

NETTLECOMBE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PLANNING MEETING MEETING AT CHAIRMAN'S HOUSE
MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020 AT 6.00 PM

Present: Cllrs Crothers, Lintott, Reynolds, Mackie, Wichard, Dewdney

Apologies: Cllr Scott

Agenda:

To consider Exmoor National Park Planning Applications

1. Land adjacent to Combe Barn, Nettlecombe – proposed double portal agricultural shed 46m x 38m
2. Proposed development including insulation of check dams, attenuation pond and silt trap at Huish Barton Farm, Nettlecombe
3. Proposed agricultural barn at Wood Advent Farm, Nettlecombe

1. Applicant: S Cowling – son of Russell Cowling, landowner.

Proposed building is very large for the rural area, on the junction of a busy road connecting Fair Cross to Stickle Path. Sketchy details in main application, but additional information quotes mixed-use workshop and proposing two employees working there – rest room, electricity supply? Infrastructure to connect solar panels to the grid is not included, nor mention of site lighting and mains water.

Application made in conjunction with Field House Engineering who filed a Wildlife survey viewed as an attached file, to support the environmental impact. ENP considers 'No wider environmental impact' – no EIA required. Conservation officer suggests no problems envisaged. Highways department have not commented – so assume no concerns.

Plan to plant substantial mature tree cover, but set wide apart from the building. Not achieving sufficient screening.

There is **close proximity to SSSI** which has not been mentioned.

Suggestion to encourage other farms around to make use of the machinery workshop facilities.

Proposed side not in proportion to their current livestock farming activities.

Concerns raised as to potential future expansion re Security, staff accommodation.

1x abstention to vote, otherwise voted unanimously to **rigorously oppose the development.**

2. Retrospective Planning permission re the flood prevention structures in place on Huish Barton Farm, installed by Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust and the Environment Agency. Three check dams have been installed – wooden construction with slight gaps to allow water through. Allows some silt to deposit behind the dams, and as water pours through passes over stone bed to reduce erosion impact, then under the road and through pipe across the meadows, towards the wooded area. Already seeing a noticeable difference to help improve flooding problems further downstream in Yarde. WWT have not required planning consent with other completed projects.

Ben Lintott withdrew from discussions.

Councillors voted unanimously to **support this planning application.**

3. Application by Brewers at Wood Advent Farm to erect an agricultural barn 9m x 18.3m and 4.7 metres to the ridge. Site within a 4.3 ha field away from the main farm buildings, in a location previously used to store silage bales on the corner of the road, Harper's Lane. Barely noticeable location, as tucked away by mature woodland and hedgerows. Proposed to store crops, machinery and livestock housing. No environmental impact considered.

Would they need lighting, and improved access to the barn?

Councillors voted unanimously to **support this planning application.**