

Ditchingham Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Ditchingham Village Hall

Monday 19th July 2021 at 7.30pm

Councillors: Corinne Layton (Chair), Emily Curtis (Vice Chair), Brendon Bernard (District Councillor), Angela Gifford, Jason Kercher.

Clerk/RFO: Sally Chapman

Also Present: Four parishioners

A. Public Forum – for Members of the Public

A parishioner reported:

- Overgrown hedges in Ditchingham
- Flooding on slip road and blocked drains on Hollow Hill Road
- Residents' bonfires on Norwich Road
- Advertising on Chicken Roundabout (against DPC's policy)

Another parishioner spoke of her forthcoming planning application.

Action: Clerk to report

B. External Reports

County Councillor Barry Stone sent apologies and a report and District Councillor Brendon Bernard circulated a report – full details: <https://ditchinghampc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>

MINUTES

1. To consider Apologies for Absence

None

2. Declaration of Interests and Consider Requests for Dispensation

6.f) New dog waste bin – Cllr Curtis non-pecuniary interest (nearby resident).

3. To Approve the Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes from the Meeting held on 3rd May 2021 were confirmed unanimously as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising

None

5. Finance

a) To Confirm the Internal Auditor for 2020/21

The Clerk confirmed the appointment of Mr. Trevor Brown as the Internal Auditor for 2021-22.

b) To note the Annual Governance and Accountability Return was submitted to the External Auditors on 27th May 2021

Cllrs noted the above and the Clerk confirmed the Exercise of Public Rights Notice was published on the website and noticeboard on 2nd June 2021.

c) To Receive the Financial & Budget Reports & Approve Receipts & Payments

Councillors resolved unanimously to approve the Finance & Budget Reports (attached), Receipts and Payments.

d) Online Banking Procedure

The Clerk read out an Online Banking Procedure to support the new online payment system.

Councillors agreed unanimously the Online Banking Procedure and it was signed by the Chair.

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- e) **To Consider an Internal Transfer from the Community Account to The Saver Account**
Councillors resolved unanimously to transfer £85,000 to DPC's Barclays Saver Account. Action: Clerk
 - f) **New Dog Waste Bin – Thwaite Road/Tunneys Lane Junction – update**
Cllr Curtis informed her husband had fitted the new dog bin.
 - g) **LED Street Lights – update**
Cllr Curtis advised the installation of the LED street lights are scheduled at the end of August 2021.
 - h) **Play Equipment - To Consider replacing the Ladder Climb with a Scramble Climb & Repairs**
Councillors agreed unanimously to order the Scramble Climb from PlayQuip and asked the Clerk to obtain quotes for the Play Equipment that needs repairing or replacing. Action: Clerk
 - i) **To Consider Subscribing to Norfolk Training Partnership Support**
Councillors agreed unanimously to subscribe to Norfolk Training Partnership Support. Action: Clerk
 - j) **To Consider a Replacement Community Noticeboard**
Cllrs discussed and agreed to remove the doors of the noticeboard to see if this would eliminate the condensation. Action: Chair/JK
 - k) **To Consider Parish Partnership Bids – c/f**
7. **To consider a New Policy**
- a) **NALC Bullying & Harassment Policy**
This policy was considered by Cllrs to complex and requested the Clerk to obtain some other Bullying & Harassment Policies to consider. Action: Clerk
8. **Highways & Planning**
- a) **Hamilton Way, Ditchingham - Streetlighting Requirements**
Councillors agreed unanimously not to have street lights installed at the Hamilton Way, Ditchingham development.
 - b) **South Norfolk Village Clusters Housing Allocations Plan - Regulation 18 Consultation**
Cllr Curtis submitted a report (*attached*) outlining SNC conclusions on the suggested sites in Ditchingham. Councillors supported unanimously SNC conclusions as outlined in the report.
Cllr Curtis agreed to summarise the comments and email to the Clerk for submission. Action: EC
 - c) **To Consider Proposals for a Memorial and Signage at Chicken Roundabout**
NCC Engineer Gary Overland, the Chair and Vice Chair met on 18th May 2021 to discuss proposals for a road sign and a plaque in memory of Gordon Knowles on Chicken Roundabout. The Chair and Vice Chair were informed it is against NCC policy to have a memorial sign on the roundabout and it was agreed a sign and plaque could be erected beside the footpath, in front of the hedge between the B1332 and A143. The sign would be commissioned by DPC and the design has to be approved by NCC. Cllr Kercher agreed to have some proposals designed. Action: JK
 - d) **Planning Applications & Decisions**
Cllrs noted the planning applications & decisions received since the last meeting (*see report attached*).
9. **To receive Internal Reports from Committees (if required)**
- a) **Chair's Report**
The Chair read out her report (*attached*) and it will be forwarded to the parish magazine. Action: Chair
 - b) **Community Chair's Report**
The Chair read out her report (*attached*).
 - Footpath Warden – Cllr Kercher has agreed to become the footpath warden for Ditchingham.
 - Tree Warden – The Chair gave thanks to Fred Hartwell the previous tree warden who has now retired. The tree warden vacancy will be advertised in the parish magazine and website. Action: Chair
 - c) **Planning & Highways Chair's Report**
This report is included with report 8.d).

