

Mountfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Mountfield Parish Council Meeting
held on 4th May 2021

Present

Councillors S. Rickman-Smith (Chairman), M. Hardy,
J. Ray, S. Snuggs, S. Taylor, N. Whines
Mrs. I. Marchant (Parish Clerk/RFO)
One member of the public

1. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

None declared.

2. DISPENSATIONS

None requested.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Hollamby sent apologies.

4. OPEN FORUM

4.1 To receive any questions or concerns from members of the public.

- The parlous state of RDC planning and enforcement was discussed at some length.
- We are aware of problems due to lockdown, but the issues were present before lockdown.
- There appears to be too few staff/recruitment issues to deal with planning applications and decisions are regularly extended past the legal deadlines.
- It is almost impossible to contact a planning officer by phone and their email addresses are not generally available. Surely these could be issued to clerks only.
- Practically all PCs in Rother feel the same, as was evident at the recent planning workshop held by IESE.
- Mark Bright, RDC's Enforcement Officer was thought to be doing a good job, albeit almost single-handedly.
- Confidence in RDC planning is very low.

5. PLANNING

5.1 Planning application for consideration.

RR/2021/118/P – The Banks, Mountfield Lane

Refurbishment of existing garage, demolition of existing coal bunker and rebuild of all or part of the garage's south wall, addition of pitched roof and paint white.

AGREED – to support this application.

5.2 Any other planning matters for discussion.

See comments under item 4. Open Forum.

6. ENFORCEMENT

6.1 RDC weekly enforcement list

No Mountfield items.

6.2 Any other enforcement matters for discussion

None.

7. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

25.05.21 – Annual Council meeting

08.06.21 – Planning meeting (provisional, will only be held if required)

Both to start at 7.30pm in Mountfield Village Hall
