

**Great Witley and Hillhampton Parish Council**

The minutes of Great Witley and Hillhampton Parish Council

Held at the Great Witley village hall on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2016

**Present**

**Chairman** – Cllr R Perkins (RP)

**Councillors** – Cllr G Goodman(GG), Cllr D Pangbourne (DP), Cllr O Marshall (OM), Cllr N Drew(ND), Cllr R Wilson (RW), Cllr S Sebesta (SS).

**In attendance** – Clerk and 11 members of the public.

**Agenda**

1. **Apologies:** (accepted) Cllr C Dermietzel, Cllr C Shaw.
2. **Declarations of Interest:**
  - a) Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
  - b) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in item 4 and 5 on the agenda with regard to the planning application 16/00013/FUL were received from Cllr S Sebesta, Cllr O Marshall and Cllr R Perkins.
  - c) There were no Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature received.
  - d) There were available written requests for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) for Cllr O Marshall and Cllr R Perkins.

It was noted that the dispensation approved at the previous meeting of Great Witley and Hillhampton Parish Council (25<sup>th</sup> February 2016) for Cllrs OM and RP had not been entered 4 days earlier with the Clerk.

To ensure that the dispensation was granted correctly, item 4 on this agenda notes an endorsement by the parish council for the previously approved dispensation.

The Chairman of the parish council gave the following statement.

“I pride myself on my honesty and integrity and I feel that I have had to declare an interest in 16/00013/FUL, the proposed development of 175 houses in Great Witley.

The solicitors, Hallmark Hulme ( WR1 1UQ) acting on behalf of Marsten Developments(Worcester Limited) and Elgar Properties(Worcester) Limited, who have written to the Parish Council, want confirmation that I will be prohibited from voting on the decision.

I have been actively working with the Parish Council on behalf of the parishioners, who overwhelmingly are not in favour of the above development and I would wish to continue to do so.

However I have taken advice from the Monitoring Officer, and feel that in the best interests of the Parish Council to avoid further correspondence from the solicitors taking the Parish Council away from its important business of representing the views of the Parish on this development, it would be better for me not to involve myself in the development issue discussions even though a dispensation has been granted to me.

Obviously this is something that I would not have wished for, because I was elected by the Parishioners to work on their behalf"

Chairman Roger Perkins then left the meeting.

It was noted that Councillors who have declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, or an Other Disclosable Interest which falls within the terms of paragraph 12(4) (b) of the code of conduct, must leave the room for the relevant items.

It was also noted that failure to register or declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest may be a criminal offence.

3. **Approve the minutes:** The minutes of the meeting of Great Witley and Hillhampton Parish Council that was held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January were approved with the following amendments.

Cllr SS noted that on page 3/meeting 7/2015-16 with regard to the vote to grant a dispensation to Cllrs RP and OM, the additional phrase "Cllr S Sebesta did not take part in the vote, but remained in the room" should be added.

Cllr ND noted that page 3/meeting 7/201516 with regard to the minute – "Nigel Drew commented that he had been asked to make a declaration in the past" should be changed to "it had been suggested to Mr Drew that he had been asked to make a declaration in the past"

- 4 **The Council is to consider endorsing** the Councils decision to grant dispensations to Councillor R Perkins and Councillor O Marshall that was made on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

It was noted that Cllrs OM and RP had not submitted the requests for dispensation to the Clerk with the required 4 days notice at that meeting.

The Council agreed to endorse their decision of 25<sup>th</sup> January 2016 and the dispensation request forms were available to view as submitted on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

<p>The meeting was adjourned for <b>Public Question time</b>, notes of which are appended to these minutes</p>
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**5. Correspondence for information**

A letter from Tyrone and Alison Phillips was read out at the meeting.

Letter from Carol Wood, 23, Fountain Court was noted.

16/00013/FUL correspondence - Letters from Hallmark Hulme and Capita were also available at the meeting with regard to the declaration of interest/dispensations as above and planning application 16/00013/FUL. The replies from the Clerk, and advice from Worcestershire CALC and Ian Marshall (Monitoring Officer at Malvern Hills) were also available at the meeting.

The Council agreed to arrange another Parish Council meeting to take place by 19<sup>th</sup> February 2016 in order that the clients for the planning application 16/00013/FUL would be given an additional opportunity to present the advantages to Great Witley and Hillhampton Parish Council of the proposed development in response to Hallmark and Hulmes letter of 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2016. It was noted that this meeting would be held in public to avoid misinterpretation.

A file of comments from 145 parishioners with regard to planning application 16/00013/FUL that had been collected by the parish council is to be delivered to Malvern Hills DC. There are 142 objections and 3 approvals.

**6. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda:** Councillors may use this opportunity to report minor matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise future items for future agendas.

Cllr OM - It was noted that the communications part of the parish council would be taken over by the Parish Council in April from Oliver Marshall as agreed and it would be added as an agenda item to the March meeting.

Cllr GG – It was noted that the School had asked for reconsideration to the terms of the use of the car park due to their impending change of status to an academy. This is to be placed on the next agenda and Cllr GG is to ask for legal advice on the subject.

**7. Date of next meeting:** To agree and confirm the dates of forthcoming meetings.  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

## **Public Question time**

### Questions with regard to the application 16/00013FUL

It was noted that the comment in the parish magazine was a summary of the parish council meeting held on 13 January.

It was noted that reengagement with the developers was desirable.

It was noted that the vast majority of comments online were not in favour of the application.

It was noted that there were substantial s106 funds available if the development was approved and Cllr DP would submit a list of projects for this money to Jo Cross at Malvern Hills DC although it was noted that this was not offering any comment on the application.

### Suggested uses of potential funds

Vehicle activated sign.

Bowling green with changing facilities.

Tarmac running path

Village hall with new meeting rooms, skittle ally, bar etc

Strip of land for a park