

10298 Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Wickhambrook Parish Council held on 16th May 2014 at 11.10 a.m. in the Women’s Institute Hall.

The venue was changed from the MSC Pavilion because of the number of members of the public wishing to attend.

Present

Cllrs. K. Sammons (Chairman), S. Bradbury, K. Merritt, J. Walker and J. Wilson.
County Cllr. M. Evans and Borough Cllr. D. Redhead
Clerk R. Medley.
Fifty three members of the public attended the Open Session.

1. Apologies for absence.

There were no apologies. Cllr. J. Claydon was not invited..

2. Declarations of interest in agenda items

Cllr. Walker declared an interest in the one item on the agenda and left the meeting.

3. OPEN SESSION 11.15 a.m.

The only item on the agenda was Planning Application DC/14/0579/FUL, an application by Claydon Yieldometer Ltd. for the erection of a new weld shop, a new assembly and office building, an extension to the existing office building, provision of additional hard surfacing and vehicle parking and a comprehensive landscaping scheme.

The Chairman asked for comments.

Concerns fell under these main headings

- i) The inaccuracy of some of the planning application documents, particularly those supposedly showing local housing and the environmental survey.
- ii) Increased traffic flow and the size of the lorries using B1063 through local villages such as Lidgate.
- iii) Visual impact. The buildings are obvious from some directions currently. Additional buildings will make the situation worse.
- iv) Drainage and the likely increase in flooding problems at Attleton Green and further down the valley, e.g. Cloak Lane area.
- v) The possible effect on local housing prices
- vi) Potential increases in noise, light and environmental pollution
- vii) Size of the planned unit and the fact that Wickhambrook is a Local Service Centre not a Key Service Centre and should not be expected to host a large industrial unit.
- viii) Such a plant is incompatible with any rural location and should be moved to an industrial estate where there is appropriate infrastructure such as an arterial road network.
- ix) Continuing expansion of the complex and the future possible uses of the buildings if the demand for this type of agricultural machinery decreases.

Members of the audience felt that the Parish Council could have done more to publicise the Planning Application and that Mr Claydon should be asked to resign from the Council while the application was under review.

The Chairman thanked members of the public for their comments and said that the Parish Council would make a decision at the Annual Parish Council meeting to be held at 7.30 p.m. on 22nd May in the main hall of the MSC.

CLOSURE OF OPEN SESSION at 12.20 p.m.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date