**WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL**

**CHAIR: Cllr IVOR FRENCH**

**PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Cllr Dick Jenkinson**

**MINUTES** of the meeting of Wickham Market Parish Council Planning

Committee held on Tuesday, 26th August at 19:00

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **PL25:** | **37** | **Present from the Council:** Cllr. D Jenkinson (Chair), Cllr. Sue French, Cllr. Ivor French, Cllr. Gloria Creasey, Leanne Castle (Deputy Clerk) |
| **PL25:** | **38** | **Present from the Public:** None |
| **PL25:** | **39** | **Open Public Forum session (3 minutes per person):** None |
| **PL25:** | **40** | **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr. John Day |
| **PL25:** | **41** | **Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda:** Item DC/25/2868/FUL on the agenda, Cllr Gloria Creasey has declared a pecuniary interest  |
| **PL25:** | **42** | **Proposal to approve the draft minutes of the Wickham Market Parish Council Planning Committee of 12 August 2025** –Accepted by the planning committee and signed by Cllr. Jenkinson |
| **PL25:****PL25:** | **43****44** | **Review and agree comments for DC/25/2868/FUL** – It was stated that the work on the access at the front of the pub has started, and temporary railings are in placealready, without a planning agreement. Comments were made that there had already been an incident with someone falling from their mobility scooter, and an ambulance was called. There was a discussion regarding the practicalities of how wheelchairs will access the front of the building, especially as the front door opens outwards. There was also a concern, should there be a need for an evacuation, anyone in a wheelchair could be pushed into the road from the front door. No room for a slope, elevation is a problem.After further discussion, the Planning Group agreed on the following comment. We are not happy that the work is already 90% complete before we were brought the application to consider. Whilst we don’t object to the application, we are concerned that the design doesn’t take adequate consideration for the safety of disabled people or those with mobility issues, should the evacuation of the pub be necessary via the front door. For people coming up or down the hill in a mobility scooter, there must be a sufficient turning space to access the raised entrance directly in front of the pub.**Review and agree comments for DC25/2875/FUL** – The Planning Committee looked at pictures and plans for the conversion. Concerns about the new vehicular access were discussed. The Planning Committee agreed the following comment.We have no objections to this proposal; however, the new vehicular access must comply with current regulations.**Review and agree comments for DC/25/2876/LBC – Listed Building Consent.** ThePlanning Committee agreed on the following comment.We have no objections to this proposal, however, the new vehicular access must comply with current regulations. |
| **PL25:****PL25:**  | **45****46** | **Review and agree comments for DC/25/2997/FUL –** The Planning Committee lookedat and discussed the plans and drawings, the cabling, the screening, and thetransformer station at length, wildlife corridors. The impact on public footpaths, the loss of farmland, and the negative impact on the environment as a place to live and visit. The Planning Group said. We object, the cumulative effect of the four solar farms presently being proposed. would put a strain on the village as a tourist destination and a place to live, loss of farmland if surrounded by solar farms. All committee members objected. A detailed letter will be sent under a separate cover outlining the reasons for the objection. **Date of next meeting:** The next planning meeting has already been arranged for Monday, 1st September at 5pm in the Committee Room at the rear of the Village Hall. |

**Meeting finished at: 8.11pm**