

Minutes of the Clavering Parish Council Extra meeting held on Monday 22nd. June 2015 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Clavering

Present - Cllrs: Stephanie Gill (Chairman), Mike Patmore, Stuart Boardman, Ron Couchman, Brian Barrow & Kevin Money (Clerk)

Also present - District Councillor Oliver and 63 parishioners

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

The Chairman informed the parishioners that this is a special meeting called in response to a request from "Hands off Clavering" to discuss the only item on the agenda which was "**Clavering Parish Council** to consider and determine their formal response to the **Gladman Development. Appeal Inquiry**."

- i) That Clavering Parish Council resolves to support Hands off Clavering in Hands off Clavering's becoming a Rule 6 Party to the Planning Inquiry into the building of 42 houses on the Pelham Road. Clavering Parish Council to write a letter to that effect, after seeking advice from the Planning Department (Legal Section) of Uttlesford District Council.
- ii) That Clavering Parish Councillors will actively support Hands off Clavering with distribution of information, reading and research and, if needed, statements which are in line with Clavering Parish Council's objections to the development.
- iii) That Clavering Parish Council determines whether it wishes to be a Joint Rule 6 party with Hands Off Clavering, ascertaining and defining any liabilities, especially financial, it would undertake.

The time allocated has been increased to 45 minutes to give ample time for all parishioners present to put their views. However if previous speakers have made the point you wish to make then please pass the microphone to another person to cut down time.

2. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Cllrs Stanford and Carter who have both declared a pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest in the Gladman Development
3. **No Councillors declared an Interest in the Agenda item**
4. **The Chairman then opened up the meeting for the Public Participation Session.**

Mrs Carter started the discussion by asking the Councillors if they had received the email she had sent to the clerk for circulation. The Clerk and Chairman agreed that this email had been circulated prior to the meeting. She went on to say that in the past no financial support had been given to any groups to fight planning applications and if the PC were to support HOC financially in this planning appeal how would the PC respond in the future to other forthcoming appeals? Having supported one group this will set a precedent and that the PC would be duty bound to do so again and again. A resident then asked whether the Clerk had written a response to Gladman Developments stating that NO meeting would be held in private with only the CPC present. The Chairman expressed the view that this had been stated at the last PC meeting and a letter would be going to Gladman after this meeting and it would stress that any meeting with Gladman Developments will be in an open meeting with all residents, groups and interested parties present. Another resident stated that it must be seen by Gladman that the village is united. The Parish Council was asked if it was going to Appeal the application and was a representative from the Council going to attend the appeal hearing and speak . It was agreed by the Councillors that Cllr Gill, together with either

Cllr Barrow or the Clerk attend the hearing. HoC is intending to be a Rule 6 party and UDC are definitely defending the appeal. The Parish council was asked whether a) To leave HOC to take the lead b) PC to become a Rule 6 party c) PC to support financially. HOC has raised £10,000 so far but its projection to fund this appeal is approximately £30,000. A resident asked the other residents at the meeting whether any person present was prepared to put money into HOC? There was a deadly hush to that question.

District Councillor Oliver informed the meeting that UDC support the objection and are using the same Barrister and Planning Consultants that fought the Thaxted Gladman appeal and will be using them again to support HOC. DC Oliver continues to say that the planning consultant and barrister are surprised that Gladman Developments are continuing with this appeal. He also thought that Gladman is a very proactive and aggressive company.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their input and went on to the item on the agenda

- i) That Clavering Parish Council resolves to support Hands off Clavering in Hands off Clavering's becoming a Rule 6 Party to the Planning Inquiry into the building of 42 houses on the Pelham Road. Clavering Parish Council to write a letter to that effect, after seeking advice from the Planning Department (Legal Section) of Uttlesford District Council.

Cllr Couchman asked whether this (i) be separated into 2 parts i.e.

- a) That Clavering Parish Council resolves to support Hands off Clavering in Hands off Clavering's becoming a Rule 6 Party to the Planning Inquiry into the building of 42 houses on the Pelham Road and
- b) Clavering Parish Council to write a letter to that effect, after seeking advice from the Planning Department (Legal Section) of Uttlesford District Council

This was agreed by all Councillors.

