

MOULTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the planning meeting held on Monday 11th April 2022

Councillors present: John Derry, Jane Horsnell, David Clarke, Ed Chambers, Ryan Bragg and Doug James.

Also present: Joanne Kirk (clerk) and three members of the public.

In the absence of the Chairman, John Derry chaired the meeting.

1. Acceptance of apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from David Almond (Chairman), Mark Price (Vice Chairman) and Tim James and the reason for absence accepted.

2. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda and dispensation requests

No councillors declared an interest in any items on the agenda and no dispensation requests were received.

3. Public Session

The following issues were raised during the public session:

a) Objections to planning application DC/22/0566/PIP and TCA application DC/22/0558/TCA.

4. Planning issues

a) DC/22/0426/FUL - 9 Newmarket Road, Moulton - Two dwellings and access following demolition of existing dwelling

It was resolved that no objections would be made to this application.

b) DC/22/0555/TCA - Lawn House, 16 The Street, Moulton - one Lime (T2 on plan) re-pollard to up to 2.5 metres from ground level.

It was resolved that no objections would be made to this application.

c) DC/22/0566/PIP - Lawn House, 16 The Street, Moulton - Permission in principle - one dwelling

It was resolved that the Parish Council would object to this application as it would not comply with DM2 for the following reasons:

- It is a small plot which would be more backfill than infill and would lead to a housing density in the area which would not be appropriate for a rural village and a conservation area. Any development would risk overshadowing and overlooking neighbouring properties in Mayes Meadow and Park Close as it would have to be built close to the boundary. This would also lead to a loss of privacy to these properties.
- The plot is currently used for staff parking. Point 3 of the Decision Notice for planning application DC/19/0873/FUL states that *'The use shall not commence until the area(s) with the site shown on plan TEAS/HH block plan for the purposes of loading/unloading, manoeuvring and parking of vehicles and for the purposes cycle storage have been provided and thereafter those area(s) shall be retained and used for no other purposes.'*

Allowing this plot to be developed would contravene the decision notice for DC/19/0873/FUL which clearly states that the area should be retained for parking.

- Allowing this plot to be developed would lead to the loss of a garden and an important space which separates neighbouring properties. Work has already started to clear the site.
- Parking and highways access. Moulton Stores are very popular. The road is very busy during the day and there are frequently cars parked along The Street outside the Stores and further along. This means there is space for only one vehicle to pass on the road which can make it difficult to overtake the parked cars. At times vehicles have blocked the access to Mayes Meadow and Park Close. Adding an additional property and removing staff parking would exacerbate this problem. The access to the proposed site is also very narrow with restricted visibility especially when cars are parked in front of the shop. Pedestrians and children regularly cross the road to access the playing field and benches opposite Moulton Stores, therefore any additional parking and vehicles would impact on pedestrian safety.

The narrow access to the plot will also make it difficult for construction traffic to manoeuvre onto the site as they often require multiply attempts to drive into the access road and to reverse out which will make the area even more dangerous for pedestrians and other road users.

d) DC/22/0558/TCA - 3 The Green, Moulton - one Walnut (T1 on plan) fell and one Spruce (T2 on plan) fell and one Laburnum (T3 on plan) fell and one fruit tree (T4 on plan) fell and one Salix (T5 on plan) fell and one mixed hedge (G1 on plan) fell.

It was resolved that the Parish Council would submit a response stating that all the trees, with the exception of the spruce, have important amenity value to the area around The Green and that the Parish Council feels that they should be protected. Removing the spruce would allow the walnut trees to reach their full potential.

The front hedge should also remain as it also adds to amenity value of the area. The hedge may need properly cutting back but not removing. The Parish Council asks that any work on the trees and hedges be carried outside of the nesting season.

5. Finance

a) Approval of any payments and signing of Schedule of Payments

Ed Chambers and Doug James declared an interest in the invoices below and did not take part in the vote.

It was resolved that the following payments would be approved:

- Suffolk County Council – Speed surveys (50%) – GPC - **£393.00**
- E Chambers – construction and installation of two benches with raiseable hoods – Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions Act) 1976, s19 - **£4,700.**
- JPM Tree Services – Tree works – Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9 & 10 - **£550.00**
- CRC Pest Control - Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9 & 10 - **£330.00**
- Nu-Plan Builders – Hire of an excavator to install benches - Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions Act) 1976, s19 - **£248.70**
- Packhorse Fencing – grass cutting and inspections of play equipment - Control - Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9 & 10 - **£545.50**
- SALC – Annual Subscription – LGA 1972, s111 - **£386.87**
- Ansvar Insurance – Events insurance of Platinum Jubilee Celebrations - LGA 1972, s111 - **£157.76**
- M Price – to reimburse the cost of materials used for the installation of the covered benches - Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions Act) 1976, s19 - **£167.11**

6. Any other business for noting or approving at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on Monday 16th May 2022 at 6pm.

The following items are for noting:

a) Email from Whitehill Direct about recycled plastic posts for The Green.

As the Parish Council has already delayed installation of the posts until the autumn, Whitehill Direct has suggested that due to the volatile nature of pricing related to energy it would be better to obtain a price nearer the time when Moulton Parish Council wishes to purchase them.

Councillors agreed to wait until the autumn before obtaining a revised quote.

b) Email from a member of the public about an accident near Packhorse Bridge.

Councillors agreed to refer this to English Heritage who own the bridge.

c) Incident of vandalism along Brookside.

Some of the Parish Council's 'Do not park on the grass signs' have been pulled up and damaged by vandals. Councillors expressed their disappointment at this. The Parish Council is still trying to establish who the vandals are before deciding what action to take.

d) Village tidy up

The tidy up was very successful with approximately 40 people attending.

e) Request for The Green to be used for parking for the Jubilee celebrations on 5th June.

Councillors confirmed that they were happy with this and Doug James offered to help out.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.50pm.

Signed (Chairman) Dated