

Denham Parish Council

MINUTES

July 13, 2020 at 7.30pm online

1/130720

Apologies and Approvals of Absence

None

2/130720

Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

None

3/130720

Members of the public are invited to make any comments on items on the Agenda

No member of the public was present

4/130720

To consider two planning applications which would impact on the village:

***20/02052 erection of four poultry houses with associated admin block, store, feed bins and alterations to vehicular access, Castle Hill Farm, Castle Hill, Thorndon.
(Consultation on this application is open until July 20)***

19/2195 to build three poultry houses with associated admin block and feed bins, Land adjacent to West End Farm, Mill Lane, Shadingfield. (This application is due to be determined by Mid Suffolk Planning Committee on July 14)

It was acknowledged that it was too late to comment on the Shadingfield application.

After discussion it was agreed to comment as follows on the Thorndon application:

While not a formal consultee, the Parish Council wishes to object to the proposal on the following grounds:

The development will not significantly benefit employment opportunity in the area.

The development also runs against current thinking and opinion on animal welfare. Current emphasis and policy should favour small-scale, high welfare or free range production rather than industrialised agricultural practices.

Many objectors have raised concerns about noise and smell pollution

and Denham shares that worry.

Construction of four poultry houses on this site will lead to increased heavy vehicle traffic across a very wide area of the county. The existing road network is already barely able to cope with the current volume of traffic. In the Denham, Hoxne and Horham area there have recently been three serious near misses involving HGVs at pinch points along Hoxne Road, at 1 East View, The Lodge and Lodge Barn and also Suffolk Edge. Residents repeatedly raise concerns about vehicle movements, and even though contractors have been asked to use a one-way route to and from Crown Milling, Town Farm, this system is not enforceable and is not always observed.

An individual decision about locating poultry sheds in a particular position must take into account the wider context of the impact on neighbouring communities, and should not be seen in isolation. Other Parishes have raised this concern and Denham supports them. The Cranswick development on Eye airfield is leading to a proliferation of planning applications for industrial-style agricultural sites in Suffolk and the overall impact must be carefully considered in order to avoid unrecoverable damage to local communities.

5/130720

Correspondence and urgent matters to the brought to the attention of the Parish Council

None at this time