed to support the application by Cllr Johns. Seconded by Cllr Randall. Agreed by all present.

378. Items for the next agenda

- LAC Maintenance plan approval

379. To confirm date and times of the Annual Parish Assembly on 12th March 2024 starting at 7.30

Distribution:

One copy to each Councillor. Copies to Mr M Storey Norfolk County Councillor, & Cllr Ryves District Councillors, Squadron Leader Geary RAF Lakenheath and one copy for the web-site.