

MINUTES of the meeting of the PLANS COMMITTEE held at Mountfield, Bridport on Monday 9 January 2012 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT Cllr Ms S.J. Williams (in the Chair)

Cllrs: G.J. Ackerman P.J. Lathey
C.O. Michell C.M. Ray
D.G. Rickard

PUBLIC FORUM

The following members of the public addressed the Committee: Mr M. Farmer, Mrs. E. Harding, Mrs S. Stafford and Mr C. Wild all spoke in objection to West Dorset District Council's proposed trial of personal water craft in West Bay. Councillor K. G. Wallace also spoke at this time raising concerns on the same issue.

73. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllr E.T. Colfox and Ms R.C. Kayes.

74. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 5 December 2011 were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

75. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

76. PLANNING AND TREE APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED: that the recommendations set out in column 4 of the [attached schedule A](#) be forwarded to the District Council and Schedule B be noted.

77. PLANNING AND TREE APPLICATION DECISIONS

Members noted the planning decisions received relating to applications previously considered by the Committee, ENCL: 2475.

RESOLVED: that the planning decisions be noted.

78. WEST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL – REVIEW OF PARKING CHARGES 2012/2013

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2479.

The Committee welcomed the District Council's proposal to freeze all parking charges for one year.

One related issue that the Committee asked to raise with the District Council was the decision to change the use of the Magistrates Car Park to no longer allow season tickets to be used in this car park. Bearing in mind that Magna, who had a number of

season tickets, were now based in Mountfield it was asked if this decision could be looked at

RESOLVED: that the District Council's proposal to freeze all parking charges for one year be welcomed.

79. USE OF PERSONAL WATER CRAFT (JET SKIS) IN WEST BAY

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2480.

The Committee considered the decision taken by the District Council's Executive Committee to agree revisions to the Harbour Policy and Harbour Rules, to include a change to allow personal water craft to use the harbours on a limited and trial basis

It was reported that the Town Council had received 11 written objections to the decision.

The Committee noted the number of people who had objected and the strength of feeling expressed at the meeting.

In discussion of the item, the Committee made the following comments:

- there had not been sufficient consultation before this decision was taken. The Committee was very disappointed indeed at the lack of consultation and there needed to be full public consultation before deciding whether to allow a trial of the craft.
- all the evidence from use elsewhere was that the jet skis were noisy and would have a detrimental impact along the Jurassic coast, designated as a World Heritage site.
- it was understood that, where they are allowed elsewhere in the country, they have caused increased attention from the coastguard and rescue services. In the light of a proposed significant reduction in these services locally, it would not be sensible to encourage such activity.
- it was felt that the craft would be a nuisance and a danger to swimmers and boat users in the area. Although West Bay may be buoyed off, the jet skis may also adversely affect areas further along the coast, such as at Freshwater and Eype, that would not have buoyed off areas.
- it was not clear where the demand was for using these craft and it was not considered that they would provide any benefits for the area or its community. The reasons and need for this decision were also not clear, as it did appear that there was very little, if any, interest or support locally in Bridport and West Bay for their introduction.

RESOLVED: that for the reasons set out above, West Dorset District Council be advised that the Committee felt very strongly that the decision to allow the use of personal water craft in West Bay should be reversed.

80. RESPONSE TO CONSULTATIONS ON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING REGULATIONS AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY - CONSULTATION

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 2481.

RESOLVED: that the responses made to these consultation documents be noted as set out in the report.

81. STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING

RESOLVED: that subject to confirmation from the occupier that she was happy with the change, the proposal to re-number 24A, Nursery Gardens as number 4A be approved.

82. COMMUNICATIONS

The Town Clerk advised that the application for St Michael's Trading Estate had been received and would be considered at the next meeting of this Committee. It might be necessary to meet in a larger venue and this would be assessed depending on the level of response to the application.

The meeting closed at **7.55 p.m.**

The next meeting of the Plans Committee will be held on 6 February 2012