

PAVENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Dr. P. R. Sharpe

EAST END FARM,
PAVENHAM,
BEDFORD, MK43 7PR
Tel: 01234 823423



25th April 2014

Gill Cowie
Senior Planner
Bedford Borough Council
Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street
Bedford, MK42 9AP

Dear Gill

Pavenham Neighbourhood Development Plan Application

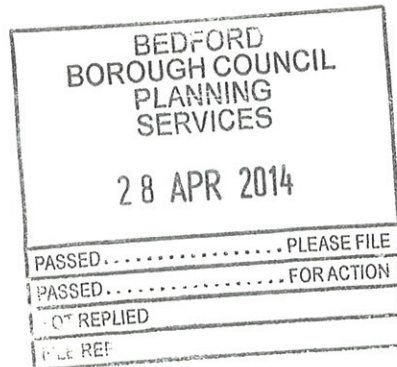
Further to our telephone conversation of this morning, I enclose copy of the letter, plan, and minutes which I sent to Paul Rowland on 4th March 2014.

The minutes have since been confirmed so are no longer "draft"

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P. Sharpe".

Dr P R Sharpe
(Clerk)



PAVENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Dr. P. R. Sharpe

EAST END FARM,
PAVENHAM,
BEDFORD, MK43 7PR
Tel: 01234 823423

Your ref
4th March 2014



P Rowland, Esq.,
Planning Department
Bedford Borough Council
Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street
Bedford, MK42 9AP

Dear Mr Rowland

Pavenham Neighbourhood Development Plan

It was resolved at the January 22nd meeting of Pavenham Parish Council that the parish council should prepare a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the parish. A copy of the draft minutes of that meeting is enclosed with this letter. Minute 14 relates to the above resolution.

Pursuant to this resolution, and sections 61F and 61G of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (the Act) and regulation 5 of Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (the Regulations), we hereby formally apply to Bedford Borough Council for the designation of the whole of the parish of Pavenham as a Neighbourhood Area. Please find enclosed a map based on the Ordnance Survey and Borough supplied data, and showing the area of the Parish of Pavenham applied for outlined in pink. (Please note that it is the OS/Borough data that is to be used to define the area – the outlining is merely for information to indicate which boundaries are to be used.

In accordance with regulation 5(b) we assert that it is desirable that the whole of Pavenham parish be designated as a Neighbourhood Area so that a more integrated approach to planning at a neighbourhood level can be achieved.

In accordance with regulation 5(c) we assert that Pavenham Parish Council is the relevant body for the purposes of s61G of the Act.

Having regard to inter alia s61G(3)(a) of the Act we believe the area applied for has not been already designated as a Neighbourhood Area and that the areas applied for by Pavenham and neighbouring parishes do not overlap.

We look forward to receiving your formal approval of this application in due course, and to working with the Borough Council to help shape the future of Pavenham.