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10. Speed Awareness Machine (SAM2)

Cllr Kercher reported on the following:

a) Data Report

The SAM2 has been situated in Norwich Road for the last 30 days from 3rd June-7th July 2021. In that period 87,387 vehicles have been recorded and the average speed was 42.3mph and the maximum 75mph at 7.25pm. The SAM2 machine will now be moved to another Ditchingham site.

b) Risk Assessment

The risk assessment is completed on movement of the SAM2 and the Clerk asked for a copy of each assessment.

c) Memorandum of Understanding

The Clerk to forward a list of SAM2 sites to Gary Overland NCC Engineer.

Action: Clerk

11. To consider Issues not decided by Committees

a) Bungay Town Council – Flood Community Group & Flood Plan – update

The Chair informed the group has not since Christmas and no progress has been made on the flood plan.

- **Ditchingham Community Resilience Plan** (full details in the Chair's report 9.d)

The Chair advised there will be a simple plan created to cover all sorts of emergencies (except pandemics) and the group can include volunteers.

b) To consider Social Engagement and a Facebook Page

Councillors agreed unanimously to create a DPC Facebook page and adopt a Social Media Policy.

Cllr Curtis agreed to set the FB page up, supply a social media policy and post information.

Action: EC

c) Councillor and Play Area Equipment Training

DPC's play equipment inspector has been booked onto a refresher play area equipment training course in August.

d) Councillors' Email Addresses

The Clerk advised Cllrs to have separate email addresses for their DPC's emails and agreed to set up new addresses for Cllr Gifford and Cllr Kercher.

Action: Clerk

e) The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons

Cllrs discussed some ideas for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee including have a community lunch on The Dip.

Action: AG

f) The Armed Forces Covenant & Pledge – c/f

Cllrs discussed and the Chair agreed to read the full details before committed the PC.

Action: Chair

g) Neighbourhood Watch Network

Not known in Ditchingham and Cllrs agreed parishioners could set-up a group, if anyone wish.

h) DPC Archives

Cllrs discussed and the Clerk agreed to archive some old records as listed by the Norfolk Record Office.

i) Future of Chicken Roundabout

The Chair raised concerns about the current contractors working on the roundabout and their safety. At the meeting with Gary Overland on 18th May 2021 she was informed DPC did not have a license to cultivate flowers on the roundabout and this should have not been done without NCC's approval. NCC is now changing their Highways policies and will leave more roadside verges for wildflowers and natural habitat.

Cllrs discussed the P&H Committee recommendation (report page 776):

'DPC is only the parish in Norfolk to have the responsibility for maintaining a roundabout and the committee is recommending that we hand it back to highways asap as we do not have a cultivation license in place for the wildflower planting'.

Councillors agreed to hand back the responsibility of Chicken Roundabout to NCC from the next financial year – carried 3/2.

