

Mendlesham Parish Council

An Extraordinary Parish Council meeting was held in the Old School Room, Old Market Street, Mendlesham, Wednesday 29 November 2023 at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs A Davey (Chairman), D Foster, N Foster, S Judd, C Orton, H Orton and E Ward, S Jones (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr P Allen (personal reason) and Cllr M Exley (Disclosable pecuniary interest for planning application DC/23/00305).

Acceptance of apologies: Unanimously agreed.

The filming statement was read out.

It was noted that there would be an urgent agenda item with regard to the building understood to be owned by Mendlesham Memorial Playing Fields Charity (parish council sole trustee) at Mendlesham Playing Field, including the 50 50 shop and Mendlesham Football store.

2. Declarations of interest:

a) To note Councillor's declarations of interest in any of the following agenda items. Cllr D Foster and Cllr N Foster reported that at this stage, they would not be declaring an interest with regard to the agenda item regarding the building located at Mendlesham Playing Field, but this would be kept under review as their property was located close by. None declared.

b) To agree to any dispensations with regard to declarations of interest. Not required.

3. Minutes: Pages 2088-2094 inclusive for the Ordinary meeting held on 8.11.23 were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate representation of the meeting, duly signed and dated by the Chairperson.

Another member of the public arrived.

4. Public forum: No members of the public present wished to speak apart from the forthcoming planning application and playingfield building agenda item and nothing had been received prior to this meeting.

5. Mendlesham Playing Field building (50 50 shop and football store).Clerks note: agenda item not previously published, but considered Urgent Business re standing orders.

a) Report: An email from Mendlesham Community Charity trustees had been received and opened 27.11.23. The email had included photographs of what is believed to be damaged asbestos panels and confirmation that in the interests of volunteers and the public, the 50 50 shop had been closed until further notice. Further to a conversation with the Chairperson, the Clerk then informed Mendlesham Football Club and Parish Council volunteers that the entire building including the football store was closed until further notice.

A structural engineer company had been contacted to ask for quotes and professional information via structural reports, asbestosis reports et

b) Wayforward:

Mr A Roshier offered his assistance in this matter as he had experience and contacts with dealing with this sort of matter as part of his employment. This offer was welcomed and accepted with thanks.

It was agreed professional reports/information were required to include:

- i) A Structural report for the building, to include information regarding construction, materials used and works required to provide an estimated life span (with or without maintenance works).
- ii) An asbestos report to include confirmation, costs for works and advice on the possibility of contaminated stock.
- iii) It was noted this information was also required for the outstanding agenda item for a Maintenance plan for the building.

It was agreed MADS representatives should also be informed the building is closed and why, including the possibility depending on timing of the damage, that some of the MADS items, recently removed from the building could be affected. **Action: Clerk.**

It was noted that whilst the building is thought to be owned by Mendlesham Memorial Playing Fields Charity , the charity assets amounted to a stagnant £15. It was unanimously agreed that this work should be carried out in the name of Mendlesham Parish Council.

A question was asked if decisions on the information to be obtained and professional appointments could be agreed by email? The Clerk reported as this would include financial decisions, no doubt in excess of the Clerk emergency authority, any decisions would need to be made at a properly convened physical parish council meeting.

It was agreed notices of closure should be placed on both external doors of the building. **Action: Clerk.**

Mendlesham Football Store.

It was noted that the equipment stored was needed for football matches and training but also that information regarding the structural safety of the football store, or if it was affected by the broken asbestos panel was not known.

After discussion, Mr A Roshier was provided with permission that as he was experienced entering such buildings with unknown risks and had the correct PPE equipment he could enter **once only** to remove any required "clean" equipment at his own risk.

The availability of storage space for some of the equipment was discussed with the possibility of using the Parish Council container to be agreed or not by Cllr D Lummis.

It was anticipated that further information/quotes would be available at the planned meeting on 13.12.23.

A member of the public left the meeting.

6. Planning:

a) Applications:

DC/23/00305 Land Adjacent To, 17 Brockford Road, Mendlesham

Full Planning Application- Change of use of land for grazing of horses, and erection of stables with new vehicular access. Re- consultation: Heritage comments received 7.11.23.

After discussion, it was unanimously agreed to respond on the same basis and policy reasons as previously i.e. the application should be refused.

However, if the application was deemed to be acceptable by Mid Suffolk District Council, the comments made by the Heritage Officer should be considered ie to for the stables and car parking to be pushed closer to the dwelling under construction, potentially reduced in size and the stables rotated 90 degrees so they run alongside the dwelling.

Comments to include:

- Disappointment that a new map was not available as part of this consultation.
- Disagreement with the Officer report regarding Parish Council concerns had been addressed. (11.1)
- Further information as available, regarding recent flooding.
- The Officer report list of conditions/further work was considered essential.
- Parish Clerk was authorised to check the list of conditions to ensure all previous concerns would be addressed and respond accordingly.

The date of a MSDC committee site meeting was noted with Cllr Judd to attend.

b) Results:

DC/23/04427 Land South of, Chapel Road, Mendlesham Application for Advertisement Consent. Erection of 4no flag poles standing 5.3m in height with 4no sales flags. Granted.

DC/23/05273 Land adjacent to Riverside Cottages, Mendlesham Green: Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/19/02283- Condition 5 (Refuse bins and collection areas) details as submitted had been determined.

c) Correspondence:

Notice of Adoption of the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan -Part 1 2018- 2037. Noted.

d) Any other planning matters:

i) Mid Suffolk District Council invitation to participate in Consultation on Local Listed Building Consent Orders. Consultation period 10.11.23- 29.12.23. Noted.

7. Reports:

a) Clerks report: any urgent matters to report. A response further to resident contact further to the previous decision that allotment land at Mendlesham Green was not for sale was agreed. **Action: Clerk.**

b) Report on meeting 14.11.23 Funding for Bus Network Improvements (Cllrs D and N Foster). A report with draft minutes of the meeting attended by Cllrs Foster was noted. It was unanimously agreed that Cllrs Foster could undertake a Mendlesham Parish Council consultation on resident views and act on behalf of the Parish Council to propose any suggestions to the Bus Network Improvements Committee (deadline 20 December 2023).

c) To note information received from Suffolk County Council Streeting Lighting. Noted.

d) Any other urgent reports: A reply from Suffolk County Highways further to a report 431106 was noted. This only related to Chapel Road persistent flooding. Action: Cllr Stringer to be asked if this was a reply to the Parish Council letter including Old Station Road water issue?

c) Chairs report: Nothing to report

d) Questions to the Chair: Nothing asked.

8. Mendlesham Parish Council: Financial matters

a) To confirm payment of urgent invoices: It was noted and confirmed to pay the Street Cleaner his November payment before the next Parish Council meeting on 13.12.23.

A payment of £607.20 was authorised with regard to an annual subscription of 11 Office 365 licenses.

b) Any other urgent financial matters: None

8. Any other business: None

Meeting closed at 8.20pm