

LONG MELFORD PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Offices, Cordell Road, Long Melford, Suffolk CO10 9EH
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Planning Committee Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting

Meeting called for **10:30am, Wednesday 25th November 2020**
Location **Conducted by remote by videoconferencing due to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

Councillors present **I. Bartlett, R. Delderfield, J. Ewbank, D. Watts, J. Watts (Chair)**

Councillors absent **J. Lines, C. Michette, R. Michette, L. Tipper**

Also attending **D. Lovelock (Clerk)**
Mr I. McDonald (attending as expert advisor to the Committee)
Cllr L. Malvisi (attending as BDC Environment Portfolio Holder)

Details of the Planning Applications and Planning Decisions listed in these Minutes can be found by visiting the Babergh District Council website at <https://planning.baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/> and typing the relevant DC reference number into the 'Simple Search' tool.

The Chair opened the meeting at 10:40am. The following Agenda items were addressed.

PL20/11-E1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs C. Michette, R. Michette and L. Tipper.

PL20/11-E2 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

No declarations of interest were made by Councillors.

No requests for dispensation were received from Councillors.

PL20/11-E3 Public Participation

No members of the public spoke during the public participation session.

Councillor Malvisi joined the meeting at 10:44am in her capacity as Environment Portfolio Holder for Babergh District Council, to provide the Committee at its request with information regarding some aspects of the proposed Design Code from the BDC environmental perspective.

PL20/11-E4 Consideration of a Proposed Design Code for a Development.

i. Chilton Woods Development

Cllr D. Watts raised a concern regarding the proposed closure of part of Acton Lane to through traffic. He said that Chilton Parish Council had made a well-considered and detailed submission to the developers regarding the draft code, and drew attention to a comment in it that the developer's draft code did not meet the Government's design code. He recommended that the Council should support the Chilton PC submission, which was agreed. The Chair then asked for Mr I. McDonald's views regarding the matter, who commented as follows.

Taylor Wimpey had only acquired part of the development site. There was a risk that if or when other developers commenced work on the project, overarching cohesive sustainability for the development could be lost.

The draft code made it clear that some of the land owned by Taylor Wimpey would be developed by other developers. There was a risk that this could result in a lack of consistency in the design standards applied across the development as a whole.

Several other Parish Councils had raised concerns that the draft code failed to provide measurable standards and specifications for key elements of the project.

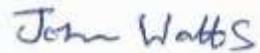
Mr McDonald recommended that the Council raise two specific concerns in its consultation response, being that the draft design code:

- (a) Failed to properly establish the intention for pedestrian and road traffic links to key destinations.
- (b) Provided no convincing justification for the partial closure of Acton Lane.

Mr McDonald agreed that Chilton PC's submission regarding the development should be endorsed. He commented that there was a lack of clarity regarding which local authority, and which developer, would be in control of various aspects of the development, and that this needed to be established. He further recommended that the submissions made by parish councils regarding the draft design code should be copied directly to Babergh District Council (BDC).

The Committee agreed that Mr McDonald should prepare a response to the draft design code consultation on the Council's behalf, and forward this to the Clerk so that he could submit it to the developers before the close of business 25/11/2020, copying it to BDC.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 11:10am.



J. Watts
Chair, LMPC Executive Planning Committee

Date: 04/12/2020