Cllr Gill then proposed and Cllr Couchman seconded that part (a) be accepted **F5 Ag0**

Cllr Gill then proposed and Cllr Boardman seconded that part (b) be accepted **F5 Ag0**

The Clerk was asked to write a letter to "Hands off Clavering" stating "As the elected representatives of The Parish of Clavering, Clavering Parish Council will write a letter of support to "Hands off clavering" becoming a Rule 6 party in the Appeal Inquiry"

The Chairman then went on to

- ii) That Clavering Parish Councillors will actively support Hands off Clavering with distribution of information, reading and research and, if needed, statements which are in line with Clavering Parish Council's objections to the development.

After a discussion between Councillors it was agreed to amend the wording of ii) above to

That Clavering Parish Council will actively support Hands off Clavering with distribution of information, reading and research any statements which prepared must be in line with Clavering Parish Council's objections to the development and agreed with the Clerk before any documents are published.

Cllr Gill proposed and Cllr Boardman seconded the above amendment **F5 Ag0 Ab0**

It was determined that the Clerk should be the first point of contact with Hands Off Clavering and all correspondence passed through him

The Chairman then went onto the next item

- iii) That Clavering Parish Council determines whether it wishes to be a Joint Rule 6 party with Hands Off Clavering, ascertaining and defining any liabilities, especially financial, it would undertake.

The Councillors agreed again to sectionise this item to

- a) That Clavering Parish Council determines that it does **not** be a Joint Rule 6 party with Hands Off Clavering.

This was proposed by Cllr Gill and seconded by Cllr Barrow **F5 Ag0 Ab0**

- b) That Clavering Parish Council ascertains and define any liabilities, especially financial, it would undertake.

This was proposed by Cllr Gill and seconded by Cllr Barrow **F5 Ag0 Ab0**

The Chairman informed the meeting that CPC had about £10,000 in General Reserves Cllr Couchman then went on to discuss monies taken from Easements Reserves. After a prepared statement from Cllr Couchman the Clerk then stopped Cllr Couchman from speaking any more about "Easement Money" as he had not obtained a dispensation order from UDC monitoring officer Mr. Perry. The clerk then read out an email the clerk had received from Mr. Perry stating that all other Councillors had received a dispensation. Cllr Couchman had refused to sign the necessary documentation, with agreed wording by Mr Perry, at the last Parish Council Meeting .The Clerk passed to Cllr Couchman a blank form for Cllr Couchman to sign and to be able to continue speaking but Cllr Couchman refused to sign the dispensation form. At this point the clerk asked Cllr Couchman to either leave the meeting or stop talking on the subject of Easement Reserves Cllr. Couchman remained at the meeting and tried again to talk on Easements Reserves. The Clerk stopped him once again and the Clerk asked him if he wished to leave the room. Cllr Couchman said that he would continue and speak only of General Reserves and then leave the room. When he had stopped speaking the Chair asked if he still wished to leave the room to allow discussion on the Easement Reserves but he declined.

After a lengthy discussion between Councillors Cllr Couchman proposed that CPC commits £1,000 towards engaging of specialist advice. There was no seconder to this proposition as Councillors felt more information was required concerning the proposal Therefore the proposition fails. Cllr Couchman was asked, and he agreed, to present a researched proposal at the July Council Meeting.

Cllr Couchman asked the Clerk for a copy of Mr. Perry's email concerning dispensations. The clerk agreed.

Peter Walters asked the Councillors to get their objection letter to the Appeal Inspectorate by Wednesday 1st. July 2015. The Clerk was instructed to submit the letter. Cllr Gill was asked to attend any UDC Planning and Inspectorate meetings on behalf of the Council. Cllr Gill agreed to this and asked whether Cllr Barrow would also attend such meetings. Cllr Barrow agreed only if he could as the holiday period is coming up. The Councillors agreed that the Clerk be a substitute if Cllr Barrow could not make the meeting.

There being no more business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm and thanked everyone for attending.

Signed:



Stephanie M. Gill

Chairman :

Date 13th. July 2015