DPC is currently in a 3-year grass cutting contract for Chicken roundabout to end in autumn 2022 and it was suggested the contractors to be redeployed elsewhere in Ditchingham.

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12. To note Correspondence received

a) Parishioners' letters re Speeding on Norwich Road

The Chair informed DPC had received two complaints and the SAM2 had been relocated there for the last month to discourage speeding.

b) Parishioner's letter re parking charges in Bungay

The Chair stated the car parking charges in Bungay is under East Suffolk Council and any complaints should be directed the them.

c) Allotment Bonfires

A parishioner has complained about bonfires at the allotments and at the beginning of the meeting a parishioner said the bonfires were in residents' gardens on Norwich Road.

13. Any Other Business

For discussion and information only, the Council may not make decisions on these items.

None

14. To Receive items for the Next Agenda

a) Website Update

15. To confirm the Next Meeting Dates

The Clerk was asked to confirm the availability of the large hall.

- Monday 20th September 2021 at 7.30pm
- Monday 15th November 2021 at 7.30pm

Action: Clerk

Planning Meetings arranged as required.

The meeting ended at 10.00pm

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6. c) Finance and Budget Reports

Ditchingham Parish Council Finance Report - July 2021					
Community Account balance b/f					£ 20,744.42
Receipts since last report					
Date	Ref.	Payee	Amount		
28/05/2021	DC	Rosedale - Burial Mr. J. Davey	£ 255.00		
12/07/2021	CR	Mrs R Harris - Cemetery fees	£ 415.00		
			Total	£	670.00
Payments since last report					
17/05/2021	101712	Clerk's - phone and case	£ 164.80		
17/05/2021	101713	EPS Transfers - Dip sign	£ 21.60		
17/05/2021	101714	McCarty Tree Services	£ 250.00		
17/05/2021	101715	NALC - Training (CL)	£ 36.00		
17/05/2021	101716	PlayQuip Leisure - play equipment repairs	£ 1,825.20		
28/05/2021	S/O	Staff Salaries	£ 876.64		
12/07/2021	1	Clinks Care Farm - Ground Maintenance 1/3	£ 3,566.72		
12/07/2021	2	Glasdon UK Ltd - Dog Bin	£ 269.61		
12/07/2021	3	Paul Austin - Rubbish Bags	£ 5.00		
12/07/2021	4	Community Action Norfolk - Subs & Training	£ 60.00		
12/07/2021	5	CAS Insurance	£ 766.08		
12/07/2021	6	Clerk's Expenses June & July	£ 76.00		
12/07/2021	7	Norfolk Training & Support - CL	£ 60.00		
12/07/2021	8	Play Inspection Company - Annual Inspection	£ 166.80		
12/07/2021	9	NALC Training - CL	£ 48.00		
			Total	£	8,192.45
		Transfer from Saver Account			£ 132,165.71
			Total	£	145,387.68
Community Account Statement Balance 02/06/21					£ 17,793.68
Uncleared receipts					-£ 446.50
Unpresented payments					£ 5,018.21
		Transfer from Saver Account			£ 132,165.71
			Total	£	145,387.68
Business Saver Statement Balance 12/07/2021					£ -
Total balance in both accounts					£ 145,387.68

