

**MINUTES OF THE DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF
MARTLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 10 FEBRUARY 2021 virtually via
Zoom.**

Present: Mr C Blundell (Committee), Mr D Boswell (Committee), Mrs H Davey (Committee), Mr S Denton (Chairman), Mr D Green (Committee), Mrs J Hall (Committee), Mr M Irwin (Committee), Ms R Jones (Committee), Mr P Whitby (Committee), Mr M Williamson (ex-officio).

There were 2 members of the public - David Foster, Chairman of Martlesham Heath Householders Limited and Will Barton, Landbridge, managing agent for the owners of The Square, Martlesham Heath.

In attendance: Mrs S Robertson (Clerk) and Mrs D Linsley (Deputy Clerk).

1. Apologies: Mr L Burrows.

2. Interests

2.1 Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI): None declared.

2.2 Local non-Pecuniary Interest (LNPI): None declared.

3. PUBLIC FORUM: To allow members of the public to address business on the agenda; to note any issues raised by the public.

Members of the public to be allowed to contribute to discussions, when appropriate, throughout the meeting. **Agreed.**

4. Planning application outside the scope of the delegated authority to the Clerk

4.1 DC/20/1036/FUL - LAND EAST AND WEST OF THE SQUARE, MARTLESHAM HEATH - CONSTRUCTION OF RETIREMENT APARTMENTS FOR THE ELDERLY, A NEW PUBLIC CAR PARK, ACCESS, LANDSCAPING AND ANCILLARY DEVELOPMENT – REVISED PLAN Deadline for comments: 17/02/21

Meeting papers - Chairman's briefing document 19/03/20, revised site plan, SCC Highways comments 13/01/21 with Appendices, Highways comments marked up by the Chairman, Martlesham PC comments on revised plans 14/10/21 (includes comments on original plans), Chairman's unofficial comments to applicant & ESC Case Officer following meeting on 25.01.21; papers filed in the office together with these minutes.

The Chairman presented slides via the Share Screen facility on Zoom which are attached to these minutes. Discussions covered the need for adequate provision for electric vehicles now and in the future; whether sufficient car parking spaces were being provided; the possibility of the PC managing the car park in the future, access to the Village Fete site and associated legal considerations for the PC; walking and cycling routes and the importance of connectivity. There was a consensus that the cyclist/pedestrian path proposed by Highways to the north of the development would not be of great benefit to existing cyclists/pedestrians and would be detrimental to the amenity of new residents.

Mr Barton clarified that a reduction in the amount of car parking spaces would be a concern for occupiers and the owners of The Square and was cautious about supporting decisions/developments that might hinder the growth/sustainability of The Square in the future. Meaningful discussions had been prevented due to a high turnover of staff at McCarthy & Stone (M&S). Inconsistencies in the information given by M&S to the different organisations being consulted had caused confusion and uncertainty.

Mr Blundell felt that the improvements planned for the A12 and East Suffolk Council's understanding of the importance of ensuring connectivity in the area would address some of the issues regarding the management of cyclists and pedestrians.

It was suggested that the full Council would need to take legal advice on taking on the car park before a decision was taken. An agreed Public Car Park Management Plan would need to be agreed by SCC Highways.

DECISION D2021/2a: To submit a response to planning application DC/20/1036/FUL - LAND EAST AND WEST OF THE SQUARE, MARTLESHAM HEATH - CONSTRUCTION OF RETIREMENT APARTMENTS FOR THE ELDERLY, A NEW PUBLIC CAR PARK, ACCESS, LANDSCAPING AND ANCILLARY DEVELOPMENT – REVISED PLAN based on the slides presented by the DET Committee Chairman. **Agreed.**

5. Development

5.1 Strategic Planning for Larger Projects – NALC webinar on 26/01/21 (attended by Jane Hall)
CP - NALC notes filed in the office together with these minutes Noted.

5.2 Neighbourhood Plan Review

More research is needed. Item deferred to April DET meeting. **Agreed.**

5.3 East Suffolk Council Decisions

CP filed in the office together with these minutes.
It was noted that these are e-mailed regularly in the Admin Assistant's report on planning applications.

