

Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council
Minutes of a Meeting of the Planning Sub Committee held on Friday 2nd September, 2016
in the Parish Rooms, Grundisburgh.

Present: Messrs.G.Caryer, D.Higgins, J.Lapsley, Mrs.A.Willetts (in the chair) and 12 members of the public.

Mrs.Willetts reminded those present that this meeting is held in public but is not a public meeting. In Item 3 the committee will invite members of the public to comment on the two planning applications the committee is considering. She also reminded that members of the public can register their support or objections to planning applications directly to Suffolk Coastal District Council.

1. Apologies for absence Messrs.C.Doyle, P.Kendall, Mrs.J.Bignell, Miss.V.Barker.

2. To receive member's declarations of interest No interests were declared

3. Public Open Forum – relating to item 4 Mrs.Willetts proposed seconded by Mr.Lapsley, 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:

DC/16/3127/FUL Proposed alterations and erection of first floor extension to provide one bedroom flat over Forge Stores, The Green.

Mrs.Willetts said that planning permission was granted in November 2007 for a first floor extension. The Parish Council did not object because they were persuaded that the shop would probably have to close if residential accommodation was not provided. The site is in the conservation area and any changes must preserve and enhance the character of the area.

Members of the public made the following comments....

- The proposal would intrude on the space and light of Willow Cottage
- A proposed door would open onto the garden of Willow Cottage
- Part of the forecourt is owned by the owners of Willow Cottage
- Drains and water supply go through garden of Willow Cottage
- History has shown that there is no foundation to the rumour that the shop will close if this application is refused.
- The proposal does not enhance the area.
- The proposal constitutes over development of the site in the centre of the village and conservation area.
- If the Post Office is moved to the Olde Forge Stores (as is rumoured) current chronic vehicle parking problems will worsen alarmingly.
- County Council Highways Department are recommending refusal of the application.

DC/16/3282/FUL A Wood Store/Workshop, Roof to accommodate Photo-Voltaic array, Laneside Meeting Lane - Retrospective application.

Mrs.Willetts said that Grundisburgh's Physical Limits Boundary runs along the centre of Half Moon Lane. Laneside is outside the area where there is a presumption in favour of development. The recent approved residential development at Laneside was only permitted because there was already a small bungalow on the site.

Members of the public made the following comments....

- In answer to a question from the applicant's agent Councillor Higgins confirmed that the letter of objection he had sent to the District Council was sent as a member of the public and expressed his own personal views and not that of the Parish Council.
- The storage shed was built without the necessary planning permission. This was a mistake to which the applicant's agent apologised.
- The storage shed was unsympathetic and not in harmony with the area.
- There was room on the other side of the site for storage of logs for domestic use, rather than have neighbours disturbed.
- The bungalow, which houses 3 adults, uses wood for heating and hot water and a large store is needed. Councillor Dunnett questioned the need for a store containing 40 tonnes of logs for domestic use.
- Neighbours view had been blocked by the shed. This was challenged by the agent who reminded the meeting that before development the site was filled with trees which blocked the view.
- A neighbour objected to the noise of a chainsaw being used regularly.

4. To discuss and formulate the Planning Sub Committees recommended response to the District Council which will be presented to the full Council for approval at a meeting to be held on the 12th September.

DC/16/3127/FUL Proposed alterations and erection of first floor extension to provide one bedroom flat over Forge Stores, The Green.

After discussion Mr.Lapsley proposed seconded by Mrs.Willetts, to unanimous approval, that the Committee recommends that the Parish Council objects strongly to this application. It was suggested that the long standing parking issues at the site should be addressed.

DC/16/3282/FUL A Wood Store/Workshop, Roof to accommodate Photo-Voltaic array, Laneside, Meeting Lane.

After discussion Mrs.Willetts proposed seconded by Mr.Higgins that the Committee recommends that the Parish Council objects strongly to this application as this proposal is an overuse of a site outside the village physical limits. This was approved three members voted for and one member abstained. Doubt were expressed that such a large shed was needed.