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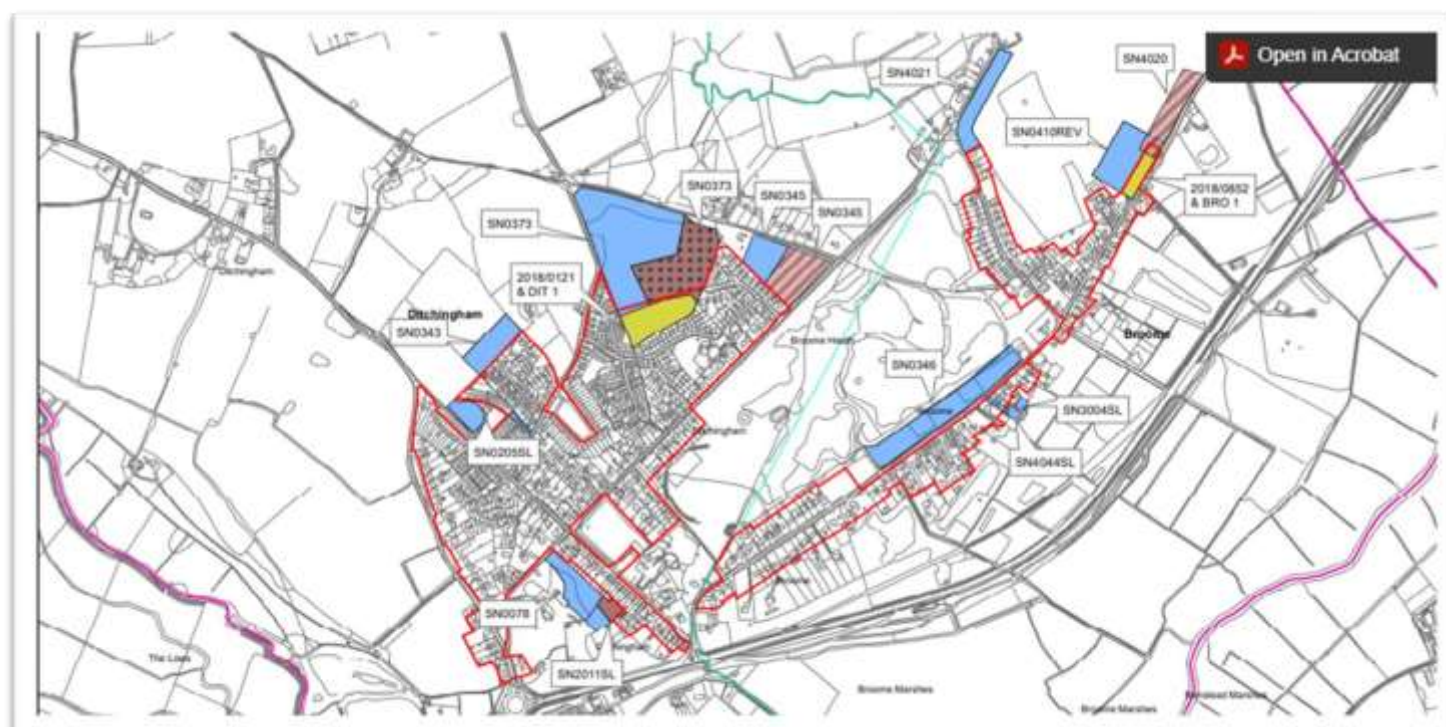
Ditchingham Parish Council - Budget Report 2021-22		July 2021				
Year End 2020-21		Budget 2021-22	Actual Year to Date 2021-22	Forecast 2021-22	% of Original Budget	Notes
	Income					
30,000	Precept	37,000	18,500	37,000	50%	
2,260	Cemetery	2,840	670	2,840	24%	
275	Allotments Rents	255	-	255	0%	
122	Business Account Interest	200	3	200	2%	
5,522	VAT Reclaimed	2,500	32	2,500	1%	
38,179	Total Budgeted Income	42,795	19,205	42,795	45%	
-	5106/CIL/Grants	0	-	0	-	
38,179	Total Income	42,795	19,205	42,795	45%	
	Expenditure					
7,566	Clerk's Employment Costs	8,176	1,843	8,176	23%	Inc. Overtime
380	Clerk's Office Costs	396	132	396	33%	
1,506	General Expenses / Internal Audit / Subscriptions	1,300	1,102	1,300	85%	
100	Allotment Rent to Land Owner	100	-	100	0%	
3,955	Cemetery Maintenance & Grass Cutting	4,500	932	4,500	21%	
985	Dog Waste Bin Servicing Charge	1,070	-	1,070	0%	
780	Insurance - 3 year contract 2019-2021	800	766	766	96%	
-	Miscellaneous	500	-	500	0%	
750	Parishioner Magazine & Website Production Costs	750	-	750	0%	
2,374	Thwaite Road Play Area Maintenance/Grass Cutting/Litter Picker	3,250	1,177	3,250	36%	
3,031	The Dip Maintenance/Grass Cutting/Litter Picker	3,500	1,084	3,500	31%	
3,152	Village Maintenance/Grass Cutting/Litter Picker/Cleaning	3,250	1,197	3,250	37%	
1,501	Tree Survey & Maintenance	1,500	-	1,500	0%	
1,200	Street Lights Electricity & Maintenance Contract	3,000	300	3,000	10%	
-	Village Hall Grant - Section 137	6,000	6,000	6,000	100%	
-	Local Projects Grants - Section 137	1,000	-	1,000	0%	
4,287	VAT	2,500	1,079	2,500	43%	
31,565	Total Budgeted Expenditure	41,592	15,611	41,558	38%	
