
Clerk's report for the meeting on 04/05/21

1. I have received communications from neighbours of Wakelyns and others disagreeing with the council's response to the planning application. I know some of you have had the same. I have given a similar response to all contacts I have had. I have tried to describe how the council works and its systematic approach to planning applications which doesn't necessarily involve a site visit. This is the type of reply I have sent:

Any request for comments on a planning application is slotted into the council's next scheduled planning committee meeting. The agenda for any meeting must be published at least 3 working days before the meeting. In Fressingfield this is usually on the Thursday before the meeting on the following Tuesday. This is the way the council manages its business in an orderly and timely manner. When a deadline falls outside this typical timeframe, an extension is requested from MSDC.

With regards to the Wakelyns application, the parish council was asked on 24 March to comment. It was included on the agenda for the meeting on 30 March. This was publicised from 25 March onwards. At that point there were 39 documents on MSDC portal for councillors to review. The council discussed the application, decided to recommend approval and this was posted on the MSDC portal on 8 April. No member of the public made comments during the public forum at 30/3 meeting.

Since the meeting on 30/3 a further 59 comments have been posted. There are many objections to the application. The applicant (David Wolfe) has recently added two extensive responses to objectors' comments. He includes comments made during your discussions on 30/3. Specifically, the need to separate matters that are to do with planning consent and those concerned with the management of the planned site. His letters are lengthy but worth the read if you are feeling uncertain about the opinions you sent in to MSDC.

2. I have had numerous discussions with Cllr Hadingham over the use of Priory Road to access the scout hut site and use of the site for scout meetings.
3. I contacted MSDC following concerns from a resident about overhanging boughs of a tree on Laxfield Road near Jubilee Corner. The trees were quickly assessed, and one is to be pruned.
4. MSDC is keen for parishes to join the national litter picking campaign. (See attached letter.) If you wish to proceed, I suggest the organising councillor(s) involve Cathy Tooley.
5. CT and I have agreed when she will take three of her four weeks holiday entitlement. Not all in one go!
6. You may be interested in delegating a member to join a webinar on developing ground level, community-based solutions to the climate crisis. (See webinar invite).