

Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the 25th meeting of the Little Hadham Parish Council Planning Committee (2011-2015 Session) held on Tuesday 1st October 2013 at 8:00 pm in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

Present:	Mrs C Piccolo	Chairman
	Mr J Forgham)
	Mr R Gregory)
	Mr G Pearson) Councillors
	Mrs M Wilkinson)
	Mr G Williamson)
	Ms W Woodgate)

Mr B Evans – Clerk, and 7 members of the public.

25.1. Democratic 10 minutes.

There were no questions or comments on agenda items.

25.2. Absent None.

25.3. Declarations of interest. Cllr Williamson said he was unable to comment on planning applications as he was a member of the EHC Development Management Committee.

25.4. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 3rd September 2013 were agreed and signed as a true record.

25.5. Matters arising from the minutes.

25.5.1. 0075/13/OP Land at Bishop's Stortford North. It was agreed not to resend the Council letter expressing a number of concerns about the development.

25.6. Planning applications considered by the Council.

25.6.1. 1222/13 The Vineyard, Bury Green. The demolition of a car port and games room provision of first floor accommodation to a portion of the existing building. (renewal of 3/10/0618/FP). Considered by Cllr Mrs Piccolo and Cllr Ms Woodgate. Cllr Mrs Piccolo proposed there be no objection. Agreed.

25.6.2. 1566/13 Woodsfield, Stortford Road. Raise roof and insert dormer windows to create first floor accommodation. Two storey extension to the north-west corner. Part two storey front extension. Removal of existing side porch, new detached garage with storage/games room in loft space. Considered by Cllr Mrs Piccolo and Cllr Forgham. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that she had been contacted by neighbours who were concerned about the size of the planned buildings. Cllr Mrs Piccolo read a letter, previously circulated to councillors [appendix 1], and proposed that it be sent to EHC. Agreed.

25.6.3. 1593/13 Fox Earth, Chapel Lane. Two storey rear extension, raise roof to provide first floor accommodation and insertion of 3 rooflights. Considered by Cllr Mrs Piccolo and Cllr Forgham. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that this was a revised application after a previous one had been withdrawn. She proposed there be no objection. Agreed.

25.6.4. 1577/13 Barn View, The Ford. Two storey side and single storey rear extensions. Considered by Cllr Mrs Piccolo and Cllr Forgham. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said the application was for a modification to an already agreed plan. She proposed there be no objection. Agreed.

25.6.5. 1541/13 Unit 2B, Hadham Industrial Estate, Church End. Extension to existing storage compound for plant in association with Unit 2B & erection of perimeter fencing. Creation of landscaped bund with excavated land. Considered by Cllr Mrs Piccolo and Cllr Gregory. Cllr Gregory said he understood the storage area was for an existing company on the site. He thought it was a major intrusion into the countryside and the Council should object. He thought there was plenty of space at the site, already covered with concrete, that could be used for the storage.

Cllr Mrs Piccolo read a letter, previously circulated to councillors [appendix 2], and proposed it be sent to EHC. Agreed.

25.7. Planning decisions received from EHC.

25.7.1. 1267/13 Unit 5A Hadham Industrial Estate, Church End. Non-illuminated fascia sign – Retrospective. Granted.

25.7.2. 1268/13 Entrance Road, Hadham Industrial Estate, Church End. Non-illuminated information board. Granted.

Cllr Gregory said it was ironic that the far more obtrusive signs on the A120 were not subject to planning applications. He said that two breaches to existing planning conditions for the site had been reported. The company at Unit 5a was working with the main doors open allowing the noise to seriously affect neighbours. Masala Express continued to serve customers late into the night and at weekends – the traffic again disturbing residents. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that she had phoned EHC Enforcement and had been told that the site owner had flatly refused to co-operate with them. She had been told that Enforcement had neither the time nor money to pursue matter. Cllr Gregory said there seemed no point in the Council considering planning applications if no action was to be taken to enforce the decisions of EHC. Cllr Forgham proposed that a letter expressing the Council's concerns should be sent to Mr David Robertson, Chief Executive to EHC, with a copy to Mr Oliver Heald MP. Agreed. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said she would draft a letter and circulate it to councillors.

Action
CP

25.7.3. 1288/13 Appleby, Cradle End. Alterations and extensions to existing dwelling to include raising of roof ridge to create first floor. Withdrawn.

25.8. 1192/13 Oak Lodge, Cradle End. Extension and alterations to existing extension including replacement flat roof and the provision of raised patio with steps. Granted.

25.9. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 4th November 2013.

25.10. The Chairman closed the meeting to the Public and the Press at 8:26 p.m.

Appendix 1

Re. 3/13/1566/FP – Woodsfield, Stortford Road. Little Hadham

Little Hadham Parish Council considered the above planning application at a recent meeting. We now write to inform you of our concerns in relation to the same.

LHPC is aware that the applicant submitted a planning application earlier this year and that planning permission was refused based upon the scale and mass of the proposed extensions. It would appear that current plans, apart from some minor design differences, do not address the scale and mass of the proposals.

LHPC is particularly concerned about the scale and mass of the newly proposed garage as it more or less completely in-fills the gap between the two properties and changes the scenic aspect both to the front and to the rear of the site.

We trust officers will take our viewpoints into account when this planning application is considered.

Appendix 2

Re. 3/13/1541/FP – Unit 2b Church End Farm, Church End, Little Hadham

Little Hadham Parish Council considered the above planning application at a recent Parish Council meeting. We now write to inform you of the objections of the Council and the local community.

LHPC appreciates that the business known as Xylem is expanding however the Council shares concerns with several parishioners that the further creep into the countryside by the business, and in effect by “the industrial estate” as a whole, is detrimental to the position in which it sits as this is an area of rural countryside and is also very close to both a public footpath and bridleway.

The loss of yet more countryside in an Area of Archaeological Significance to tarmac and concrete slab in our view is very worrying, our community tries hard to protect our village from this type of expansion.

As an alternative the community of Little Hadham asks both Xylem and East Herts Planning Officers to seriously consider making use of the plentiful supply of existing hand-standing currently available on the site.

We trust officers will take our objections into account when considering the above planning application.