4,765	Play Area Reserve	1,200	1,521	1,521	127%	Repairs
1,807	Street Lights Repairs/LEDs/Removal	0	-	0	-	
-	5137/CIL Expenditure	0	-	0	-	
1,425	The Malting's Landscaping	0	-	0	-	
39,562	Total Expenditure	42,792	17,132	43,079	-	
(1,383)		3	2,073	(284)		
780	Community Account Balance 2020/21 b/f		4,276			
38,179	Total Receipts per cash book		19,205			
39,562	Total Payments per cash book		16,255			
4,276	Community Account Balance		145,388			
138,162	Business Saver Account		-			
142,438	Total in Both Accounts		145,388			
127,434	Restricted Reserves		130,155			
15,004	General Reserves		15,233	Year to date		
142,438			145,388			
	Restricted Reserves	Received 2021/22	Spent 2021/22	Current Balance		
12,919	Lychgate & Cemetery Maintenance	-	-	12,919		
2,045	Cheyne & Maltings Footpath Maintenance	-	-	2,045		
31,829	Play Area New Equipment Reserve	1,200	1,521	34,550		
444	CIL Infrastructure Levy (SN) to be used before 2025	-	-	444		
74,147	Street Lights Repairs/LEDs/Removal	-	-	74,147		
2,845	Street Lights Electricity & Maintenance Contract	-	-	2,845		
200	SNC VE Day Grant	-	-	200		
593	Tree Survey/Maintenance	-	-	593		
2,412	Village Improvements	-	-	2,412		
127,434				130,155		
15,004	General Reserves			15,233		
142,438				145,388		
	Precept 2019/20					
	Parish Precept Requirement		£ 28,000	(+ £3,000)		
	Tax Base		£ 624			
	Band D property		£ 44.87			
	An increase of		£ 5.64	per year		
	Precept 2020/21					
	Parish Precept Requirement		£ 30,000	(+ £2,000)		
	Tax Base		£ 624			
	Band D property		£ 48.08			
	An increase of		£ 3.21	per year		
	Precept 2021/22					
	Tax Base 2020/21 - updated 17/12/20		£ 628	(+ £7,000)		
	Band D property		£ 58.92			
	An increase of		£ 10.84	per year		

