

HUNTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PLANNING MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2012
AT HUNTON VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Cllr R Sawtell in the Chair, Cllrs G Thomas, D Heaton, R Porter, T Stanbridge and Mrs S Goodwin, Clerk.

IN ATTENDANCE: Twelve parishioners were in attendance.

Prior to the start of the meeting a number of parishioners voiced their objections to planning application MA/12/0152, Little Clock House, George Street. Objections to the application included: contravention of previous planning conditions by the current resident; the current permission being for the original residents of the site only, not the applicants; the applicants have gypsy ancestry, but do not lead a gypsy lifestyle, choosing to live in conventional housing; the potential adverse visual impact on the landscape and surrounding listed and historic buildings; issues associated with increased traffic. Several parishioners provided Members with documents outlining their objections, which had also been submitted to Maidstone Borough Council.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr L Leonard.

2. COUNCILLOR DECLARATIONS

There were no councillor declarations.

3. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING MEETING HELD ON 12TH DECEMBER 2011

The Minutes of the meeting had been previously distributed and were **Agreed** to be an accurate record. The Chairman of the meeting signed off the official copy.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following application was considered and recommendation made:

4.1 Little Clock House, George Street – MA/12/0152

Change of use of land to provide an extension of existing caravan site to accommodate three additional gypsy families in three mobile homes.

Members considered that further development of this site would have a detrimental impact on the surrounding countryside and be out of keeping in a Special Landscape Area. It would also adversely affect the setting of the listed and period buildings surrounding the site, which would detrimentally affect their character. In addition, conditions imposed by the Planning Inspectorate in 1995 when temporary permission was allowed for the original residents to remain on the site, make it clear that the temporary permission was solely for the residents at that time. Once the original residents no longer remain on the site, the land should be returned to its original agricultural state. Finally, the applicants may have gypsy ancestry, but have been brought up in conventional houses, are not considered to be leading a nomadic gypsy lifestyle and should not be provided with permission on this basis.

Parish Council recommendation: Refuse and request the application is reported to Maidstone Borough Council Planning Committee.

5. REPORTED DECISIONS

The following decisions received from Maidstone Borough Council were **Noted**:

5.1 Amsbury Farm, East Street – MA/11/1877

Installation of solar PV panels to existing agricultural building.

Parish Council recommendation: Approve, but do not request the application is reported to Maidstone Borough Council Planning Committee.

Maidstone Borough Council decision: Granted planning permission.

5.2

Plot 5 Land At, Lughorse Lane - MA/10/1542

Change of use of land to provide two plots for gypsy travellers, including the stationing of two mobile homes, two touring caravans, a stable building and two utility blocks.

Parish Council recommendation: Refuse and request the application is reported to Maidstone Borough Council Planning Committee.

Maidstone Borough Council decision: Refused planning permission.

Planning Inspectorate decision on appeal: Appeal dismissed.

There being no further planning matters to be discussed the meeting closed at 8:35pm.