

Hills Amenity Society Committee

Notes on the January 2020 meeting

Present: Toby Scrutton (chair) plus eight members of the Committee with one apology.

Planning:

5 Staples Road - proposed rear extension felt to be inappropriate and would affect house next door

32 Queens Road - Applications for annex at end of the garden would it was felt set an undesirable precedent and lead to more infilling. The proposed development backed on to Rose Cottage on the York Hill conservation area.

30 York Hill - while some changes had been made the proposal was still considered to be overdevelopment of the frontage.

The committee noted a report dated 11 June in which Louise Phillips from the Secretary of State's department was very critical about EFDC planning. A link to the report was at https://eppingforestdc.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/418190?force_language_code=en_GB

Woodberrie - development continued to be a major disruption and the scale of the extension even greater than perceived from the original plans. A complaint had been lodged to EFDC planning that the structure might be higher than that for which permission had been granted and the position different from that on the plans. A report was awaited.

School drop-off parking in Traps Hill car park was being offered free of charge. Councillor Judy Jennings had reported to the Committee the following from the council: "Thank you for your enquiry regarding the 3PR scheme for Staples Road School and the use of Traps Hill Car Park In Loughton. This has been reviewed and we have looked at alternative options and I am pleased to say that we will be working with Emma Day to allocate 30 car parking spaces at the Traps Hill Car Park. Amanda Hoadley from our car parking team will be liaising with Emma over the specific details. If you require any further details please let me know." The committee applauded this result - and hoped parents would make use of it. Use will be monitored.

Speed: The outcome of recent speed tests was awaited.

Lamppost on corner of Queens Road and Pump Hill: Following a further complaint to EFDC about the lamppost the dangerous hole in the pavement had been back-filled. On 23 December a holding reply from ECC chief executive indicated he was "on the case" of trying to get this lamp connected after a two year wait. Pressure to be maintained.

Large vehicles: No reports had been received recently of large vehicles trying to scale the Hills.

School Green. The possibilities for restricting parking on the school boundary with York Hill were still under investigation following the discovery that power cables ran along the edge preventing the use of bollards. Monitoring to continue.

HillsWatch: HillsWatch Facebook page now had 65 followers. Recent posts included a picture of flooding in Staples Road on 23 December - apparently due to a blocked drain. The most recent crime figures for the three conservation areas for November with just four crimes reported which were the lowest in the 17 months since the major concern of July 2018 when there were 21.

AGM - It was agreed that the AGM would be held at The Gardeners Arms on Wednesday 13 May at 7.30. It was agreed to invite the local councillors to answer questions as in the previous two years. A room would be booked at The Gardeners Arms when a date was finalised with councillors

Newsletter: The committee heard that efforts to find a new printer had so far been unsuccessful although advertisers remained supportive. One option would be to have a single A4 Sheet,

possibly folded to A5, linking to the full newsletter online. It was proposed to start a regular newsletter online to the 150 or so email addresses held. The next newsletter would need to be put together in April for distribution at the end of the month prior to the AGM. Action: cost of single page to be investigated. The possibility of purchasing our own machine would also be investigated.

Next meeting: Wednesday 4 March. If you would like to attend please contact hills
amenity society@gmail.com