

An extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council was held on 31st March 2014 at 7.00pm in Eyke Village Hall.

Present: Mrs Abu-Hejleh, Mr Cushing, Mr Smith, Mr Whitmore, Mr Bainbridge and the clerk.

Apologies: Mr Fleming, Mr Mutten.

As this was a meeting to receive information from Steven Bainbridge of Evolution Town Planning, regarding the amendments to the Bentwaters Planning Application C10/3239, no minutes were read nor other business considered.

Mr Bainbridge explained what the new application consisted of:

1. Updated Planning Statement
2. Revised Environmental Statement vols. 1 – 4
3. Revised Masterplan
4. Supplementary Traffic Assessment

He pointed out that SCDC have sets in two different colours: blue is complete as it is, while the brown set lacks Vol 4 of the Environmental Statement (appendices), so it will be necessary to use the old document with this.

Mr Bainbridge drew attention to Section 1.10 of Vol 3 of the Environmental Statement. All changes to be considered are highlighted in grey. About 95% of the application is as it was, and changes have been made to reflect the changes in government legislation and the Core Strategy since the original application was submitted in 2010. The documents need to be considered in conjunction with the original counterparts.

The Planning Statement is a completely new document.

There have been some individual applications which are part of the whole, such as that for a hotel, and an MOT centre which have been made in order to avoid inordinate delays which might occur if they wait for the whole application to be processed.

Councillors queried the fact that they had not been consulted on these. The clerk will raise this with Ben Woolnough, who is the newly appointed officer for this area, in place of Steve Milligan. Also discussed was the number of Agrigen domes, now four, instead of the three originally proposed, although it appears that the large tank has not been built.

Other matters raised were the number of aircraft and the amount of flying allowed. The amended number is eight, all relating to the Grace family, the annual flying take offs and landing is limited, and one air show a year is included. Mr Cushing queried how the traffic generated by the air show had been factored in to the new traffic figures, and felt that they had not. Mr Bainbridge will clarify this.

Mr Bainbridge was at pains to point out that the delays in moving this application forward were not of his company's or clients' making: he was keen to see the whole matter resolved promptly. He also assured the Parish Council that he was happy to answer any questions councillors might have as fully, accurately and professionally as possible, and that he was best placed to do so, with his intimate knowledge of the Planning and Environmental Statement. He advised, however, that questions be directed to the planning department, as well as to him.

Mrs Abu-Hejleh thanked Mr Bainbridge for attending the meeting, which then closed at 8.30pm