

**Minutes of a meeting of the Fivehead Parish Council held  
at The Village Hall Stowey Road, Fivehead  
on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at 8pm.**

Present Mr M Cavill (Chairman) Mr G Balmer Mrs K Beacham Mrs H Clarke  
Mr K Male Dist. Cllr. S Steele and Mrs M Knox (Clerk)

**1612. APOLOGIES**

**Apologies** were received from Mrs N Cameron and Mr R Fielding, both away.

**1613. PLANNING**

a) To **respond to consultation on application 09/04962/COL for Proposed Certificate of Lawfulness for Sedgemoor Game Farm**, Cathanger Lane, Fivehead, Taunton, Somerset TA3.

The matter was debated with reference to the papers as sent by Planning dated 4.1.10, an article on manufacture at the Farm sourced from the internet, a letter from Highways dated 30.04.03 retrieved from the SSDC planning website by GB and the following planning applications

- i) a previous notification (03/00998/AGN), later withdrawn due to Highways issues.
- ii) 04/00369/AGN for the erection of an agricultural building for the storage of animal feed and storage and maintenance of farm equipment, later withdrawn. (min 842). and
- iii) application 04/01054 granted for agricultural storage only. (min 876)

The **current situation of an increased scale of production** and the consequences of same had been discussed at mins. 1406h, 1419d, 1525c, 1571d, 1580c and 1590b.

Information had been supplied by the owner at the Public Sessions on 2<sup>nd</sup> June and 7<sup>th</sup> July 2008 and 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009 subsequent to concerns over excessive noise and disturbance having been brought to Council.

Council questions Mr Morris's statement that "In all time since 1985 and, to a limited degree before then, the manufacturing and assembly has taken place in the building and on the yard outlined in red on the attached plan 1."

It was **resolved** the Clerk should write a letter, which would be run past members prior to being sent stating that Council believed the following to be true.

1. Given the historical evidence the current use of the building is unlawful. Manufacturing is taking place in a shed approved only for agricultural storage.
2. Although the long term existence of a business on the farm relating to the keeping of game birds and the construction of associated equipment is not disputed the type and scale has now changed radically. Before the erection of the agricultural shed in 2004/5 the increased larger scale manufacture took place on rented units at Stillbrook and Lower Listock Farms.
3. . It was considered that a new business now exists due to the change in materials used from wood and netting to metal and the increased scale of production. Additional items are now made, e.g. stables, garages (ref. article in Shooting Times and Country Magazine of 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2008). Lorries are now needed for transportation. These sometimes have to load and unload on the highway junction. Fourteen employees are

recorded in the article which would indicate the need for a car park.

4. Given the scale of production the building as it is used at present constitutes a factory and should therefore comply with The Factory Act. Query are business rates being paid and do the facilities comply with Health and Safety requirements?

**Neighbours will be making their own responses.**

**1614. CORRESPONDENCE**

a) From SALC re **training for Clerk regarding the 2010 Model Standing Orders** at Edington on Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> at a cost of £15. Members asked the Clerk wished to attend. She said attendance was recommended. It was **resolved** unanimously she should attend and her fuel costs be covered at the approved rate. A cheque payable to SALC was raised.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm

Chairman

dated