

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SONNING PARISH COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 5 APRIL 2016 AT 6.30PM
THE PAVILION, POUND LANE, SONNING.**

PRESENT: Mr I Runnalls (Chairman), Mr A E Farnese, Mr P Morrison. Mrs L Bates (Clerk),
1 Visitor.

APOLOGIES: Mr Fisher had sent his apologies (holiday). The Chairman welcomed everyone.

- a) Present.
- b) Apologies for Absence
- c) Declaration of Interest
- d) Minutes of 16 March 2016 to approve.
- e) Updates.
- f) 31 Old Bath Road (160624) Raising of roof height to create first floor accommodation to include dormer extensions.
- g) August Field and Acre Field Appeal Decision.
- h) Conservation Area Assessment a) Any Update.
- i) Any matters considered urgent by the Chairman.
- j) Date of the Next Meeting.

1587. DECLARATION OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS.

There were no declarations of interest.

1588. MINUTES.

The Minutes, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

1589. UPDATES.

The Chairman said that that the August and Acre Field appeals had been dismissed and the Inspector had been very thorough in her findings. Mr Farnese said that thanks were due to the Chairman and Mr Morrison for attending the appeal, which had taken two days rather than the one as expected. The Clerk said that a lot of applications were still outstanding, some were many months old. Some decisions had been made, Glebelands (153390), had been refused a certificate of lawfulness and would require a planning application, Microsoft (153300), had been approved, Reading Blue Coat School (160110), had been approved, 48 Pound Lane (160282), had been given prior approval and 21 West Drive (160332) had been approved.

1590. 31 OLD BATH ROAD (160624).

Mr Farnese said that there were no problems with the proposal, although it was one and a half storeys and would alter the street scene. The two adjoining bungalows were similar (one storey and all built at the same time) but not identical. Mr Farnese was concerned about the proximity to the adjoining railway embankment, which was undergoing extensive development associated with the forthcoming electrification, and the site sloped away in that direction. He was also concerned about the existing foundations. Following discussion it was agreed to say no comment on the proposal but to say there were concerns about the proximity to the railway and that building control should take particular care when assessing the suitability of the existing foundations.

1591: AUGUST FIELD AND ACRE FIELD APPEAL.

The Chairman said that this had been firmly dismissed by the Inspector, who had been very sensitive to the effect on the Conservation Area. The Inspector had said that Acre Field added character as it was set back and this added to the spaciousness of the existing site and the

new detached house, located at the front of the plot, would have the opposite effect. The Chairman said that the neighbour in Manor Gate welcomed the decision but was concerned about future proposals. Everyone hoped that WBC would take note of the Inspectors comments.

1592. CONSERVATION AREA ASSESSMENT.

There were no updates. Mr Farnese said there had been a lot of talk about Parish Plans at the Borough Parish Liaison Forum on 4 April and the speakers had offered to visit Parish Councils to explain more.

1593: MATTERS CONSIDERED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN.

The Chairman said that neighbours were concerned about a business in Old bath Road, where they were selling cars. This attracted a lot of visiting vehicles and the cars for sale were parked on the road.

Mr Hamblin said that he had found it difficult to access the appeal documents and asked about the 2016 Clean Up. Mr Farnese said that he was drafting a Chairman's letter, which would go out to all residents, and this contained details about his proposals for 2016.

1594: DATE OF THE OF THE NEXT MEETING. The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 20 April at 6.30pm.

Signed.....Dated.....