

BERGH APTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Special Planning Meeting held on Monday, 16th August 2004 7.30pm at the Village Hall

Present: Alison Freeman (Chairman) John Ling, Sally Leigh, Jean Bobbin, Derek Blake, Chris Johnson and David Skedge

Also present: the Clerk (Philippa Fuller,) the outgoing Clerk (Lorie Lain-Rogers,) John Fuller (District Councillor) and eight members of the public.

1. **Apologies:** none
2. **Declaration of Interest:** none
3. **Public consultation:** John Ling proposed the closure of the meeting, seconded by Chris Johnson and agreed unanimously. There were no comments from the public on the planning application for Bergh House. There was interest in the definition of affordable housing and under what conditions the provisions for building land in South Norfolk Local Plan would be amended. John Ling, Derek Blake and John Fuller all spoke to this and the explanation is as follows:
 - a. Affordable housing is defined as that which remains in perpetuity affordable and to this end it is for rented property obtained through a housing association, a registered social landlord (a private developer does not qualify) or on a shared equity basis half rent and half mortgage.
 - b. In addition for the land to qualify for exemption from the Local Plan it must be close to a bus route, situated near the village centre, with services such as shops and a local school available.

It was further explained that the procedure for this proposal for affordable housing to be explored is in the first instance to conduct a housing survey need in the immediate locality. The Housing Survey if approved will cover Bergh Apton and the adjacent parishes of Alington and Yelverton. David Skedge then proposed the re-opening of the meeting, this was seconded by John Ling and agreed unanimously.

4. **Planning applications:** a) Bergh House, Church Road, NR15 1BP ref no: E07/04/1612/H Proposed single storey extension to rear of dwelling. This was discussed and the following points made with reference to recommending approval. i) that the new extension will have no impact on the street scene as it is not visible from the road, ii) the planned extension has been designed to be in keeping with the present building and the extension is subservient to that building.
b) Outline discussion on affordable housing for the village: the Chairman referred to the letter from the enabling officer Imogen Isern of South Norfolk Council and that comments must be received by her by 20th August. The proposal is for a housing needs survey and this will be conducted separately for the parishes of Bergh Apton, Alington and Yelverton, there will be no charge for this survey. After discussion the Council decided to support the housing need survey but expressed a strong desire to see the questions before the survey was issued. Philippa Fuller agreed to contact South Norfolk Council to arrange this. It was further pointed out that a recent survey on the village as part of the Parish Plan had received a return of over 95% which is significantly greater than the Up2U2 survey South Norfolk Council conducted which had a return of 7%.
5. **Other matters for future agendas** and items for information: the painting is done on the Village Sign and the post is under construction. Karl Harvey to be given the post when completed for him to make the base. Kevin Parfitt agreed that the foundations could be in place for a September opening. A variety of dates were considered and 26th September chosen providing the Rector Peter Knight is available to give a blessing. It was also decided that members would come to the next meeting with ideas on the opening including who should be invited to unveil the sign.
6. **Date of next meeting:** Monday, 6th September 2004

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

