

Algarkirk Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ALGARKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 27th FEBRUARY 2024, 7.20pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ALGARKIRK

Present: Councillors: D Reid, G Reid, M Spiller, E Taylor E Walker and S Walker
Also Present: Mrs M Warr (Clerk), LCCLlr Mike Brookes, BBCllr James Cantwell
44 members of the public for the planning item

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No questions were raised other than those relating to the planning item.

15/24 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from BBCllr David Brown

16/24 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY OR NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

17/24 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2024, were presented.

RESOLVED:

That, the minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2024, are approved as a true record.

18/24 PLANNING

New Plans – B/24/0060 - Outline planning application with some matters reserved (Appearance, Landscaping, Layout & Scale) for later approval for proposed industrial development and associated infrastructure (Use Classes B2, B8, E(g)) at Land off Station Road, Sutterton, Boston, PE20 2JX

43 members of the public took part in a lengthy debate with numerous points of views expressed. BBCllr Cantwell answered questions and said he was in discussions with senior planning officers and also the developer to gain further information. It was generally felt that the application lacked detail and many items had not been explained fully. The attendees asked if BBC could organise an event to explain the application to the community and Cllr Cantwell agreed to take this back to the Council.

All agreed that the parish council and residents should object to the application in the strongest possible terms. The main points of the meeting are detailed below.

Access - LCCLr Brookes reported on his conversation with Highways regarding the access points from Church Lane. He was told that a crossroad junction is proposed that would cross the spine road and turning out of the industrial estate would not be permitted. Bollards would restrict the size of vehicles using the junction. However, there was also a proposal that would shut off Church Lane and concern was expressed that services such as the refuse collection and emergency vehicles would not be able to access properties. The Village Hall is a designated emergency area and if Church Lane was closed off the public would not be able to use the facility easily. Full details of the traffic arrangements are not clear or currently available.

Agricultural Land – this area is unallocated land located in the countryside. The land is considered to be grade one and the government is said to be committed to protect agricultural land. There needs to be proof that there is an economic need in the area to change from farming to industrial.

Link villages – this development would link the two villages of Algarkirk and Sutterton, something that BBC has opposed in the past. It is essential that there is green space between the villages to stop coalescence. This could set a precedent which may have far reaching effects that could be felt further than just Lincolnshire.

Utilities – there is a major gas pipe that runs through the site which would mean a lengthy strip of land that could not be built upon. There is no main drainage in area and Anglian Water have already expressed concern that the development has the potential to cause an unacceptable risk of flooding/pollution from the network.

Wildlife – there have been reports of badger sets and bats in the fields, there is also a wealth of wildlife that would be harmed by such a development to a rural area rich in biodiversity.

Rural Lifestyle – the village of Algarkirk is a Domesday village that has no facilities other than the Village Hall and the Church. The population is ageing and the noise, light pollution and disturbance to rural life would be unacceptable. The route between Algarkirk and Sutterton currently offers popular safe dog walking for residents in a rural setting, which would disappear due to this development. The effect on the mental health of residents must be taken into account.

Action Group – Cllr Cantwell suggested setting up an action group and this is being taken forward. It was noted that a petition is also being circulated.

A public meeting to discuss the plans further will be held on 29th February at 7pm at Sutterton Village Hall. It was noted that the deadline for comments had been extended until 15th March.

The Parish Council will collate, agree and submit comments following further public consultation.

19/24. POLICE REPORT

1 crime of violence and sexual offence was reported in December in the Lee Avenue area.

20/24. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk circulated a report prior to the meeting. The items regarding the signage for the scheduled monument will be discussed at the next meeting but it was noted that the new email address for the parish council had been adopted. It was also noted that the free portrait of the King had been ordered.

21/24. PLAY AREA MAINTENANCE

It was noted that the matting has been replaced with bark chipping and the broken wooden edging removed.

Cllr Spiller agreed to source hedging or plants to infill the borders of the play area and will contact the Clerk with a quotation.

22/24. REPORT ON OTHER PARISH MATTERS

This item was deferred.

23/24. FINANCE:

RESOLVED: that the following invoices are paid:

- M Warr – salary for January and February (paid by Standing Order) - £430.84
- M Warr – service 3 meetings – 6 hours, £102.96, email set up – £51.48, 3 hours, £25, Dr Hughes retirement (Chairman's fund) Total £179.44
- Di Reid – expenses – sweets for carol service - £11.00
- LALC – annual subs - £157.00

24/24. EASTER EVENTS

The date for the Easter service had not been confirmed.

25/24. LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS AND BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

This item was deferred.

26/24. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

To be confirmed.

27/24. NEXT MEETINGS

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 14th May 2024, 7.20pm at the Village Hall. This will start with the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual Meeting and monthly meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed -----

Date. -----