

BATCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of Batcombe Parish Council held on Wednesday 29th April 2015 in the Old School, Batcombe, commencing at 7.30pm.

Present - Councillors: Chris Wildridge – Chairman, Jayne Cox, Liz Hollis, Ian Sage and John Sommer.

Also Present: The Clerk – Rob Sage, David Stevens – District Councillor and two members of the public. [The new PCSO for the villages south of Frome, PCSO Darren Golay, was present before the meeting began.]

3889 – Apologies for Absence: Iona FitzGerald and Justin Witcombe.

3890 – Declarations of Interest: None.

3891 – Planning Applications: Planning Application No: 2015/0537/HSE: Enlargement of first floor opening in existing stone gable wall. The Old Forge, Westcombe – Householder Application. The applicant, Simon Archer, spoke to support of his application, noting that the Old Forge was the last house in Westcombe with fabulous views over the surrounding countryside. He hoped to obtain these views from within the house by inserting a window in the gable. He also noted that the house was not overlooked by neighbours and had oblique views of Spargrove Lane and Westcombe Road.

While Councillors had no objections to the insertion of a window in the gable wall of the property, there were concerns at the size of the window that extended right to the top of the gable. It was felt that this window was not in keeping with the building and after careful consideration, the Council decided that it had no option except to recommend refusal. It was noted that there would be no objections to a window with a lintel at the same level as the interior roof beams in the building.

Planning Application Nos: 2015/0807/HSE & 2015/0810/LBC: Proposed alterations and extension of existing utility/cloakroom. Batcombe Lodge, Batcombe – Householder Application & Listed Building Consent. Councillors had no objections to the changes in the size and position of the utility/cloakroom relative to what had already been approved, but did not feel that the cladding with rough sawn horizontal oak boards would be appropriate in the context of the listed building. After careful consideration, the Council decided to recommend approval but to note its concerns about the cladding.

The checking of the bank reconciliation for the year ending 31st March 2015 by Liz Hollis was reported to the meeting.

3892 – Date and Time of Next Meeting: Wednesday 13th May 2015 at 7.30pm in the Old School, Batcombe.

Chris Wildridge
13th May 2015