Great Abington Parish Council

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Clerk: Mrs. PM Harper

17 Lewis Crescent, Great Abington, Cambridge CB21 6AG

A meeting of Great Abington Parish Council was held at Abington Institute on Monday 17th April 2023

Meeting started at 7.30pm

Present: Tony Orgee, Mak Makana, Stephen McDonnell, Louise Patten, nine members of the public and the Clerk.

**138. Open forum –** no matters were raised.

**139. Apologies** from Jill Carter and Jane Bowen,

**140. Declaration of interest in items to be discussed –** there were none.

**141. Advertising council vacancy to co-opt a new councillor**. If there is more than one person interested in the vacancy,how long should they prepare to address councillors for? There had been one expression of interest so far. Interested people would be given 5-10 minutes to address the meeting in May.

**142.Consdiering planning applications:**

a) 23/00969/HFUL - 131 High Street - Front porch extension and single storey side extension with internal alterations which include a full retrofit of the existing garage to form fully accessible bedroom, shower room, kitchen and living area. Should have no impact on neighbouring listed building. Councillors wanted parking conditions that all construction/delivery vehicles must park on site, not on the narrow High Street**. Tony proposed the application be supported with Louise seconded it and all councillors in support of the proposal.**

b) 23/00941/FUL - 62 North Road - Demolition of the existing dwelling and erection of a detached dwelling and garage.

 Several members of the public spoke in support of the planning application which would be self-built as well as being a passive home, made of ecological materials. The structure would not be black wood, and the garage room would be a hobby room and not for habitation.

Council requested conditions be required that all vehicles park on the site and not the narrow road or parking bay and that any damage done to the verges during the building be repaired. **Tony proposed the application be supported and it was unanimously agreed by councillors.**

**7 members of the public left the meeting.**

c) Amendments to application Ref :22/05549/OUT – TWI, Granta Park – Outline application for the development of the TWI campus (including means of access) for use by TWI (comprising but not limited to a range of related uses including office and laboratory space, and ancillary facilities including conferencing and non-residential education/training uses) and/or for Research and Development purposes (Use Class E(g)(ii)); following the erection of two new buildings centred off the central service spine (B4 and B5), one building (B6)

This had already been considered but there was an amendment to the plan. Previously the council had explained that it appreciated that there was a need to replace buildings to improve the quality of the work environment and had expressed its concern about the local being referred to as an urban development. At a meeting in October representatives of both local parish councils had been shown documents concerning the plans that were different to those used in the application, with B4 shown as a 4 storey building and B4 as a 3 storey building, now both buildings had an additional floor.B4 would be the tallest building on the site at 19 m (49m above sea level). The council had previously requested that no building should be taller than 49 above sea level, which is the height of Alumina. The application includes car parking for a further 200 cars, after 1800+ car parking spaces had been included in planning applications from last year. The noise monitoring was done when the wind wasn’t in its normal village direction and public access to the Granta Park site is very limited as the main entrance is 1-1.5 miles from the village, since they closed the village access gates.

The amendment includes 84 trees to be planted but there is no change to the height of the buildings. The council is unconvinced by the traffic modelling and believes the consequences of the additional traffic planned for with the new parking spaces, should require TWI/Granta Park to invest in the P &R site and finance the Greenway along Pampisford Road using section 106 money.

When the vehicles movements reached a specific number using the entrance to Granta Park, this was supposed to trigger funds being made available to be spent on local road improvements; has this happened?

**Councillors unanimously felt the application should be refused.**

**143. Applying for a 20mph speed limit**- does the council wants to apply for this scheme by the deadline? Funding for the mobile vehicle activation sign had been applied for from the Local Highway Initiative scheme and the outcome would be known in May. The deadline to applying to have a speed limit imposed on the full length of the High Street and Linton Road, as councillors wanted was the end of April, so the council would need to consult the community very quickly about these measure, as feedback from consultations was required as part of the application process. The 20 mph scheme SCDC gave councils the option to apply for, was only for built up areas, therefore the speed limit could not be applied for Pampisford road and Cambridge road.

**Councillors unanimously agreed to apply for the 20mph scheme for Linton Road and the length of the High Street- action Clerk.**

**144. Approval of the year-end figures**

The Council can no longer complete the annual governance statement and approve and sign the annual return accounting statements until the internal auditor has done his work and issued a report. **Councillors reviewed and accepted the year- end figures and the Annual Governance and Accountability Return- this was proposed by Stephen McDonnell, seconded by Mak with the support of all councillors.**

**145. Council website** - understand how to upload and access documents on the new website. No decision made.

**The Chairman wanted to include an additional item on the agenda as a matter of urgency, concerning agreeing to a request that the existing grass contactor cut the grassed areas at Larkfield(at a cost of £180) , as a on-off cut, until contractors were formal selected, which was unanimously agreed by councillors.**

**146. Items for the next meeting on 15th May**

New councillor, benches, 20mph speed limit. Mak was asked to put in writing his concerns about rate increases; this item could then be discuss at a council meeting.

**Meeting closed at 8.40pm**