

Proposal to develop a new school and 148 houses at Norwich Road, Brooke

Julian Wells (of FW Properties) has submitted a planning application for their proposed development - the period for public comment has started. Now is the time for members of the public to submit their comments to South Norfolk Council, either to support or to oppose the planning application.

The planning officer's report to the Planning Committee will have to take into account all comments received. There is no guarantee that public comments will influence the decision, but we understand that individual submissions are likely to be more persuasive than a petition, particularly if they focus on planning policies.

The deadline for submissions is 7 Sept, which John Fuller advises may be able to be deferred, but it would be safer to submit representations by that date if possible.

At the Parish Council meeting last Monday, 20 Aug, the councillors decided, by a unanimous vote, to recommend that South Norfolk Council refuse the planning application.

In view of the importance of this issue for the village we also agreed to appoint an expert planning consultant to put together our detailed submission to SNC, to ensure that it focuses on relevant planning policies and issues. Having agreed in principle to object to this proposal, we want to ensure that our formal submission to SNC is as effective as possible. We will probably also want the consultant to present the PC's objections in person at the Planning Committee meeting.

It is important for everyone who has a view on this planning application (for or against) to submit their comments to SNC, preferably sending a copy to the Parish clerk for information.

Comments (to include the planning application reference 2018/1780) can be sent either:

- by writing a letter to The Planning Team, South Norfolk House, Cygnet Court, Long Stratton NR15 2XE
- by email to planning@s-norfolk.gov.uk
- via the SNC website - www.south-norfolk.gov.uk - click on Planning, then Finding and Commenting on a planning application, then follow the instructions

The Parish Council website (parishcouncil.wixsite.com/brookepc) contains various documents relating to this development proposal, but the planning application documents are only available on the SNC website.

When considering your comments on the planning application, you may find it useful to look at the "South Norfolk Local Plan – Development Management Policies Document (Adopted version Oct 2015)" for guidance – this sets out the criteria for assessing planning applications – follow this link:

www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Development_Management_Policies_Document_0.pdf

Finally, my thanks to all those who attended the public meeting on 21 June and subsequent PC meetings, and for expressing views to the PC on this proposal.

Edward Jinks

Parish Council chairman