

FAWKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held at 7 pm
on Friday 2 January 2015, in the Village Hall, Fawkham

Present:

Councillor Blacker

Councillor Hollands

Councillor Moss (chairman)

Councillor Parkin

Councillor Takk

Also in attendance; the applicant for the planning application at minute no. 03/2015 and a School Governor.

01/2015 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
There were none.

02/2015 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Cllr Parkin declared an interest in all matters relating to planning applications by virtue of being a member of the Development Control Committee at Sevenoaks District Council.

03/2015 PLANNING

- SE/14/03158/FUL, Steep Hill School, Castle Hill, DA3 7BG- Proposed extension of existing car park for use by church, school and parish, and new vehicular access

The applicant explained the changes that had been made to the new application and the additions to the supporting evidence, following the refusal of the previous application to extend the car park.

There was a detailed discussion of the officer comments relating to the previous planning application and the problems the school (and other users) experience with car parking.

It was proposed by Cllr Blacker, seconded by Cllr Takk and AGREED that the following response to the consultation be submitted to Sevenoaks District Council.

That the Parish Council supports the application because:

1. The points raised by the Parish Council regarding the previous application (SE/13/00870/FUL, extension of earth banking and reinstatement of hedge) have both been addressed.
2. There is also competition to use the car park with ramblers, dog walkers and primary school users.
3. The usage levels of the car park stated by the Church are realistic and meet the Parish Council's expectations.
4. Usage of the existing car park can overflow onto Valley Road even when just a church service is being held, if there is a full congregation.
5. The Parish Council has discussed the application with the applicant and understands that the car park will be unoccupied during the course of the day as arrangements have already been made for staff to park at the school.
6. The proposal would help reduce damage to existing verges and hedgerows,

which is a problem the Parish Council has raised with Kent County Council, and failed to find a resolution to.

7. The difficulty parking in nearby lanes has long been a concern of the Parish Council and the Fawkham community, in terms of road safety and congestion on Steep Hill, Castle Hill and Valley Road.

04/2015

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Noted as Thursday 22 January 2015 at 7pm in the village hall.