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8.b) South Norfolk Council - Village Clusters Report

Report prepared by Emily Curtis (Cllr) Date: 12 July 2021

South Norfolk Council is currently preparing a housing allocations document that will shape development within the District's villages, identifying land for a minimum of 1,200 new homes. This plan will be called the **South Norfolk Village Clusters Housing Allocations Plan (VCHAP)**. Several sites in Ditchingham have been suggested. Only one site has put forward as suitable.



SN0345 – (Approximately 40 dwellings) Land to the north of Loddon Road, Ditchingham

Suitability The site is considered to be a suitable option for residential development, subject to clarification in regard to the access and visibility splays in regard to trees which border the site. A footpath would also need to be provided to connect to the existing provision to the west. **Site Visit Observations** The site is screened from the wider landscape. There is an existing field access from Loddon Road, located to the west of the site. Clarification is needed from Highways and the Landscape Architect in regard to the access and impact upon trees. **Local Plan Designations** Site is located within the River Valley, however this is the same for all sites within Ditchingham. **Availability** The landowner has confirmed that the site is available. No additional constraints have been identified. **Achievability** An off-site footpath connection would be needed to connect with the existing provision to the west.

OVERALL CONCLUSION: REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE – This site is considered to be suitable for allocation, subject to confirmation of highway suitability and provision of a footway. The site relates suitably to existing services and facilities, the existing form and character of the village and there is limited impact on the wider landscape due to existing screening. **Preferred Site:** Reasonable Alternative: Yes Rejected:

DPC's Comments: SNC have commented that "Access via Loddon Road would involve the loss of some hedgerows fronting the road." This is inadequate assessment of the Oak trees and hedging alongside Loddon Road and Tunneys Lane and these must be protected.

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DPC is in agreement that development of this part of the village would be suitable, but it must not be at the cost of the mature Oak trees and hedging. The Parish Council would also not support this proposed site unless a pavement is provided, the 30MPH speed restricted zone starts before Tunneys Lane (or there is no break from Broome) and a crossing point is provided so residents can safely reach Broome Heath.

SN0078 - (Approximately 19 dwellings) - REJECTED Land off Loddon Road, Ditchingham

Suitability: Not considered suitable due to potential adverse impact upon landscape/townscape. **Site Visit Observations** The site contains a number of trees, which provide part of the verdant setting to this section of Loddon Road. Development on the site would result in loss of trees which would impact upon the landscape/townscape in this area. **Local Plan Designations** Site is located within the designated river valley, however this is the same for all sites within Ditchingham and Broome. **Availability** Applicant is the part owner of the site. Details of the other site owners have not been provided, furthermore they have not confirmed whether they would be willing for the site to be development. **Achievability** The achievability of the site is queried if all landowners are not willing to develop the site. It is also unclear what parts of the site are outside of the ownership of the promoter.

OVERALL CONCLUSION: UNREASONABLE – The development of the site would require the removal of a number of trees. Development would impact upon the landscape. Furthermore, the site is in multiple ownership and it is unclear if all the site owners support development. **Preferred Site:** Reasonable
Alternative:
Rejected: Yes

SN0205SL - (approximately 11 dwellings) - REJECTED Land northwest of Scudamore Place, Ditchingham

Suitability The site is not considered to be suitable for development due to the impact that it would have on the setting of the adjacent Taylor and Green properties at Scudamore Place. **Site Visit Observations** The site is located on the edge of the settlement but within reach of services and facilities. Development would have a detrimental impact upon the landscape, townscape and designated heritage assets. Site is not considered a suitable location for development. **Local Plan Designations** Site is located within the conservation area and the rural river valley. **Availability** Promoter has advised of availability within the plan period. **Achievability** No additional constraints identified

OVERALL CONCLUSION: UNREASONABLE – The site is located within the setting of the Taylor and Green properties at Scudamore Place. Development would impact upon the setting of these dwellings which are grade II listed. It would also impact upon the setting of the exception site with the dwellings located directly in front of them. Development of the site would impact upon the amenity of these properties by virtue of their close proximity. For this reason the site was rated red through the HELAA for townscape impacts and has been excluded from the site assessments.

Preferred Site: Reasonable
Alternative:
Rejected: Yes

SN0343 - (Approximately 15 dwellings) - REJECTED Land adjoining Wildflower Way, Ditchingham

Suitability There is limited screening of the development site from Norwich Road to the west. The development would represent an extension into the open countryside to the north of the village. The proposal would impact upon the landscape and townscape **Site Visit Observations** There is a change of levels within the site with the land rising to the north. There is limited screening allowing open views both from the site and into the site. **Local Plan Designations** The site is located within the defined river valley, however this

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is the same for all land outside the development boundary within Ditchingham. Availability The landowner has confirmed that the site is available. Achievability No additional constraints identified

OVERALL CONCLUSION: UNREASONABLE – The development of the site would represent an extension into open countryside with limited screening to reduce impact. This is considered to have a detrimental impact upon the form and character of the settlement and landscape overall.

Preferred Site: Reasonable Alternative:
Rejected: Yes

8. d) Ditchingham Parish Council - Planning and Highways Committee - July 2021

Streetlighting - LED Replacement Lanterns

As agreed at the last meeting of the Council, Cozens have been instructed to replace the lanterns with LED's and the replace the concrete column on Windmill Green. There is a delay on parts, and Cozens expect to receive the order by the end of July, and the LED installation will be completed by the end of August.

