

Danbury Parish Council Planning Working Group Discussion Notes 7 June 2021 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs: S Berlyn, A Chapman, M Hessing (Chairman), A Keeler, N Orange

In attendance: Mrs L Mitchelmore (Assistant Clerk), Mr M Scofield (Danbury Society)

Apologies: Mr J Alexander, Cllr N Orange

1. The following applications were discussed and responses recommended for the Clerk to consider:

Ref no	Property	Proposal	Comments
21/00785/FUL Amended application	16 Main Road	Installation of a 59kW Solar PV array to the flat and pitched roofs.	The Parish Council has no objections to this application; however, we trust that planning officers will take due consideration of the concerns raised by a neighbouring property regarding potential glare from the panels.
21/00913/FUL	14 Barley Mead	Single Storey Rear Extension	No comments
21/00945/FUL	7 Mildmays	Construction of single storey rear extension, extension of first floor rear dormer, single storey front porch extension, new pitched roof over existing garage and alterations to fenestration.	No comments
21/00947/FUL Bicknacre application	The Barn, White Elm Road	Demolition of existing outbuildings. One new detached chalet bungalow, including an open cart lodge and new access.	No comments
21/00949/FUL	Stapletons, 123 Main Road	Proposed single storey rear and side extension and roof alterations (flat roof to mono pitch).	The Parish Council supports the comments of the Planning Listed Building and Conservation Officer.
21/00954/FUL	Woodlands, Hyde Lane	Proposed two storey side, single storey front and rear extension,	No comments
21/05113/TPO	Darach, 40 Runsell Lane	T2 – Oak – Rear Garden – cut back by 2m – Reason – Due to excessive shading.	No comments

21/01068/CLEUD	Old Chase Farm, Hyde Lane	Certificate of existing lawful development for external storage area.	The Parish Council understands that the purpose of this application is to clarify/establish previous uses of the site. However, it is concerned that with the previous use, there were issues based around vehicle movements and breaches of planning conditions.
21/05072/TPO Amended application	Twinwoods, 4 Hyde Green	T1 oak – reduce north - eastern aspect of crown by up to 3m back to suitable growth points where this overextends the roof. Reduce the southern aspect of crown by 1.5-2m where this interferes with adjacent vegetation and overhangs the boundary of No.5 Hyde Green. Deadwood all minor and major branches. Reason: tree presents a risk to the property as it is growing over the roof of the house and causing damage by encouraging a lot of moss; W1 2x beech, 14x silver birch, 2x sycamore and 9 cypress – fell – Reason: all felling requested due to over population of trees that are restricting growth, and a number of these trees are also dead/dying. Safety risk as many are likely to fall.	No comments

2. There were no applications to refer to the Ward Member for consideration by the Chelmsford City Council Planning Committee unless Officers were minded to refuse it.

3. Comments for the Clerk to consider submitting in response to the Chelmsford City Council Solar Farm Supplementary Planning Document Consultation were as follows:

1. Paragraphs 7.3 and 7.4: As the majority of lower grade agricultural land is in the Danbury/Sandon/Woodham Ferrers areas, this may lead to a disproportionate proliferation of Solar Farms in these areas, negatively impacting the landscape.
2. Paragraph 7.11: To avoid any misinterpretation/confusion over what constitutes appropriateness at any sites, all proposals should be expected to consider the multifunctional network of green infrastructure and not just those where it is deemed to be appropriate.
3. To ensure that they are protected and their value to the natural environment and biodiversity recognised, ecologically important sites MUST be avoided.
4. Paragraph 7.23: This paragraph should be more precise in the size of open sections for small mammals to pass through, appropriate for local species populations.
5. Paragraphs 7.21 and 7.22: Due to the potential for the release of toxic chemicals into the environment, redundant Solar Panels must be disposed of safely – preferably recycled – and not sent to landfill.
6. The procurement of ethically sourced materials with a minimal carbon footprint during both production and transport is a must.

Mr M Scofield would provide more written information for the Clerk to consider when preparing a response to the consultation.

4. Additional matters:

The working group requested that the Clerk write to Chelmsford City Council to enquire as to whether any progress had been made in bringing Wickham House back into use.

Potential planning breaches were reported.