Yours sincerely

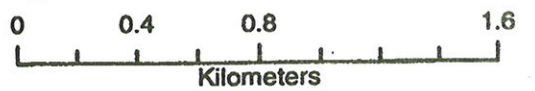
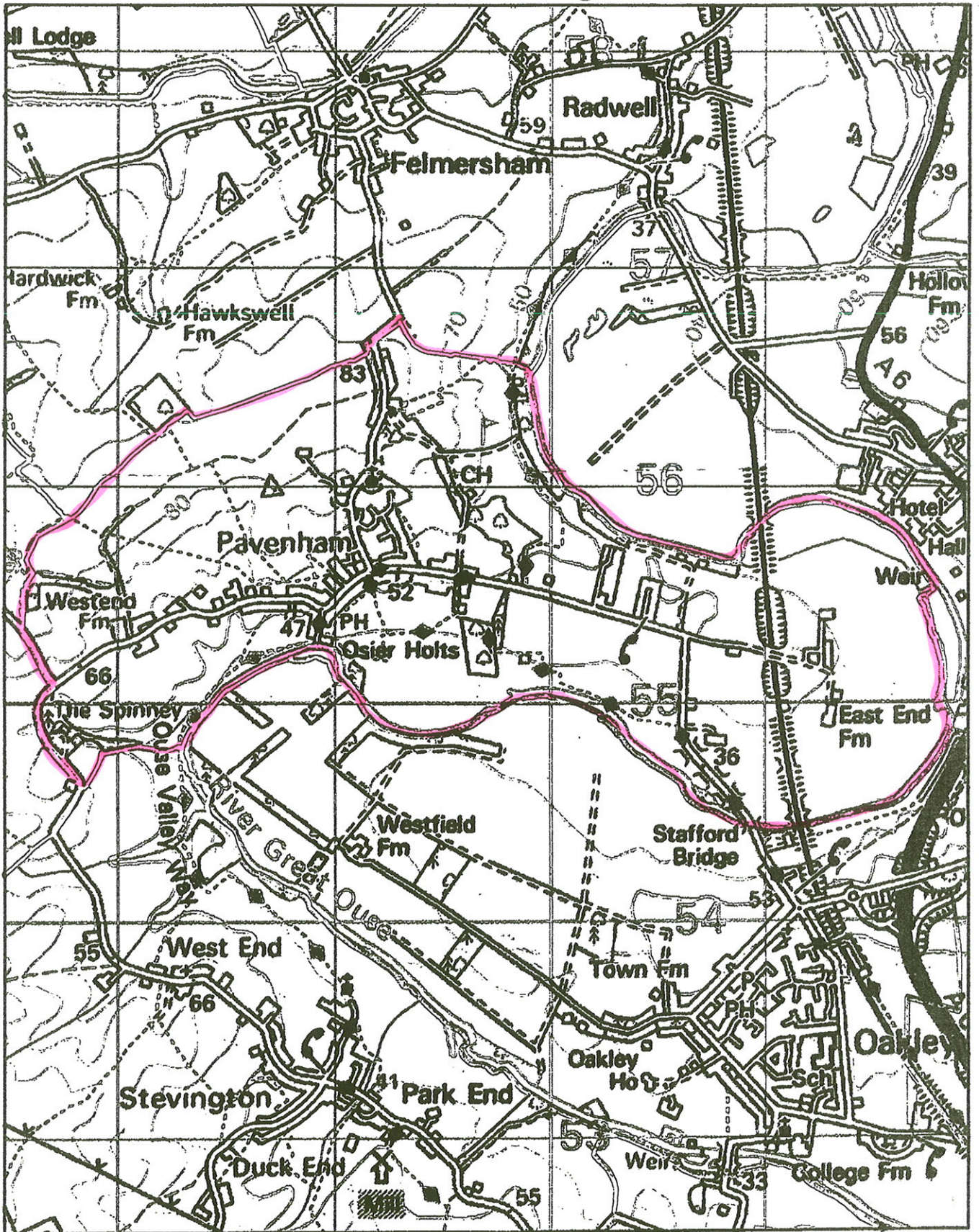
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "P R Sharpe".

Dr P R Sharpe (Clerk)

- Encs: 1. Map of Pavenham Parish
2. Draft minutes of Pavenham Parish Council meeting of 22nd January 2014 (minute 14 is applicable to the above application)

Bedford Borough

Pavenham parish



PAVENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 22nd January 2014 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillors: Mrs M C Telfer, I Outram, B G Greenwood (for part of the meeting), T M Roff, J M Stamford, and T B W Beazley (in the chair)

Borough Councillor Mrs P Olney

The Clerk: Dr. P. R. Sharpe

and one parishioner

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Russell (who was away), and from Councillor Greenwood who said he would be late

2. Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 27th November 2013

The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 27th November 2013 were approved. Adoption was proposed by Mrs Telfer, seconded by Mr Stamford.

