

**Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council**  
**Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2013**  
**in the Village Hall, Grundisburgh.**

NOTICES had been posted according with regulations.

The meeting was preceded by a viewing of the plans of Planning Application DC/13/2619/OUT.

Present:- Messrs. G.Caryer, D.Crowe (in the chair), C.Doyle, J.Dunnett, G.Hartfall, M.Sanders, R.Youngman, Mrs.J.Bignell, Mrs.S.Grahn, Mrs.A.Willetts, District Councillor T.Fryatt, Mr.B.Zins (Chairman – New Village Hall Steering Group) and 40 members of the public.

**1. Apologies for absence** Mrs.A.Woods (business), Mrs.J.Crowe (unavoidable`commitment)

**2. To receive members declarations of interest.** No interests were declared.

**3. Public Open Forum – relating to item 4** Mr.Youngman proposed seconded by Mrs.Willetts, to unanimous approval, that the formal meeting be temporarily suspended and members of the public invited to address the meeting. The following comments were made

For A perfect site, existing hall a disgrace, a huge asset for the village, much needed parking provided, existing hall not suitable for social occasions such as wedding receptions, present hall not fit for purpose – some users have sought other accommodation, a good package deal for the village, new houses would bring in more people to use the village facilities shops, pubs, surgery, school and help to keep them viable.

Against Loss of good agricultural land, why not renovate existing hall and provide a car park on Top Field?, could be used as a precedent for expansion of the village, loss of trees, too many large houses, building on a field that has landscape value, building on land outside village envelope, not enough affordable housing.

**4. To discuss and form the Parish Council's response to the following Planning Application DC/13/2619/OUT Top Field, Barn Farm, Grundisburgh. Erection of a new Village Hall and 24 dwellings as enabling development (21 open market & 3 affordable dwellings) (Outline with all matters reserved except access)**

At the resumption of the meeting councillors reviewed the comments made by the public. It was agreed that opinion seemed equally divided although those opposing the scheme were more likely to have attended. It was pointed out that the 2006 Parish Plan and the Open Houses consultation, held in April this year, showed wide spread support.

Mrs.Bignell, Chair Village Hall Management Committee said that no wedding receptions had been held in the hall during the last 5 -6 years due to its poor condition and lack of facilities. She constantly received complaints about the toilets, lack of heating, drains not up to standard, lack of parking etc. The floor has been mechanically sanded so many times that it is now so thin that recent sanding and varnishing of the floor had to be carried out by hand. The lack of parking space resulted in cars having to park along Post Mill Gardens. The hall was over 90 years and not fit for current needs. She feared that, if better facilities were not provided, more users would go elsewhere. She and her husband were thanked for keeping the hall functioning in very trying circumstances.

After further discussions the Chairman proposed seconded by Mr.Youngman that the Parish Council supports this planning application. It was passed with 8 members voting for and 2 against.