

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE
MEETH PARISH COUNCIL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING
HELD ON
Friday 21st June 2019 at 8pm in Meeth Village Hall**

Present: Cllrs: Peter Cobbledick (Chairman), Henk Boeijink, Peter Doyle,
William Knapman.

Also present: Parish Clerk/RFO: Lindsay Dearing and 14 members of the public.

- 1) **Receive apologies of absence:** Angus Howie.
- 2) **Declarations of Interest and dispensations:**
 - a) **To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda.** None.
 - b) **To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any).** None.
 - c) **To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.** None.
- 3) **Item for discussion: The parish council response in May with regard to lack of affordable housing and parishioners concerns to: 1084/19/OPA Application for Outline Planning Permission with all matters reserved for residential development, village hall, village green access, parking, landscaping and drainage arrangements. Site Address: Woody Lane Field, Station Road, Meeth.**

The chairman commenced by reading a statement to answer some of the criticisms being aired on social media. He asserted that the councillors were under the impression that a contribution of £80,000 from this development towards affordable houses in the village would be retained for the village. He has since discovered that this is not correct. Councillors would now like to see two affordable houses built, a requirement for which has been identified in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan. Their earlier comments in May to WDBC Planning and the draft minutes will be amended to reflect this.

The chairman then made the meeting open to the public for comment and discussion.

Mrs Sue Howie, the co-applicant, said that the pre-application had highlighted that the money was the preferred option of WDBC Planning, however they have now extended the time limit on the application to address road access issues, and are quite happy to amend the application to include 2 affordable houses on the understanding that they are to be exclusively for local people. She also addressed earlier concerns about the village hall provision in that they were offering the land as a community asset, and not planning to build one themselves.

Other public comments were: That the development was outside the village boundary, but were assured that this was not so: That a small development with affordable houses would be beneficial and retain vitality in the village, and that a footpath through the village would be socially advantageous.

Concerning the Neighbourhood Plan, the chairman reminded the meeting of the independence of the NP committee; the parish council having representation only. Cllr. Knapman, who is on the committee, read through the key objectives for adoption in the plan (from September 2018 and to made available on the website) that identified the possible provision of affordable housing with a Localism clause through a Community Charitable Trust or similar mechanism.

- 4) **Any other items appropriate to the parish or matters arising at the discretion of the chairman.** None.

Date of next meeting: 15 August 2019

Close of meeting: 8.47pm