**Councillors present**: Cllr. J. Borrett, Chair (JBo), Cllr. M Collier, Vice Chair (MC), Cllr. P. Borrett (PBo), Cllr. P. Butler (PBu),

 Cllr. P. Forster (PF), Cllr. F. Stennett (FS) & Cllr. G Hubbard (GH) who left at 9pm by prior agreement with the Chair.

**Also present:**  Mr. D. Harris & Mr. J. Harris (All Saints Hotel) and four other members of the public.

**Apologies:** West Suffolk Councillor Sarah Broughton.

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| **ITEM****21/10/1****21/10/2****21/10/3****i****21/10/4****21/10/5****i****ii****iii****iv****v****vi****and vii****viii****21/10/6****i****ii****iii****iv****v****vi****vii****viii****ix****x****21/10/7****i****ii****iii****21/10/8****21/10/9****i****ii****21/10/10** | **Chairman’s Welcome & Acceptance of Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972, Section 85(1) & (2)):** The Chairman welcomed everyone and reported having made contact with SALC to request a locum Clerk who responded that it was unlikely that a temporary Clerk could be found and it was acceptable to continue as we are, without a Clerk, for the time being whilst Vicky was recuperating. **Apologies:** The Parish Clerk. **Absent:** None.**Declaration of Members’ Interest (for items on the agenda) – LGA 2000 Part III:**None.**Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings:** **PC meeting held on 9th September 2021 - LGA 1972, Schedule 12, para 41(2):****Resolved 21/10/3.01** The minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2021 were adopted as a true statement and signed by the Chairman (JBo).**Local Authority Reports:****County & District Councillors:** No reports or updates were made available for the meeting. **Planning Applications (For Consideration):****Update on Enforcement Ref: St Johns Plantation/Golf Course Trees Ref: EN/21/0057 (RH)****Update on Enforcement Ref: Trees at Land adjacent to the Old Parsonage Ref: EN/21/0115 (RH)****DC/21/1763/HH - Householder planning application; front porch, 14 Hoylake Close, FSM. IP286XB.****Resolved 21/10/5.01**After a brief discussion it was unanimously agreed to submit a Formal Resolution of **No Objection** to application DC/21/1763/HH. **DC/21/0445/FUL - Two tennis courts, one pickle court and golf range with fencing. Location: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve IP28 6JQ.**Cllrs. were worried by this proposal and concerns raised included: the location is known to flood; the possibility of flood-lighting, now or in the future; the height of fencing and the size of mesh was questioned from the point of view of safety *from* golfers *to* those using the facility, and vice-versa; fencing positioned in the centre of the course would present a danger to wildlife, particularly birds. It was noted that the need for fencing only arose due to the positioning of tennis and pickle courts close to the driving range - reasoning that if they were not located there then there would be no need for fencing at all and the driving range could presumably continue as before - unfenced. **Resolved 21/10/5.02**It was agreed to submit a Formal resolution of **Objection** to application DC/21/0445/FUL, on the grounds of the location, design and height of fencing in regard to nature conservation, biodiversity and wildlife, and particularly birds.**DC/21/1142/FUL - a. change of use of part of golf course for the siting of 15 caravan lodge holiday homes b. associated infrastructure (as amended).**Messrs. D. Harris and J. Harris presented the amended Application to Cllrs., Mr. J. Harris having already submitted a written presentation to the PC by email prior to the meeting. Mr. D. Harris particularly noted there were a large number of people who had submitted favourable comments on the Planning Portal, as many, if not more than, those submitting objections. Cllrs. pointed out that supporting comments from people who did not reside anywhere near the Lodges site/Hotel would not suffer any consequences as against people who did reside locally and therefore only those from the area should be taken account of by Planners when considering this Application. Non-residents would have part or all of any benefit of any advantages without suffering any of the considerable disadvantages inevitably suffered by residents.Cllrs. were concerned this proposal would impact negatively on the visual amenity and character of the area, and the appearance of the landscape and surrounding environment would be permanently damaged; they were worried about development in the countryside and coalescence with Bury St Edmunds resulting in the loss of green corridor creating unwanted urbanisation within the rural environment. **Resolved 21/10/5.03**It was agreed to submit a Formal resolution of **Objection** to application DC/21/1142/FUL, stressing: a), the PC’s support of local residents’ written objections, many well-researched and presented; b), the encroachment of Bury St Edmunds into the wonderful open green space of countryside; c), FAS is not part of the Bury St Edmunds Development Area, and as such the development will  breach the rural green space between the village and Bury St Edmunds; d), the proposal is not in-keeping with the rural setting and character of the area; e), the development would be in contravention of Planning Policy; f), the amount of holiday lodges existing/already approved within the local area is already more  than needed resulting in over-development; and, particularly, g), the reasoning for refusal of the previous Application for lodges, as well as comments made by  the Planning Inspectorate in the Dismissal of previous Appeal, apply to this Application.  **DC/21/1426/FUL - a. reconfiguration of second floor roof to existing bedroom wing b. four storey linked extension creating 37 bedrooms and three residential dwellings on the second floor.****PLANNING APPEAL - Original Application DC/21/0128/FUL - a. two-storey extension above existing three-storey bedroom wing; b. five storey extension, creating a total of nine residential dwellings.**The items were up for discussion together as they were inextricably linked and a Cllr., in discussion with the Chair, regretted their original decision to vote in favour of both Applications and, given the opportunity, would change their vote. Cllrs., if so minded, could legally change their vote and submit that change to the Planning Department on the current Application and to the Planning Inspectorate in regard to the Appeal. During discussion it became obvious to the Chair there was some degree of misunderstanding between Cllrs. as to how they should assess and vote on Planning Applications. The Chair read out two passages from the booklet entitled ‘The Good Councillors Guide’, by way of explanation. It was decided that the option of revisiting these Applications would not be taken-up.**DC/21/1582/FUL - single storey extension to eastern elevation of existing facility to create a member’s lounge. Location: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve IP28 6JQ.****Resolved 21/10/5.04**Formal resolution of **No Objections** to Application DC/21/1582/FUL was submitted on 17.09.21. **Highways/Footpaths & Trees:**Updates were not available and it was agreed to postpone items i to viii to a future meeting:**Flooding & Drainage Works** **Village Sign/Highway Gates** **30mph Roundels/damaged/missing 30mph signs; also hedge/speed signs at FSG roundabout** **Old Thetford Road Footpath****Broadband roadworks at The Fairways** **Potholes in Manners Road and fences around the green**  **TPO Lists/Maps** **Discuss effectiveness of VAS/SID and traffic calming****Cycling Provision in the Village**.Responding to a query from a member of the public. Cllr. PBu expressed his disappointment that, despite money being allocated from Central Government during the early days of the pandemic; the moneys from increasing rate revenue from all of the building in Bury, (and a £5,000 bonus per new house) and the seemingly empty protestations about a green agenda, very little cycle provision has been made in the town and a complete absence of any in Fornham St Martin. He reminded the council that he made a request that any planning permission for extra lodges on Fornham Park should be subject to the building of a cycle lane on its boundary with the main road. This fell on deaf ears, as did the request to the builders of the re-cycling waste hub that a cycle path would be a welcome recompense for the extra traffic volume created by the facility. He further reminded the meeting that cycling on a footpath is illegal but given the danger of the roadway he found it understandable, especially in the case of children. Nevertheless, he considered it to be an accident waiting to happen. **Unauthorised parking at the Village Hall.**Cllr. PBu reported that, due to a dispute with neighbours over parking matters, the rear car-park gate would be closed and locked from now on and he or other members of the Village Hall Committee would try to ensure it was unlocked whenever the hall was in use.**Parish Matters:****Play Area Inspections Report / Agree Weekly Inspection Rota**Cllr. Frank Stennett (FS) would continue weekly inspections until the next meeting.**Discuss Monthly and Annual H&S Report findings**It was agreed to delegate preparation of our own Risk Assessments of the playing field and playground to Cllrs. FS and JBo, based on the findings of the most recent Annual and Monthly inspections, who would agree works required and obtain costings for discussion by the PC.**Upgrading street lighting to LED**The meeting was made aware of the work soon to be undertaken by Suffolk County Council.**Correspondence:** Letters received from residents on: The Fairways regarding roadworks; rotted fencing on the Green at Manners Rd: speeding through the villages. All had been circulated to Cllrs. prior to the meeting.**Finance & Policies:** **Resolved 21/10/9.01**Formal adoption of the External Audit Report and Publication for 2020/21 was affirmed. **Cheques for signing and approval and to authorise payment of outstanding invoices.****Resolved 21/10/9.02.** It was agreed to approve payments of outstanding invoices as follows...**Councillors Reports & Items for Future Agenda’s:**None. General note: throughout discussion on items concerning the All Saints Hotel, matters were quite contentious, with members of the public and Mr. D. Harris becoming heated. At one point JBo made a comment... ‘it seems he just wants to annoy his neighbours’. Challenged by Mr. D. Harris, JBo acknowledged he had let himself down by saying that and his immediate apology was accepted. |  |
|  | **Next Meeting to be held on Thursday 11th November 2021****at 7:30pm, in the Village Hall, Fornham St Martin**Meeting closed at 10.00pm**Signed: Date:** **Chair, FSMSGPC** |  |