5.4 Planning Comments issued to East Suffolk Council (ESC) between meetings CP filed in the office together with these minutes. Noted.

6. Environment

6.1 Working group, as part of Martlesham Climate Action, to tackle environmental projects on air quality, road noise & light pollution (item 7 of December 2020 DET minutes refers) Noted
Ms Jones and Mrs Hall to continue to concentrate on traffic issues. The Chairman and Mr Whitby to address air quality issues as agreed at the last meeting of the Development Plans Committee in December. Air quality to be added to the next meeting of Martlesham Climate Action on 15.02.21.

7. Transport (includes highways issues)

7.1 Suffolk County Council public on-line consultation about improvements to the A12 between the A14 'Seven Hills' and the A1152 Woods Lane 09/02/21 – 19/03/21

Discussions included access across the A12, the value of roundabouts and traffic lights, the layby on the A12 by Lancaster Drive and the best way to respond to the consultation on improvements to the A12.

At 9.30pm the following decision was taken:

DECISION D2021/2b: To suspend Standing Order 3w to complete all business on the agenda.
Agreed.

As the improvements to the A12 impact on a wide range of issues and existing projects Mr Irwin listed the following topics via the Share Screen facility on Zoom to help determine the subjects to be included in the response to the consultation and identify individuals who would help put together a response:

1. *Whether there is a problem which needs solving at all. This will be difficult because the proposals aren't principally there to solve Martlesham's problems.*
2. *Whether road building is a solution or a cause of the problems.*
3. *Post covid, post carbon will it be a white elephant?*
4. *The pros and cons of that particular scheme, traffic lights being a particular red rag. Weren't we also told when discussing Brightwell Lakes exit that synchronised traffic lights aren't suitable/ wouldn't work in this context?*
5. *Local land take, noise, emissions, light pollution etc*
6. *How can it be used to mitigate current local problems?*
7. *How can we cement in proposed improvements?*

8. Does it take BL fully into account? Some options would restrict accessibility through the Barrack Square corridor to the trading/retail area and discouragement of use of Foxhall road roundabout as a route for BL residents.

9. Would the increased capacity facilitate/legitimise the Seven Hills and "Greater" Long Strops developments or even developments north of the Woodbridge by-pass?

Mr Foster reported that MHHL preferred tunnels under the A12 as this allowed the movement of wildlife. Access that encouraged use of the shops on Martlesham Heath was also preferred by MHHL. Mr Blundell reported that he would report back to the DET on planning applications concerning Martlesham Heath.

Mr Blundell left the meeting.

Mr Irwin to change his list into questions and circulate to DET members for their answers/comments.

After collating responses, any differences of option identified to be assessed. **Agreed.**

An update on a response to the consultation to be circulated to the Full Council at its meeting on 3rd March. **Agreed.**

The PC to be asked at its meeting in March to consider delegating the submission of a response to the consultation on A12 improvements to the Clerk. **Agreed.**

Mr Barton left the meeting.

7.2 Application for SID sites: 9 forms submitted in Feb 2020 - Traffic Regulation Officer advised on 03/02/21 that we are only allowed a maximum of 6 CP – email showing sites filed in the office together with these minutes.

DECISION D2021/2c: The following 6 priority locations for SID were identified from the application submitted in February 2020:

1: The Street, Water bridge

2: Main Road, West facing

3: Main Road, East facing

4: Eagle Way, North of Valiant Way

5: Eagle Way, South of Westlands

9: Eagle Way, North of Lancaster Drive, south facing. **Agreed.**

7.3 Need for a new footway near BT mini roundabout where desire line has been created? Email exchange.

No action to be taken at present. To be reviewed if not satisfactorily resolved without intervention.

Agreed.

8. Martlesham Newsletters/Website/Facebook

8.1 Any items for promotion or information?

Consultation on A12 improvements.

9. Any items for the next agenda

None.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.22pm.

M. Williamson

Chairman, 3 March 2021