

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SONNING PARISH COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 31 JULY 2017 AT 6.00PM
THE PAVILION, POUND LANE, and SONNING.**

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

APOLOGIES: There were no apologies

AGENDA

- a) Present.
- b) Apologies for Absence
- c) Declaration of Interest
- d) Minutes of 25 July 2017 to approve.
- e) Updates.
- f) RBCS (171780). Full application for the proposed construction of multi-use games area with associated fencing, lighting and surface treatments. To agree comments. Deadline 04/08/17
- g) 33 West Drive (172054). Householder application for the proposed erection of single storey part two storey rear extensions to dwelling. To agree Comments. Deadline 15/08/17
- h) St. Andrews Church (171786). Application for a certificate of lawfulness for the proposed replacement of existing timber gates with new black painted steel gates. To agree any comments.
- i) Any matters considered urgent by the Chairman.
- j) Date of the Next Meeting.

1833 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS.

There were declaration. The Chairman welcomed all those present.

1834 MINUTES.

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

1835 UPDATES.

The Chairman said that there had been no decisions.

1836 RBCS (171780).

Mr Farnese said that the proposed sports facility was to be located in the walled garden, which was surrounded by an outstanding brick wall and he was concerned that the fabric should not be disturbed. The application did say that the wall would be unaffected but WBC should be asked to include a condition to this effect if approval was give. The garden had long gone and been replaced by a lawn and some sport had been played in the area in recent times. The wall was 2ft wide and was supported by large buttresses. Iron nails, which had been used to tie up fruit etc. could still be seen in the wall and there was a fine brick archway. It was a heritage asset. The proposal was to drain off surface water into the main sewer, which was already inadequate and under pressure. The main concern was the proposal to introduce 4 x 4 metre high floodlights. There was too much floodlighting in the immediate are as it was with the RC&HC, RRFC and the Berkshire Sports Club and yet more at Readingensians on the A4. The application did not provide enough information about the lighting, the justification for lighting and why they would be required up to 10.30 at night when the school day finished just after 4.00pm. Following discussion it was agreed to strongly object to the application.

1837 33 WEST DRIVE (172054).

Mr Farnese had visited the site but there had been no reply from the neighbours. However there was sufficient gap between the extension and the boundary, despite the appearance on the accompanying drawings and the property set in a spacious garden. The proposals included extending into the roof and a side extension. Following discussion it was agreed to say that the council could find no reason to object.

1838. ST. ANDREWS CHURCH (171786).

This was to remove the existing oak gates and to replace with black painted, steel gates. The application was for a certificate of Lawfulness which meant that the Parish Council and others were not consulted, the application form indicated that pre-application advice had been sought and given by WBC. The existing gates were a fine example of a beautifully designed and craft heritage design and the simple metal gates were a poor replacement. The Church was a listed grade 11* building and the gates were within the curtilage of the Church and affected its setting, and was in the Conservation Area. If the gates needed to be replaced then it should be with a similar design to the existing. Which was more in keeping the location. Following discussion it was agreed to submit comments objecting to the proposal for the above reasons and to ask that full and listed building application should be submitted, to mention the deterioration of the gates at the Thames Street entrance and that the gate at the Pearson Road entrance had been thrown into the long grass. A copy of the comments should be copied to Giles Stephens and Clare Lawrence.

1839. MATTERS CONSIDERED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN.

A Certificate of Lawfulness for a chauffeur driven car business had been received. The Clerk agreed to clarify if a consultation had been raised or if this was a mistake.

1840. DATE OF THE OF THE NEXT MEETING. The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 15 August at 6.00pm.

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