

HUNTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16TH JULY 2012 AT HUNTON VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Cllr R Sawtell in the Chair, Cllrs G Thomas, R Porter, D Heaton, S Wyles, T Stanbridge (joined the meeting during Item 4.1) and Mrs S Goodwin, Clerk.

IN ATTENDANCE: There were no members of the public in attendance.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr L Leonard.

2. COUNCILLOR DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations of lobbying, disclosable pecuniary interests or other significant interests.

3. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING MEETING HELD ON 18TH JUNE 2012

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 23, Bensted Close – MA/12/0969

Erection of a single storey rear extension (conservatory).
Parish Council recommendation: Do not wish to object.

5. REPORTED DECISIONS

No recent planning decisions have been received from Maidstone Borough Council (MBC).

The Clerk reported that an email had been received from the MBC Planning Officer assigned to application MA/12/0447 - Scuffits, Water Lane, stating that the application is being recommended for refusal and is being referred to MBC Planning Committee in accordance with the recommendation from the Parish Council. The Planning Officer requested a summary of the planning reasons behind the recommendation and also wished to know whether a representative of the Parish Council would be attending the Planning Committee meeting.

Members stated the reasons for recommending approval of the application and reporting to Planning Committee, as follows:

- the proposed work enhances the property;
- the property is reasonably isolated and the proposed work will not have an adverse impact on the environment; and
- the Parish Council was aware that pre-application comments raised objections to the application. However, as there are other examples within Hunton (and the surrounding area) of converted former agricultural buildings which have been extended, the Parish Council considers there to be an inconsistency in the application of policy if this application is refused when other similar applications have been approved.

Once the date of the Planning Committee meeting has been established, a member of the Parish Council will attend if possible, although it was felt that members should not need to attend as it is not up to the Parish Council to defend the MBC policy.

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