Hamilton Way Streetlights: Recommendation: No new streetlights requested in new developments in the parish.

Planning

BA/2021/0269/TCAA Site Location: Land and Buildings Adjoining, 6 Ditchingham Dam, Ditchingham, Norfolk
Proposal: T1: Ash- remove. T2: Unknown (dead) – remove.

2021/0971: Location: Barley Cottage, Free Lane Ditchingham NR35 2DW. Proposal: Erection of a single and two storey extension to rear and side of dwelling. Delegated Reply as consultation date before the next meeting: No objections.

2021/1237: Location: 18 Wildflower Way Ditchingham Norfolk NR35 2SF. Proposal: Side extension and internal alterations to dwelling. Delegated Reply as consultation date before the next meeting: No objections. No objections.

BA/2021/0195/FUL: 8 Alma Cottages, Pirnhow Street, Ditchingham, NR35 2RT: Change of use of 159sq m of land from recreational to form part of the residential curtilage, two storey side extension and single storey rear extension and a new vehicular access. Delegated reply as consultation date before the next meeting.

2021/1166. Land off Hamilton Way, Ditchingham, Norfolk Programme of Archaeological Mitigatory Work. DPC not consulted.

Update on 2021/0609:

2 Tunneys Lane: NCC Highways have objected:

"Having visited the site it was noted that the fencing that is being applied for has been erected, with a close boarded fence on the Loddon Road and a mesh fence on Tunneys Lane.

The fencing has unfortunately been erected too far out on both frontages, and on land that forms part of the public highway. That land is subject to public (highway) rights of way and it is illegal to obstruct those rights. The highway boundaries in this vicinity have been confirmed and on Loddon Road, the boundary is some 3.2 metres back from the road edge. The fence that has been erected is 2m -2.2m back. On Tunneys Lane the boundary is some 3.8m back, with the erected fence being 2 metres from the road edge.

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Both fences are therefore considered as an obstruction to the public highway, and will need to be set back in order to be acceptable. If it is required that the fencing is screened with hedging, then the hedging should be planted behind the above noted highway boundaries, with the fencing sited further to the rear.”

Planning Decisions:

2021/0971. App Type : Householder. Parish: Ditchingham. Location: Barley Cottage Free Lane. Ditchingham NR35 2DW. Proposal : Erection of a single and two storey extension to rear and side of dwelling. Decision: Approval with Conditions (Delegated). Date of decision: 22 June 2021 **2019/1925**, Location: Land Off Hamilton Way Ditchingham Norfolk. Proposal: Construction of 27 dwellings and garages with access. Decision: Approval with Conditions. Delegated Date of decision: 30 March 2021.

21.

Appl Number : 2021/0534
App Type : Listed Building
Parish: Ditchingham
Location : Hall Farm House Belsey Bridge Road Ditchingham NR35 2JT
Proposal : Proposed internal alterations to dwelling and plant compound
Decision : Approval with Conditions
Delegated
Date of decision : 11 May 2021

22.

Appl Number : 2021/0539
App Type : Removal/Variation of Condition
Parish: Ditchingham
Location : Hall Farm House Belsey Bridge Road Ditchingham NR35 2JT
Proposal : Variation of Condition 2 of 2019/1848 - Revisions to approved scheme, including moving plant compound, provision of greenhouse, hard landscaping and formation of Ha-Ha

Decision : Approval with Conditions
Delegated
Date of decision : 11 May 2021

2021/0837: App Type: Householder PD Prior Notification. Parish: Ditchingham. Location: 10 Millfield Close Ditchingham Norfolk NR35 2QJ. Proposal: Proposed single storey rear extension. Decision: Prior Approval not Required. Delegated Date of decision: 28 May 2021.

2021/1237. App Type: Householder. Parish: Ditchingham. Location: 18 Wildflower Way Ditchingham Norfolk NR35 2SF. Proposal: Side extension and internal alterations to dwelling. Decision: Approval with Conditions (Delegated). Date of decision: 8 July 2021.

