

ASHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL



Clerk to the Council:

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Minutes of the online Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7th December 2020 at 7.00pm.

Present: Chairman:

Councillors:

Cllr. D. Catchpole

Cllr. G. Dryhurst

Cllr. D. McCarthy

Officers:

Karen Boyce, Parish Clerk

Members of press and public:

None

20/104 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. T. Flowers (Chairman), Cllr. S. Chittenden

Due to Cllr Flowers sending his apologies for tonight's meeting. Cllr Catchpole will be acting as chairman for tonight's meeting.

20/105 Minutes

Please note due to Covid – 19 restrictions, there has been no face to face meetings.

RESOLVED that the Minutes from the online planning meeting on 30th November 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Vice-Chairman.

20/106 Declaration of Interests and Dispensations

None.

20/107 Public participation session

None present.

20/108 Planning

RESOLVED that the District Council be informed of the comments as set out below the following applications:-

- (i) Application No: 20/00632/FUL
Proposal: Proposed extension of existing driveway involving the laying of hard surface (Including the removal of a section of existing driveway) and extension of decking. Construct detached shed. Construct single storey side extension.
Location: Holmfield, Canewdon Road, Ashingdon SS4 3JL

No Objection	Overall plans acceptable but Parish Council would like to query the roof as they were under the impression that Rochford District Council's policy was no flat, felt roofs.
(ii) Application No: Proposal:	20/01094/DPDP1/ Householder prior approval for single storey rear extension. Projection 3.6m from original rear wall. Eaves Height 3m, Maximum Height 3.5m
Location: No Objection	5 Foxfield Close, Hockley, Essex Overall plans acceptable but Parish Council would like to query the roof as they were under the impression that Rochford District Council's policy was no flat, felt roofs.

20/109

Bloor Homes

A discussion took place about the Bloor Homes Development and the decision taken by the RDC Planning Committee. Councillor Dryhurst tabled a document which the committee felt should be added to the minutes of the meeting.

Ashingdon Road is already over-developed, it has long been stated to be the busiest non classified road in Essex.

660 new homes with 1320 cars will make our roads intolerable.

750 + more children will impose considerable burdens on local schools.

2000 + more residents will all need parking, doctors surgeries, shopping, recreation, jobs.

The roads network is inadequate. The infrastructure is already inadequate. The utilities may buckle under the strain – water, sewerage, refuse collection, power, gas and so on.

The most serious local problem and reason for many failings is the geographic location of this District: Rochford, like Southend, Westcliff, Hockley, Rayleigh and the many villages are all on the Shoebury Peninsula. There is only one way in and out – to and from the West. Rochford is entrapped by the sea to the east and the unbridged River Thames, River Roach and the River Crouch at the South and North.

With only one way in from west to east and one way out from east to west, this will cause enormous long jams for the roads and motorists.

The development site also has restricted access. A large urban estate of 660 houses should have access to and from it around all sides. This Bloor Homes site can only be accessed from Ashingdon Road, the site is hemmed in. There is only access from Ashingdon Road to the west of the site. On the other side in the east there are only ditches, large ponds and low lying fields which are about 6.0m above mean sea level, that is only about 2.5m above high tide and about 1m above storm surge tides and below the level of tidal wave surges. Not really the best place to put a very large estate. On top of that, the development will be built on and occupy green pastures, so necessary these days.

Add to that access bottle-neck, the fact that there are few factories, little industry, few service companies, few national headquarters in our isolated cut-off peninsula. There are no major employers in our area. Most people have to travel out of our peninsula area to reach their area of employment or their business markets.

There are two railway lines but almost every rail user has to drive to them and find parking. For road users with a very poor road network with so many people and vehicles having to travel far, all trying to find a way through the already bad and worsening congestion, those problems

will make our conditions intolerable. This quantity of travel up and down the Ashingdon Road, will most definitely up the noise and pollution levels.

There was talk about 25 years ago of an outer bypass. Nothing happened.

20/110 Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is on 4th January 2021 at 7.30pm.

The meeting was closed at 7.25pm.

Vice - Chairman's Signature

Dated