3. Declarations of Interest

a) Mr Beazley declared a personal interest in items 5g, 7c, 13 and 14

b) Mrs Telfer declared a prejudicial interest in item 6a in that she was a member of the VH&PFC

c) Mr Stamford declared a personal interest in item 7b(1)

4. Discussion Period

a) Mr Roff enquired whether David Evans had done anything about getting more of his volunteers trained to use the Speedwatch machine. The clerk said he sent the information on to him but had not heard anything back.

b) Mr Jarvis said a fence was leaning in towards the footpath at the rear of The Bury. Mr Beazley said it was his responsibility and he will attend to it.

c) Mr Beazley said there was a dangerous Ash tree on the High Street roadside between Lime Kiln House and The Oaks. He thought it was Mark Blakemore's responsibility rather than Highways. It was agreed to report the matter to Highways and then speak to MB depending upon their answer.

c) Mr Beazley said that a handrail beside the footpath from Weavers Lane to Brookfields had become dangerously weak. It will be reported to the BC for repair.

d) The clerk said a response had been received that morning from the BC regarding points raised in the PC's comments on the BC's consultation on its Draft Tenancy Strategy in which the PC had criticised bpha's management of the homes in Tandy's Close and its failure to honour its verbal agreement before the homes were built to notify the PC of any upcoming vacancies so that it could help to find an applicant from within the village. Councillors were upset that bpha did not feel obliged to honour the verbal agreement and it was agreed that the clerk should draft a response to the BC with copy to Geraldine Ryan of bpha for approval by the chairman and Mr Stamford (who was a councillor at the time the homes in Tandy's Close were built and had attended the meetings with bpha). It was suggested that a regular mention be made in PC newsletters of the need for interested persons to register with bpha and that the PC contacts neighbouring PCs to see if they had anybody interested in one of the homes.

5. Correspondence

a) Christine Lawry had requested an alteration to a high stile on the footpath from Pavenham to Stevington to make it easier to climb over. Mr Outram had reported it to the BC which said it had the matter in hand and would probably replace it with a kissing gate. Mr Roff said the height of the stile had been raised to stop cattle escaping from the field by jumping over the stile into the next field. Mr Outram said he was also liaising with the BC to replace a stile with a kissing gate on the footpath from The Bury to the High Street

b) Following a letter from the clerk, BT had said it will re-paint the red telephone box in centre of village in the spring and carrying out repairs to it.

c) Beds Police had sent its crime report for Pavenham for November & December which showed no incidents in the village.

d) Bedford BC had confirmed that The Cock has been included in the BC's List of Assets of Community Value.

e) Following a request from the PC, Bedford BC had confirmed that it will review and update the TPO relating to The Bury. (It was thought that this had since been done but not yet formalised)

(Mr Greenwood arrived)

f) BATPC had invited the PC to nominate its chairman for participation in a draw to receive an invitation to a 2014 Buckingham Palace Garden Party. It was noted that the chairman was not eligible since he had already attended a Garden Party

g) Bedford BC had requested comments on its Economy and Employment Land Study including the need for more employment premises in the village. The BC currently had no employment sites on its register so it was agreed to notify it of sites at Stafford Bridge Doors, the Golf Course, Sharnbrook Warehousing & Grain Storage (at Pax Hill Farm), and to mention that various farms in the village employed labour. With regard to the need for more employment sites in the village it was agreed to respond along the lines that it would be considered but that each proposal would have to be considered on its merits, be sensitive to the character of the village, and be in accord with the Village Plan. A copy of the Village Plan had been sent to the Planning department when it was first published but it was agreed to send another copy with this response.

h) Alistair Burt MP had requested comments on the adequacy of the Broadband service in the area and the BC's plans to improve it. It was agreed to reply saying the PC considered the service to be totally inadequate and that it was disappointed with the BC's plans for improving the service, especially in view of the large response from the village requesting a better service. The BC's failure to act on the village's campaign showed that the consultation had been a waste of time. The BC had merely chosen the larger villages and ignored the smaller villages despite the fact a large number of parishioners worked from home and by not helping the smaller villages the BC had put them at a disadvantage to persons living in the urban areas.

✓ Bedford BC had consulted on whether the PC wishes to continue to have PC representation (as observers) on the BC's Standards Committee. Mr Stamford (who was one of the PC observers) said he considered that the committee had become too political. He felt it needed to be more transparent with an independent chairman. It was agreed that Mr Stamford would draft a letter for the clerk to send to the BC.

