

**ERCALL MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on 4th June 2020 via Zoom at 7pm.

Present: Councillor K Connor (Chairman)
Councillor G Barrow
Councillor R Wickson
Councillor E Aston
Councillor C Purves
Councillor M Ward

In attendance: Katrina Baker, Acting Clerk

2020.06.017 Welcome & Introductions

The Chairman welcomed members and thanked them for attending. This is the second meeting held by Zoom since the Council's decision to suspend meetings due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. Meeting via Zoom enables the Council to continue its work, outside of the Scheme of Delegation and is important when discussing matters, such as Planning.

2020.06.018 Apologies for Absence

Edward Davies, Clerk

Edward has informed the Parish Council that he is unlikely to be in a position to meet regarding his return to work until the end of August 2020.

Members asked that their best wishes be sent to him in the hope that his health continues to improve.

2020.06.019 Declarations of Interest

All Members, resident in Ercall Magna Parish, have an interest in the outcome of the Neighbourhood Plan.

2020.06.020 Minutes of the last meeting

It was proposed by Cllr Barrow and Seconded by Cllr Wickson, that the Minutes of the previous Planning Committee meeting, held on 14th May, be accepted. With two abstentions, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the last Planning Committee be signed as a true record at the next available opportunity.

2020.06.021 Matters Arising

Roof at Coopers, Roden

Confirmation had been received that the work is in accordance with the regulations.

New Farm, Roden

Confirmation had been received that the work is in accordance with planning approval.

Static Home, Roden Residence

The Enforcement Officer has now established the correct location and will visit as soon as possible.

2020.06.022 Planning Applications for consideration

TWC/2020/0400 Coopers Factory, Poynton Road, Roden

Ground mounted PV array and enclosure

Members had considered the details of this application and were keen to realise the benefits which would include reducing the running costs. The location is 'sensible', well screened and not intrusive and it is therefore thought to be a good use of the land, especially as it will still be able to be used for grazing.

RESOLVED that Ercall Magna Parish Council supports the application and is pleased that it is in line with the emerging Ercall Magna Neighbourhood Plan.

2020.06.023 Ercall Magna Neighbourhood Plan

The latest draft had been circulated to Members of the Steering Group and the Chairman thanked all Members for their comments.

The Plan has been written in accordance with the outcomes of a number of Parish Council consultations. This is important, as all evidence is required to be sent, with the final draft plan, to the independent examiner.

In order to get to this stage in the process, there has been significant data collection, collation and analysis, over a significant period of time – in fact dating back to 2011, when the Parish Council was awarded a Vanguard Grant for its production.

Over this period of time, residents from across the Parish have had a number of opportunities to have input into the plan and to comment on the draft objectives and policies.

In recent meetings, consideration was given to the inclusion of 'allocated sites', but Members believed this was not possible – although it would have made the Plan stronger and, from a Parish perspective, may have enabled a great level of control. In order to achieve this, a dialogue with landowners would be necessary and this is unrealistic at this time.

The Plan must include a statement regarding monitoring and reviewing the Plan, it was suggested that the first review should be in five years following the plan being 'made' by the result of the referendum. This would be the most appropriate time to consider land allocations.

After a lengthy discussion, the following agreements were made:

Members agreed that the Plan needed to be consistent throughout, with its reference to villages, settlements and hamlets as appropriate.

Members agreed that reference to specific villages, settlements of hamlets was not required and therefore should be referred to as 'Within the Parish' for the avoidance of doubt and misinterpretation.

It is essential that the evidence base, to accompany the Plan, is complete and contains details of all consultation, analysis, questionnaire results etc. from the initial decision to create a EMNP. This must include the decision to use the Parish Boundary as the Boundary for the Plan. An accurate timeline is needed to be included in the introduction – this will evidence the level of community engagement throughout each stage of the process.

It was also agreed that the recent housing needs questionnaire should be included and in particular the summary. Copies of the responses should be included too. This will be very important especially as the needs of the Parish have changed during the time that the EMNP has been under consideration.

Councillors Purves, Wickson and Connor will update the Plan with the decisions of the Committee, which checking once again for consistency throughout and including the timeline.

The final Draft will be distributed to all members prior to Full Council and it will appear on the Agenda, for ratification, so that it can move forward to the next regulation stage.

Members continue to believe that the Parish Council should be working towards a referendum in May 2021 and therefore the final document will need to be submitted to the Examiner in the Autumn.

2020.06.024 Other Matters

a) Traffic Management Act 2004

Members considered the recent announcement regarding Network Management: Road space for pedestrians and cyclists and gave consideration to the implications of this for a rural parish, such as Ercall Magna.

Members focussed on safety in the rural areas, especially due to narrow lanes and high hedges and their wish to enable joining up communities / villages / settlements etc.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council should contact the Local Authority's Highways Department and request that they look at traffic management schemes that promote, encourage and create appropriate road space plans for pedestrians and cyclists. TWC need to include rural areas in their plans! Although easier to achieve in urban areas, the rural areas are more important due to the narrow roads and lanes and high hedges. The Parish Council will request that TWC implements the new regulations that will enable changes in speed limits to be introduced without long bureaucratic processes.

It was further agreed that this should be a topic for a Rural Forum meeting, with other local rural parish councils. Members would like to consider an agreement that 20mph zones are appropriate in residential areas, where developments are close to the highways.

Ercall Magna Parish Council would support a footpath, inside of the highway hedge from Earls Keep to Walton and also will continue to request a footpath from the B5062 in Roden to Marlbrook Way.

b) The Beeches, Ellerdine

The Parish Council has been made aware of a development taking place within the boundary of this property and TWC will be investigating if planning permission has been required and obtained.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm.

SignedDate