

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN SAXTON VILLAGE HALL
TUESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2014**

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Present

Mr. G. Fairclough Mr. B. Wilson
 Ms J Marshall
Mrs E Hodgson Mr. M Dennison
Ms C. Barrowman – who arrived at 8 p.m., having a pecuniary interest in the first item and having absented herself from the discussion

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

These were signed as a true record.

Proposal to Site
Temporary Classroom
on School Playing Field

Glyn Goddard, a school governor, was in attendance to present the case and to request the support of the Parish Council for the proposal. Basically, he said that the school was overcrowded and unable to accommodate the expected September intake. The Chairman summarised the concerns raised – in particular that the playing field was Green Belt, and the Parish Council was most anxious not to establish a precedent by agreeing to development in Green Belt. The Chairman pointed out that there were two other Green Belt applications extant, so that this latter point was especially relevant at this time. Mr. Goddard dismissed the possibility that any cross-referencing would take place. He advised that this was a temporary application for a temporary structure, whereas the application documentation sent to the Parish Council clearly showed that the application was actually for a permanent permission for a temporary structure. It was further noted that the pre-fabricated building envisaged had a shelf life of 70 years, and was guaranteed for 25 years. The Parish Council felt sure that application would be made in due course to extend the permission for the structure when it expired. Mr. Goddard also said that the prefabricated classroom unit – PCU – would accommodate 30 children, but that the school only intended to make use of half its capacity to overcome the current problem. He advised that the school had an excellent reputation, which accounted for children attending from as far away as Acomb and York; asked about the extra traffic generated, he dismissed both current and future problems, saying there would be very few additional cars, since the majority of children would travel by bus. The point was made also that once used for purposes outside the scope of Green Belt land, the classification could change permanently and its Green Belt status could be irrevocably lost.

A number of questions were raised:- How many children are coming into the school from within the Parish, and how many from outside? How many are leaving at the end of the current school year? What is the current staffing level, and what the proposed future staffing level? What is the extent of the catchment area? What is the expected cost to the taxpayer of the PCU? Mr. Goddard had initially mentioned a figure of £350K, but then changed this to £200K.

There was one member of the public, Will Kemp, present, and the Chairman now asked him to speak. He was objecting to the permission SDC had erroneously granted to Martin Fryer for development in his garden. SDC had tried to rescind the permission but were not willing to pay the required compensation. Mr. Kemp was seeking support from the Parish Council for his objection to Selby District Council's offer to consider an amended scheme on the same site. The Parish Council decided to write supporting retention of the Green Belt, and condemning SDC for their failure to pay for their mistakes.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Traffic calming – Cllr. Ms Barrowman reported that DBH had quoted 4400 + VAT for installation of the speed platform. The type of lighting columns required was still to be decided and a Mr. Tom Fielding of Npower was available to give advice if needed.

Cllr. Ms Marshall reported that she had raised with the Parochial Church Council the issue of lights in the churchyard, and they are in agreement; a faculty is now required. The PCC is also in agreement with our installing white Christmas lights in the trees. The Chairman will develop a scheme for this along with Paul Ward.