

**Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council**  
**Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on the 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2025**  
**in Grundisburgh Playing Field Pavilion**

NOTICES had been posted according with regulations.

Present: - Councillors G. Caryer, B.Cook, C.Dow, A .Dunnett, J .Dunnett, M. Harris, M. Rankin, Mrs.J.Bignell, Mrs.A.Willetts (in the chair) County Councillor E. Bryce, District Councillor C. Hedgley and 20 members of the public

**1. Apologies for absence** Councillor E. Dingman, Mr & Mrs. Stiff, Mr & Mrs. Haslam,

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

**3. Public Open Forum relating to Item 4** The Chairman invited members of the public to address the meeting.

SCC/0093/25SC Land east of Westerfield/Witnesham Road (B1077), Westerfield

*Extraction and processing of sand and gravel with restoration to original ground levels, erection of associated infrastructure, solar photovoltaics and access to the public highway*

County Councillor Elaine Bryce said she had opposed this application from its inception. There is widespread opposition to this proposal which would have a devastating impact on Westerfield and the surrounding villages. Grundisburgh and Culpho are likely to be affected. The Stop the Quarry Campaign recent public meeting was attended by over 100 residents. She urged residents who wished to comment on this application to do so by the cut-off date of the 12<sup>th</sup> September and to visit the Campaign's Web Site <https://www.stopthequarry.info/>

It is important that everyone has their say.

In answer to a question from a member of the public she said that Quarry provision exceeded the County Council's Waste & Minerals Plan.

The applicant had stated that if his application was refused he would appeal and, if necessary, to judicial review. This would involve the Stop the Campaign in huge legal costs so fund raising is critical.

DC/25/2814/OUT The Gables, The Green, Grundisburgh

*Construction of up to 2 dwellings (Access to be considered, all other matters)*

DC/25/2815/FUL and DC/25/3058/LBC The Gables, The Green, Grundisburgh

*Conversion of outbuilding to 1 no. dwelling and associated alterations*

Mrs. Willetts said these applications are outside the Settlement Boundaries but within the Conservation Area.

Planning applications in 1996 had been refused on these grounds on appeal.

Members of the public were critical of the proposals for access, which they considered inadequate and unsafe, and the destruction of trees which contained important wild life habitats. The Settlement Boundaries and Conservation Area gave protection to the village and should be respected..

**4. To discuss and formulate the Parish Council's responses to the following Planning Applications**

SCC/0093/25SC Land east of Westerfield/Witnesham Road (B1077), Westerfield.

*Extraction and processing of sand and gravel with restoration to original ground levels, erection of associated infrastructure, solar photovoltaics and access to the public highway.*

Following discussion Mrs. Willetts proposed seconded by Mrs. Bignell that the Parish Council should object to this application under the following headings

- Highway Safety & Road Network
- Westerfield Neighbourhood Plan
- Heritage Assets & Valued Landscape
- Suffolk Waste & Minerals Plan
- Business Impact
- Water & Hydrology
- Health Risks
- Ecology

Approved: 8 members voting for 1 member voted against.

***To discuss and formulate the Parish Council's responses to the following Planning Applications cont...***

*DC/25/2814/OUT The Gables, The Green, Grundisburgh*

*Construction of up to 2 dwellings (Access to be considered, all other matters)*

*DC/25/2815/FUL and DC/25/3058/LBC The Gables, The Green, Grundisburgh.*

*Conversion of outbuilding to 1 no. dwelling and associated alterations*

Mr. Cook complained that these applications had not been discussed by the Council's Planning Sub Committee prior to this meeting and that the applicant had not been invited to contribute to the Council's discussions on his application. He regarded the Sub Committee's involvement and the applicants participation as essential.

The meeting was reminded that the Council's Planning Policy Statement states that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council should be held to formulate the Council's response for applications for "infill more than one property". The Meeting was well publicised and the applicant, if he attended, would have been able to contribute.

*DC/25/2814/OUT The Gables, The Green, Grundisburgh*

*Construction of up to 2 dwellings (Access to be considered, all other matters)*

After further discussion Mrs. Willetts proposed, seconded by Mr. Harris, that the Parish Council should object to this application on the grounds that the site is outside the Settlement Boundary, inside the Conservation Area and contrived access provision. Approved 6 members voting for 3 members abstained.

*DC/25/2815/FUL DC/25/3058/LBC The Gables, The Green, Grundisburgh.*

*Conversion of outbuilding to 1 no. dwelling and associated alterations*

Mrs. Willetts proposed seconded by Mrs Bignell, to unanimous approval, that the Parish Council should make no comments on this application apart from questioning the use of a new access rather than use the existing access to the listed building.