

MINUTES of the meeting of the PLANS COMMITTEE held at Mountfield, Bridport on Monday 1 September 2014 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT Cllr P.J. Lathey (in the Chair)

 Cllrs: G.J. Ackerman Ms G.E. Summers
 C.M. Ray Ms S.J. Williams
 D.G. Rickard

Also present: Cllr Mrs E.A. Rickard.

Prior to the start of the meeting, members stood in silence to remember former Town Councillor Bryan Wheeler, who it was announced had sadly died.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr T. Baldry and Ms A. Filsell spoke on behalf of the applicant, in support of the application A2/A3 1776/1777L Harbour House.

Mr R. Freer and Mr T.Lambert asked if the Town Council would call a public meeting in respect of the Vearse Farm allocation in the draft Local Plan.

In response to these comments, the Town Clerk explained that, at this meeting, the Plans Committee was being asked only to agree comments in respect of the latest proposed modifications and there was not an opportunity to raise Vearse Farm. The Town Council had raised concerns about this allocation in previous responses and had also asked for further consultation on the allocation. The site was not in Bridport parish although the Town Council was about to embark on a Neighbourhood Plan, working with neighbouring parish councils and there would be public meetings and events to start the process. There would also be an opportunity to raise further concerns regarding the site allocation in the Inspector's Inquiry on the draft Plan. Members endorsed these comments.

Mr A. Williams from WATAG spoke about the changes to bus services and his report on the agenda (min.36).

31. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllr C.O. Michell.

32. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 28 July 2014 were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

33. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

34. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED:

(1) that the recommendations set out in column 4 of the attached [schedule A](#) be forwarded to the District Council.

(2) that the amended plans reported for information in Schedule B be noted.

35. PLANNING DECISIONS

The Town Clerk reported for information, the planning decisions received relating to applications previously considered by the Committee, ENCL: 2861.

RESOLVED: that the planning decisions be noted.

36. BUS SERVICES – WATAG UPDATE ON AUTUMN SCHEDULES AND LETTER FROM FIRST BUS

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2863.

Members thanked Alan Williams for providing the information on the changes to the timetables.

The letter from First Bus was also considered. It was noted that WATAG had already written to First with suggestions on changes that could be looked at, to address reported disruption to the timetable, before any town centre issues were looked at.

It was agreed that it would be helpful to meet with First Bus and the County Council to discuss the issues raised relating to timetabling issues. However, it was emphasised that there also needed to be a high level meeting with the County Council to discuss the general issue of bus services in the area and what the County Council's vision was for services, bearing in mind the continued concerns being raised over service reductions. Oliver Letwin MP should be copied into the correspondence.

RESOLVED:

(1) that the update on bus services and the letter from First Bus be noted.

(2) that a high level meeting be arranged with Dorset County Council to discuss bus services in the area and a separate meeting be held with County Council officers and First Bus to discuss the specific issues raised by First regarding bus timetables and reported disruption in the town centre.

37. LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION ON FURTHER LOCAL PLAN MODIFICATIONS

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2864.

Members supported the draft response as circulated and suggested that, with reference to FPC7, additional wording should be added to emphasise that the housing proposed for St Michaels was no longer required and the need was for more employment land.

RESOLVED: that the draft response be approved as circulated with the additional comment as above.

38. BROOMHILLS 50MPH SPEED LIMIT ON THE A5 BRIDPORT BYPASS

Consideration was given to ENCL: 2865.

It was noted that the planning permission for the Broomhills site had included a condition that the speed limit on the bypass should be 50 mph. The Waste Partnership stated that 40 mph was unlikely to be approved by the Highways Agency. The Town Council had made representations asking that the limit be reduced to 40 mph and members still felt that this would be preferable, especially bearing in mind the potential tail backs from the new traffic lights and the need for traffic to slow down.

The Waste Partnership was seeking support for its application to the Highways Agency to reduce the speed to 50 mph, in accordance with planning conditions. Bearing this in mind and that 40 mph was unlikely to be approved at this time, members said that they would support the application but emphasised that 50 mph had to be the maximum allowed. The Town Council would still prefer and continue to make representations (especially when the centre was open) to reduce the speed to 40 mph.

RESOLVED: that the response to the letter from the Dorset Waste Partnership regarding the speed limit on the bypass around the Broomhills Waste Management Centre be agreed as above.

39. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Town Clerk reported that a Project Manager had been offered the appointment and it was hoped that he would be starting in post later this month.

The update was noted.

40. ONGOING HIGHWAYS ISSUES

The Leader of the Council reported on the recent walkabout to look at parking issues in the town. This would be reported to the next Highways and Transportation Sub Committee. All members were invited to raise any parking problems that they were aware of.

Members discussed the temporary car park in West Bay Road. It was reported that the car park had been established to meet the parking demands in the area, particularly caused by the need to provide space elsewhere for the Broadchurch film unit. Members were aware of strong objections from local residents to the use of this site as a car park. Whilst it was understood that it was now being taken down, members expressed their concern that it had been established without consultation with the Town Council. This issue and other car park issues should be discussed at the next Highways and Transportation Sub Committee and it was hoped that the District Council's Head of Parking and Traffic would be able to attend that meeting.

RESOLVED: that the District Council's Head of Parking and Traffic be invited to attend the next Highways and Transportation Sub Committee meeting.

41. **STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING**

There were no items raised.

42. **COMMUNICATIONS**

The Town Clerk reported that the County Council had advised that pollarding works would be taking place soon on the trees in East, West and South Streets.

The meeting closed at **8.45 p.m.**

The next meeting of the Plans Committee will be held on 29 September 2014