

Mere Parish Council

PARISH CLERK - MRS. L. C. WOOD

CLERKS REPORT – November 2011

Agenda Items

7b) Response to Draft National Planning Policy Framework – attached.

10a) Request from 4Children to camp in Duchy Manor grounds – ‘As you know, 4Children now manage 16 Children’s Centres across Wiltshire, including the centre at Mere. We are developing a project to help families who would not otherwise go on holiday or camping. The aim is that during their stay staff would be modelling parenting skills and healthy lifestyles. We would run sessions on healthy and cheap meals, bedtime routines, positive behaviour management and basic computer skills as well as fun activities with children. As Mere Children’s centre is our largest and has very good facilities such as a large kitchen, a shower as well as a computer suite, we wanted to pilot the project there. Also the centre is near numerous activities for the children. We wondered whether it would be possible for us to camp on the land outside the Centre. It would be for one week (the first week in August 2012) and would be no more than 4 families at a time for 2 days each – so a total of 8 families. There would be staff supervision at all times. I would be grateful if you could contact me and let me know whether this would be possible.’

11b) Policy R2: Provision of New Outdoor Sport & Recreation facilities – Wiltshire Council writes: ‘The Council will be aware that for a number of years the local planning authority has been requiring applications for residential developments to make financial contributions towards the cost of providing outdoor sports and recreation facilities where there is a demonstrable deficiency in local provision. These are generally referred to as “R2 contributions”. Recently some applicants have started to challenge the requirement for R2 contributions on the grounds that the evidence to justify them is insufficient to demonstrate a need within particular communities or villages. A number of these challenges have provide to be successful at appeal, with no resulting contribution. In view of this the local planning authority is now seeking assistance from local councils to help provide both relevant and up to date evidence of need. Without up to date evidence it will become increasingly difficult to ask for R2 contributions within your area. The information that is required includes the following:

- Details of the actual amount and location of recreation land and play areas within the Council’s area;
- Details of the equipment/facilities provided within each recreational area (e.g. football pitches) and play areas (e.g. no. of swings, slides, etc) within the Council’s area;
- Details of any known deficiencies in actual equipment (both children’s play equipment and youth/adult facilities) at existing and/or proposed public open spaces within the Council’s area;
- Details of equipment which it is known will need replacement within the next five years.

If the Council has a ‘Plan’ which sets out proposals for its public open spaces in the coming years then this may also be helpful to demonstrate need for R2 contributions. Equally, if the Council has estimates for the likely costs of providing and/or maintaining public open spaces and equipment then this is likely to be useful.....’

Information Items

Mere Matters

Mr. Wilson, the Treasurer for Mere Matters writes: ‘I should be grateful if you would convey to the Parish Council the appreciation of the Mere Matters team for the Council’s continued support of the magazine, both financial and otherwise.’

Planning Applications determined:

Application Number: S / 2011 / 1324

Location: Sunnybank, Shaftesbury Road, Mere, Warminster.

Proposal: Construct a side and forward single storey extension

Agent: Mr Peter Allan Peter Allan, Architect 4 Vicarage Road Kingfield Woking Surrey GU22 9BP.
Case Officer: Mr S Banks
Category Of Application: FULL PLANNING
Decision: AHOU Date of Decision: 20/10/2011

Application Number: S / 2011 / 1228

Location: Dairy Cottage Lower Mere Park Farm, Mere Park, Mere, Warminster.
Proposal: Alterations and extensions to existing cottage with access and parking from new track to north
Agent: Relph Ross Partnership 35A Brown Street Salisbury SP1 2AS.
Case Officer: Charlie Bruce-White
Category Of Application: FULL PLANNING
Decision: APPROVE Date of Decision: 06/10/2011

Application Number: S / 2011 / 1375

Location: Honeysuckle Cottage Dark Lane, Mere, Warminster.
Proposal: Fell 2 X Conifers and reduce and reshape 1 X Laburnum by up to 40%
Agent: Vale Tree Surgeons 19 Broadacres Gillingham SP8 4SB.
Case Officer: Mr Shane Verrion
Category Of Application: TREES CONS AREA
Decision: APPROVED Date of Decision: 19/10/2011

Application Number: S / 2011 / 1370

Location: Rosemary Cottage Dark Lane, Mere, Warminster.
Proposal: 1 X Willow to re pollard
Agent: Vale Tree Surgeons 19 Broad Acres Gillingham SP8 4SB.
Case Officer: Mr Shane Verrion
Category Of Application: TREES CONS AREA
Decision: APPROVED Date of Decision: 19/10/2011

Application Number: S / 2011 / 1317

Location: Oakhaven, Woodlands Road, Mere, Warminster.
Proposal: Replacement dwelling
Agent: Proctor Watts Cole Rutter, 7 Grosvenor House, Bleke Street, Shaftesbury SP7 8AW.
Case Officer: Mr T Wippell
Category Of Application: FULL PLANNING
Decision: APPROVED Date of Decision: 19/10/2011

Newsletters/Magazines/Periodicals

The Clerk – Magazine of the Society of Local Council Clerks – September 2011
Clerks & Councils Direct – Issue 78, November 2011