6. Accounts for Approval

Mr Outram proposed, seconded by Mr Stamford, that the following accounts be paid. All were in agreement

a) Pavenham Village Hall & Playing Field Charity – hire of hall for meetings July to December	£54.00
b) BATPC – Affiliation fee for 2014/15 year	£147.00
c) Bedfordshire Police Partnership Trust – donation towards running costs	£100.00

7. Planning Applications

a) The following Applications had been received:

1. Mr Hinckley – demolition and replacement of existing two storey side extension and associated works, internal and external alterations including new boundary wall, 1 River Row, Mill Lane
2. Mr P Haughian – Pollard one Willow tree, 54 The Bury

✓ The first application had been dealt with via the envelope system. Comments in copy of a letter to the BC from Mr Herring had been taken into account. The PC had no objections provided the materials used were sympathetic to those in the main dwelling. The PC also asked that conditions be imposed to minimise the disruption to neighbouring households during the works, including the effect on parking.

Item 2 was discussed at the meeting. There were no objections.

b) The following Applications had been approved by the BC

1. J Stamford – 30% crown reduction of one Lime tree, 34 The Bury
2. Mr Peacock – replace window with leaded window at front + erect timber studded partition under existing beam, The Old Post Office

c) The following Application had been withdrawn

1. Mrs Anne Timmins – two storey side extension, The White House, High Street

d) The following Proposals had not been made subject to a TPO by the BC:

1. 3 River Row, remove group of self-set prunus, ash and sycamore trees
2. Hill Farm House, High Street – reduce lateral branches on Pine tree by 2-3 metres

9. Setting of Parish Precept for the year ending 31st March 2015

The clerk produced a schedule showing the actual PC accounts for year ended 31st March 2013, the budget for the year ending 31st March 2014, his estimates of the final figures for that year, and based upon those figures his estimated budget for the year ending 31st March 2015 with appropriate allowances for particular one-off projects. The schedule showed an estimated surplus of £1999 in the current year

compared with the budgeted £873. The additional surplus was due mainly to savings in grass-cutting, maintenance, and miscellaneous costs. On the basis of those estimates the estimated Parish Council Balance on 31st March 2014 would be £13,498. The budget for the coming year showed a surplus of £828 if the grants towards the Village Hall & Playing Field Committee, Pavenham Fellowship Club, the Police Partnership, and the Villager Bus remained at the 2013/14 levels, namely £3,000, £100, £100, and £50 respectively.

There was discussion about whether there should be provision for preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. Mrs Olney said Oakley and Stevington had set aside £2,000 and £500 respectively towards the cost of their Plans. It was agreed that £2,000 of the 2013/14 surplus should be put into reserves towards the cost of doing a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish.

Mr Greenwood felt there was a need to increase the PC's Balance in order to provide funds for potential projects such as speeding measures and preparing a Neighbourhood Plan, and as a contingency. At present the PC Balance only represented little more than one year's Precept. There was discussion as to whether the Precept should be increased by a small amount each year to avoid a large increase in the future if it was decided to proceed with a particular project.

Mr Greenwood proposed a 1.9% increase in the Precept from £9,066 to £9,240 for the 2014/15 year with a provision of £3,000 towards the running costs of the PVH&PFC, and £100, £100, and £50 respectively to the Fellowship Club, the Police Partnership, and the Villager Bus. A vote was taken with four councillors in favour and one against.

10. The War Memorial Consideration of quotations for refurbishing path to include commemoration of Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

One quotation of £2400 + VAT had been received from Baxters for laying a granite set path and adding more sets to the road-side kerb. Only one quotation had been obtained because of the specialist nature of the work. The work will be funded mainly by Councillor Olney's Ward Member's Fund with the balance coming from PC funds. A further cost for an inscribed diamond-shaped stone was expected. All were in agreement.

