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This meeting will be a virtual meeting and will be webcast live

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5 July 2021

COUNCIL MEETING

To all Members of the Council

You are summoned to attend a virtual meeting of the ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL to be held on **Wednesday 14 July 2021 at 6.00 pm** to transact the business set out below:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "N.V. Lynn".

Nigel Lynn
Chief Executive

PLEASE NOTE: This meeting will be a 'virtual meeting' and any member of the press and public may listen-in and view the proceedings via a weblink which will be publicised on the Council website at least 24 hours before the meeting.

This meeting is held in accordance with the resolution made by the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council on 12 May 2021(Minute 551) which continues Section 5 Part 5 of the Constitution (The Virtual Meeting Procedure Rules) and declares the use of Council powers, under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972, and the general power of competence under Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011, for making advisory decisions, as appropriate.

This Council's revised Rules of Procedures for 'virtual meetings' can be found by clicking on this link: <https://www.arun.gov.uk/constitution>

Any members of the public wishing to address the Full Council meeting during Public Question Time, will need to email Committees@arun.gov.uk by 5.15 pm on Wednesday, 7 July 2021 on line with current Procedure Rules. It will be at the Chief Executive's/Chair's discretion if any questions received after this deadline are considered.

For further information on the items to be discussed, please contact: committees@arun.gov.uk

AGENDA – SUPPLEMENT PACK

8. URGENT MATTERS – SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE – 18 MAY 2021 (Pages 1 - 2)

With the agreement of the Chair, the recommendations from the Special meeting of the Development Control Committee held on 18 May 2021 are to be considered as an Urgent Item as they were omitted from the agenda.

There are recommendations for the Council to consider at Minute 577 [Fitzalan Link Road, Acoustic Fence, Littlehampton]. To view the Officer's report, please click on this link [Report](#)

Note : If Members have any detailed questions, they are reminded that they need to inform the Chair and relevant Director in advance of the meeting.

Note : Where there are recommendations from other Committees, please refer to the e-link under the specific agenda item to access the Officer report.

Note : Filming, Photography and Recording at Council Meetings – The District Council supports the principles of openness and transparency in its decision making and permits filming, recording and the taking of photographs at its meetings that are open to the public. This meeting may therefore be recorded, filmed or broadcast by video or audio, by third parties. Arrangements for these activities should operate in accordance with guidelines agreed by the Council and as available via the following link [Filming Policy](#)

Public Document Pack Agenda Item 8

Subject to approval at the next Planning Committee meeting

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SPECIAL MEETING OF DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

18 May 2021 at 1.30 pm

Present: Councillors Bennett (Chair), Blanchard-Cooper, Bower, Charles, Clayden (Substitute for Roberts), Coster, Hamilton, Kelly, Lury, Pendleton, Tilbrook, Warr, Catterson (Substitute for Thurston) and Oliver-Redgate (Substitute for Edwards)

Apologies: Councillors Edwards, Roberts and Thurston

575. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

576. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2021 were approved by the Committee.

577. FITZALAN LINK ROAD ACOUSTIC FENCE

5 Public Speakers

Cllr Jill Long, Littlehampton Town Council

Tracey Lynch

David Willis

Peter Hawkes

Cllr Britton, West Sussex County Council

The Group Head of Planning presented his report. This was followed by five Public Speakers and response to comments made was provided by the Group Head of Planning.

Members then took part in a full debate on the report where a number of concerns with the acoustic fencing were raised. These concerns primarily revolved around height, traffic speed on the new road, materials and proximity to housing.

Members who spoke noted that the fencing was high and some noted that it could have a claustrophobic effect on residents, but that there was not currently enough information to determine if the fencing was too high. There was a perception amongst Members who spoke that the height of the fencing was strongly determined by the speed of the road and the subsequent noise generated, and therefore if the speed limit could be reduced to 30mph from 40mph then the fencing height could also be reduced.

Special Meeting of Development Control Committee - 18.05.21

It was explained that West Sussex County Council, with responsibility for Highways and having previously determined the speed of the new road, would have to agree to a reduction in the speed limit. The Group Head of Planning also confirmed that there was no technical evidence that demonstrated that a lower speed limit would result in the need for a significantly lower structure. Members were asked to note changes to Government policy on carbon neutrality and the future impact of more electric vehicles on the road but appreciated in the short and medium term that the road may be used by large vehicles including HGVs. The Cabinet Member for Planning noted that there was not a direct correlation between height and speed limit due to the complexities of sound mitigation and therefore seeking a lowering to the speed limit might not be the right direction to take as it would not necessarily translate into a lower fence.

Members who spoke raised concerns around the look of the weathered steel both for residents and road users and how in keeping with other road barriers in the District it was. Members who spoke suggested that options around alternative materials that were more sympathetic to residents and the area should be explored including transparent ones and the use or greater use of natural barriers such as trees and shrubs. The proximity of fencing of that height to the houses on Highdown Drive and Amberley Close was also raised as a concern and whether an option of moving the fence further away from the houses could lessen the impact of both the height and look for residents.

Members who spoke acknowledged that this was a complex issue with a long history but affirmed that they wanted to see a fair outcome for residents and road users, and that in order to achieve that end needed more information on possible ways forward. Given the consensus during the discussion, the Chair put the second recommendation from the report to the Committee. The Group Head of Planning confirmed that the activity taking place on the site was lawful and that any decision of the Committee today would not change that. Therefore, the Council could not take any action to prevent continued activity. Members acknowledged this

The Committee

RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL

That a supplementary estimate be agreed for up to £15,000 to fund the commissioning of an independent expert to undertake the following actions:

- a) Review the decisions already taken to establish if there are any issues (process and judgement)
- b) Identify what legal options exist for securing changes to the acoustic fence
- c) What are the implications of the above, including financial (compensation) and legal.

(The meeting concluded at 2.27 pm)