

# Helmingham Parish Council

**Minutes of the Helmingham Parish Council Meeting held online on June 30, 2020 at 7.00pm.**

**Present:** Parish Councillors Julian Bowden, Alan Mayhew, Ian Pepper, David Styles and Nick Styles and Rod Caird (clerk), and one member of the public

## **1/300620: Apologies for Absence**

Suzanne Curwen-Frost sent her apologies and her absence was approved.

## **2/300620: Declarations of interest and dispensations requested**

None

## **3/300620: To discuss planning application 20/02271: Extension and change of use of former church meetings room to one dwelling, Helmingham Church Hall, Ipswich Road**

After discussion it was agreed to comment as follows:

The Parish Council has no objection to the proposal, preferring to see the site being used constructively, but wishes to draw attention to the following concerns: • There is shared access to the property in question, Rectory Cottage and the Old Rectory. Parish Councillors and residents attending the meeting were worried that the access is a narrow, tight turn off the road, which can be busy at times. Adding extra vehicle use to that access could create a hazard. The road layout itself is tricky, and prone to local speeding, making the access point still more difficult. • Once inside the access lane there is very limited and restricted turning space for vehicles and anything larger than a standard car has to manoeuvre via multi-point turns. This will cause problems for delivery vehicles once the building work is over and will be a major problem for construction traffic during the build. • Any significant extra use of the access lane will cause a problem for the residents of the Old Rectory who need access to their garage. • There is at present a single septic tank which serves both the Old Rectory and Rectory Cottage. Adding a further house to that service may be too much for the existing facility. • There is an archaeological interest in the site generally as a result of the fact that the churchyard formerly stretched far further beyond its current boundary. It is likely any building work will need to be attended by archaeologists. • It is believed there is a current Red Kite nest in the immediate vicinity, so there is also a wildlife preservation concern. The Parish Council urges that these issues are addressed in considering the application.

## **4/300620: Correspondence and any other urgent matters**

It was noted that meetings will have to be held online for the foreseeable future.