BA/2021/0045/HOUSEH, 28 Ditchingham Dam, Ditchingham. First Floor Extension. Approve Subject to Conditions. 07.04.2021

Planning Enforcement

South Norfolk Council have written to inform the PC's that planning enforcements reports have been delayed until they have resolved the data breach (reporting all Parish's in one document).

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Highways

Meeting with NCC engineer Gary Overland on 18 May 2021.

Cllr Layton and Curtis met with Gary Overland on the and the following business was agreed;

- Replacement village sign on the north end of Loddon Road (Broome end)
- Refurbishment of the finger sign on the north end of Loddon Road
- A 'Chicken Roundabout' sign on the pedestrian side of chicken roundabout. The proposed design will need to be approved by NCC Highways.

Chicken Roundabout

Interestingly, DPC is only the parish in Norfolk to have the responsibility for maintaining a roundabout and the committee is recommending that we hand it back to highways asap as we do not have a cultivation license in place for the wildflower planting.

Dog Fouling Bin on Tunneys Lane/Thwaite Road Junction

Thanks to Mr Jamie Curtis for installing the bin free of charge.

Proposed Meeting Dates for P & H Committee:

Third Monday of the month at 7pm (alternative months to DPC meeting). Proposed dates for 2021:

16 August

18 October

20 December

9.a) Chair's Report.

It has been a very difficult time for all of us, not entirely attributable to the effects of COVID-19.

As with many challenging environments it seems to bring out the best in people and we have seen much support and help from local businesses and the Bungay volunteer network.

Many of our friends and neighbours were badly affected in the Xmas floods and the Parish Council is to begin work to create a Community Resilience Plan for our Village. The plan will cover all possible emergencies whether due to severe weather or manmade disasters. As a DPC councillor I have agreed to put the plan together with help from the South Norfolk Emergency Planning Team and hopefully local volunteers.

During lockdown we were able to meet by Zoom keeping essential business going. We have four vacancies on the Parish Council following the resignation of three councillors and there seems to be a general apathy among many residents and unwillingness to take an active role in village affairs. Do please get in touch if you would like to know more about what we do or come along to our meetings and meet us you will receive a very warm welcome.

Looking forward the Parish Council is soon to start its programme of replacing the streetlight lanterns with special LED's suitable for a rural parish not only to save money but also to be more environmentally friendly. All the lights will be retained and will dim by 50% from midnight.

The recent NCC roadworks in and around the village which have caused so much disruption are winding down now. Details of planned and emergency works as far as we can keep up are posted in the notice board opposite the village shop and on the website. Full details can also be found in the EDP every Friday.

Corinne Layton

Chair

Ditchingham Parish Council

Monday 19th July 2021

Ditchingham Parish Council

9.b) Community Committee Report for 19th July 2021

Play Areas – Thwaite Road Play Equipment area and The Dip area.

Keys/locks for both areas have been tampered with and will be replaced. Maintenance of both is good, no litter, dog fouling etc. Notice re who to call for the passcode for the Thwaite Rd. gate lock is out of date.

A walk round the Thwaite Rd Play Area by Angela, Corrine and Jason could see opportunities for a wildflower meadow and an improved woodland path.

The risk assessments which have been circulated to us, seem to show that there are many things that need replacing, made safe, etc. and our walk round last evening evidenced this.

Allotments

A complaint re the number of bonfires from a resident whose home backs on to the allotment area.

Chicken Roundabout is not as floral as last year but it is tidy.

Tunney's Lane

Emily's husband has installed the dog fouling bin in Tunney's Lane at the crossroads.

The Telephone Library

This is used by many people and the book turnover seems frequent.

Road Speed Watch

Corrine has 11 volunteers; online training has taken place and should be in operation in the coming weeks.

Bus shelters have no graffiti, but noticeboards need attention or replacing.

Conversations since last DPC meeting:

Queens Jubilee

Facebook page

Website

Angela Gifford Parish Councillor Community Committee 16th July