11. Highway and other Maintenance Matters

a) Mrs Olney said resurfacing of Close Road was in the BC's capital programme for the 2015/16 year but Mr Prigmore had agreed to look at the road and try to bring it forward if he considered the surface was very bad.

b) Mrs Olney said the Causeway chestnut paling fence was due to be taken down in February/March and the hedge cut at the same time. Mr Beazley suggested the hedge top should be taken off at 6/8 feet high. Mrs Olney agreed to speak to Mr Prigmore about that and to suggest that he (AP) should discuss the matter with Mr Beazley. Councillors had reservations about the safety aspect of the road if the fence was removed and not replaced. Mrs Olney said the fence was intended to be a temporary measure to help mark the edge of the road when a lot of the vegetation on the west side had been washed away during the "Easter Floods" a few years ago. It was agreed that new marker beacons should be installed where gaps had been created due to traffic/weather damage.

c) Following mention in the Christmas PC newsletter, Keith & Alison Waspe, Ian McKenzie, Ruth & Orazio Lambiase, and Stephen Jarvis had offered to help tidy up the entrance to The Bury around the electricity sub-station. Saturday March 8th was provisionally agreed to do the work.

d) The pub car park was flooded out with sewage over the Christmas period. The incident had been reported to Anglian Water who had jetted out the pipework but Mr Beazley considered that the pipe was blocked with tree roots near the Golf Course entrance and needed relaying. It was suggested that since the matter was a community problem and presented a health risk it should be reported to the Environment Agency.

12. Consultation by Sharnbrook Academy Federation on whether to change the movement to Upper Schools to 11 years (from 13)

The matter had been discussed by the PC in the past when the age at which pupils changed schools in the borough had been mooted a few years ago. The PC had been in favour of changing schools at 11 instead of 13 in order to bring the borough into line with most other local authorities. Following further discussion at this meeting the PC remained of that view but was concerned about the effect that such a change might have on the future of existing primary and junior schools, also whether the proposed change can be achieved within the financial constraints.

13. Consultation by Bedford Borough Council on the Issues & Options for the BC Local Plan 2032 (see summary document being circulated plus BC website www.bedford.gov.uk/localplan2032)

The consultation had been discussed at the recent BC planning workshop on 9th January which had been attended by councillors Telfer, Russell, and Stamford. Anger had been expressed at that workshop that the matter was being rushed through and that not enough time had been allowed for parishes to properly consider it (Comments had been requested by 24th February). PCs had said they needed to consult their parishioners and the BC was not allowing sufficient time for that.

Mr Greenwood suggested the PC writes to the BC saying it needed more time to be able to consult parishioners, that it was planning a sub-committee to consider the consultation document prior to reporting back at the next PC meeting in March, and asking if it was possible to delay submitting comments until the matter had been discussed at the APM in April. A sub-committee comprising councillors Greenwood, Telfer and Stamford and the clerk was appointed. It was agreed to meet on February 6th (subsequently postponed to February 20th)

14. Consideration of whether the PC should prepare a new Neighbourhood Plan (see document on Neighbourhood Plans forwarded by Councillor Greenwood)

The matter had been discussed several times in the past. Mr Greenwood felt it would be better for Pavenham to have its own Plan rather join in with other villages, although there might be some advantages in doing a joint Plan.

It was agreed that the PC should prepare its own Neighbourhood Plan and that a formal application should be made to the BC.

15. Speed Limits and Speed reduction measures – including progression of the proposal agreed at the April 2013 Annual Parish Meeting to proceed with obtaining accurate and detailed costings of a scheme to install average speed cameras from West End to the East End bend to monitor a speed limit of 30 mph, including the initial capital cost and the ongoing annual costs and the effect of both of these costs on the Parish Precept.

Mr Beazley said James Coote (a parishioner) had had a meeting with the Bedford Safety Group. As a result the Police had promised to have a speed check blitz in the village during January and February, including along the 40 mph stretch. Mr Beazley said he was hopeful Mr Coote would come up with the name of somebody who could do an independent appraisal for the village and asked for the matter to be put on the agenda of the next PC meeting.

It was agreed to ask the BC under the Freedom of Information Act for full details of the cost of the recently introduced average speed camera scheme in Box End, Kempston and to ask who funded it.

16. Date, Time & Place of next meeting

It was confirmed for Thursday 6th March 2014 in the village hall at 7.30 pm. The Annual Parish Meeting was arranged for 8.00pm on Wednesday 23rd April (possibly with a PC meeting at 7.00pm), and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council at 8.00pm on Thursday May 15th.

There being no other business the chairman closed the meeting at 10.41 pm.

Chairman..... T. D. W. Beazley..... Date.. 6.13.2014...