STREET PARISH COUNCIL

Extraordinary meeting of the Council held virtually using Zoom with

remote attendance on 25th August, 2020 at 6.42 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor A. Leafe (Chair)

Councillors: P. Birch, S. Carswell, M. Daniells,

D. Drew, D. Goater, P. Goater, L. Mogg, T.W.E.

Napper, A. Prior and H. Shearer

IN ATTENDANCE: L. Ruff – Clerk/RFO

M. Sandiford – Assistant Clerk Projects Officer

County Councillor L. Leyshon

M. Fitzgerald – applicant Street Business Park

APOLOGIES: Councillors C.E. Axten and L. Wolfers – another

engagement and R. Boyce – illness – reasons

accepted

46. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th August, 2020 which had been circulated were approved as a correct record and arrangements would be made for them to be signed by the Chair in accordance with current guidance.

47. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

In accordance with the Code of Conduct Councillor Napper wished it to be noted that although he was a representative of the Council on Street Business Park he had only met with the applicant as he did with any other application and therefore did not need to declare an interest. Councillor Prior, the other representative, had not met with the applicant or been party to any considerations on the matter.

District Councillors P. Goater and H. Shearer did not join the meeting

until 7.22 p.m. as they could not be present for the consideration of the

application for Street Business Park as they served on the District

Council’s Planning Board.

48. PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Chair asked councillors to consider joining the Committee as with the resignations of J. Diment and D. Ellis there were now only 4 members serving on it.

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49. APPLICATION NO. 2020/1294/OTS – OUTLINE PERMISSION

WITH SOME MATTERS RESERVED FOR EXTENSION OF STREET

BUSINESS PARK COMPRISING B1 BUSINESS, B2 GENERAL

INDUSTRY, B8 STORAGE OR DISTRIBUTION, RESIDENTIAL CARE

HOME AND EXTRA CARE (USE CLASS C2) FOOD AND DRINK

(USE CLASS A3/A4/A5), CONSTRUCTION OF NEW ARM TO

A39 QUARRY BATCH, A39 WEST WAY AND WEST END JUNCTION,

ASSOCIATED INTERNAL ACCESS ROADS AND PATHS, PARKING

AND SERVICE AREAS WITH DETAILS OF ACCESS – LAND AT

347021 136787 GRAVENCHON WAY, STREET FOR MARK

FITZGERALD – OUTLINE – SOME MATTERS RESERVED

M. Fitzgerald gave a summary of the proposals. The layout allowed for

access in the future to adjoining land. The focal point would be a

central tree lined avenue with generous circulation areas, particularly

for pedestrians and cyclists. There would be an eco management plan

with a biodiversity net gain. In total an investment of around £40 million

would be made on the site with a potential to create 600 new jobs.

Advisers for the applicants had stated that there were local businesses

who would want to occupy the new units and others wishing to relocate

to the area. The traffic assessment for the application stated that the

development would not have a material impact on the local road

network and that this was not considered to be severe.

County Councillors Leyshon and Napper and other members stressed

the need for new business units, modern care facilities and a new road

so that further development could take place. Jobs were needed and

at a business park tended to be better paid than in retail. It was felt

that the developer would continue to produce a good quality scheme.

Councillor P. Goater would investigate the impact of the proposals on

the Walton bypass.

RESOLVED

that the District Council as the Local Planning Authority be informed

that the Council recommended approval of the outline application.

50. CLOSURE OF HIGH STREET

The Clerk submitted a report which had been circulated. She gave a

summary of 17 emails and 1 letter received in support of reopening the

High Street and 2 emails in support of keeping it closed. All

representations had been circulated to members. The Chair had

spoken to 6 traders in the High Street and 5 had wanted it to be open

again.

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There was general concern that now the closure was not being

manned by a marshall it was very unsafe with vehicles often driving

through it. The Council had brought in the closure for the right reasons

and it had shown the problems which would need to be overcome if

pedestrianisation was ever taken forward. A number of members were

in support of pedestrianisation in the long term to make the High Street

more pleasant and vibrant and draw in visitors from Clarks Village.

The 3 residents of Vestry Road who had spoken during Public

Question Time were asked to carry out another traffic survey on the

same day at the same time in 6 months time and give the results to the

Council for information and they agreed to do this subject to work

commitments.

It was noted that members were trying to form a Chamber of

Commerce which would be able to make representations on matters

such as closure of the High Street on behalf of local businesses. It was

also hoped to have PACT meetings again with the local Police. It was

agreed that one Zoom meeting be archived in accordance with GDPR

rules as part of the history of the Council. The Chair suggested that

this might be the last one held before Covid restrictions were lifted.

RESOLVED

that the High Street should be reopened and County Highways be

asked to arrange this as soon as possible.

The meeting ended at 7.50 p.m.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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