

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTRY PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE
HELD ON TUESDAY 20th MARCH 2007 AT THE EASTRY VILLAGE HALL AT 6.15pm**

Present: Councillor's Sam Shevde Sandra Hooper David Carr
Iris Mollart Shelia Smith Margaret Pemble

1) APOLOGIES

Cllrs Stephen Ruston, Ann Wiles & Andrew Barwick

2) PLANNING

a) Applications

i. DOV/07/00234

Proposal: Erection of residential care home

Location: Site adjoining Appledore, Mill Lane, Eastry

The members had no objection to this application in principle; however the following concerns were raised.

- 1) The size of the property seems very large for just two residents. Should this application be granted they would like a condition included that no more than two residents can be housed in this unit in the future.
- 2) Site access – The proposed access is shared with the main Eastry Hospital site, this site is currently designated for mixed housing and light industrial development in the current adopted plan. The members are concerned that when this development takes place the combined usage of the three care units together with the increase in traffic from the Hospital site will have a major impact on the traffic flowing on to Mill Lane.
- 3) When this application had been advertised in the East Kent Mercury, it had been put in the Conservation area and Listed Building section without a parish tag. The members were concerned this may have been missed by local residents. They were also unsure why it had been put in this section as it is not inside the conservation area or involve a listed building.

ii. DOV/07/00284

Proposal: Removal of agricultural occupancy condition (3) of DO/82/629

Location: Greenoak Farm, Poison Cross, Eastry

The members strongly objected to this application on the following ground.

- 1) The building of this dwelling in open country side was only allowed due to its use as an agricultural dwelling, to remove this status would be a breach of policy. In effect allowing the building of a residential dwelling in open Countryside on agricultural land.

- 2) Should this be approved the 7 acres of land adjoining the property effectively becomes a garden, this would be out of keeping with the situation and unacceptable in this rural setting.
- 3) It is the belief of the members that should this property have been marketed at a true agricultural price it may have been purchased by an existing farmer or land owner as part of a working estate. It was the fact that the property was priced in line with residential housing prices that has made it difficult to sell for agricultural activities.

As the property has now been sold and the new owners must have been aware of the agricultural occupancy condition when they purchased the property it makes nonsense of the stated reasons for this application, namely that it is not possible to sell the property because of the agricultural occupancy condition. As it is the new owners that are making this application

The members feel strongly that this application should not be granted, if the officer in charge is of a mind to grant this application on delegated powers then Eastry Parish Council ask that this application goes before the DDC Planning Committee.

b) Decisions

None received.

The meeting closed at 6.35pm.