

Minutes of the Meeting of Beech Parish Council
held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 4th March 2020

PRESENT: Councillor Graham Webb (Chairman)
Councillor Daniel Gordon
Councillor Ruth Duffin
Councillor Alana Coombes
Mrs Louisa Thomson – Clerk to the Council

20.30 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Tony Ransley.

20.31 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – **RESOLVED**

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 24th February 2020, copies previously circulated,
Proposed as a true record by Alana Coombes, Seconded by Ruth Duffin and signed by Chairman Graham Webb.

20.32 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – AGENDA ITEMS

Graham Webb read two emails received from residents, who were unable to attend the meeting, raising concerns about the approval of planning application 54047/014 Beechanger, 59 Wellhouse Road.

20.33 PLANNING

Following the approval by East Hampshire District Council of application 54047/014 Beechanger, 59 Wellhouse Road Councillor Graham Webb gave background information on the EHDC's draft Local Plan and the EHDC's stated position on the H10 policy (minimum plot size in the Special Housing Area) and its history and significance to Beech. He explained the only available course of action that could overturn the planning decision, would be to request by 1st April 2020 a judicial review which would not necessarily be successful and could cost the Parish Council large sums of money, probably £30,000 minimum.

Proposed Alana Coombes, Seconded Daniel Gordon and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders so members of the public can speak.

Members of the public including neighbours to the property voiced concerns and objections to the application and disappointment at the granting of the application. They are concerned about protecting the landscape of the area and if the H10 Policy is not adhered to then it will give rise to more development and a higher density of houses in the village ruining its character.

They ask the Parish Council to make strong representations to the Chair of planning at EHDC that the H10 Policy identified the special character of Beech and losing the policy would mean an end to this. They also request that every application in the H10 area should be put to the planning committee for consideration.

Proposed Daniel Gordon, Seconded Ruth Duffin and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to reinstate Standing Orders.

Proposed Daniel Gordon, Seconded Alana Coombes and RESOLVED (Ruth Duffin abstained) that:

Not to pursue the course of judicial review. Instead to wait for the Neighbourhood Plan examiner's report to see if it allows Beech to keep the H10 minimum plot size policy and to review once the report has been received. To request EHDC refer any applications received in the H10 area in Beech (that would result in a plot size of less than 0.2 hectares) to full planning committee and to ask District Councillor Tony Costigan to lobby EHDC to do this.

20.34 MEETING DATES - Confirmed the date of the next scheduled Council meeting as Monday, 23rd March 2020 following the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00pm, time will be made available for public question time.

CLOSURE OF MEETING - Chairman thanked all present for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.15pm.

signed:

Chairman Beech Parish Council

date: 23rd March 2020