

MINUTES of the meeting of the PLANS COMMITTEE held in the Town Hall, Bridport on Monday 2 December 2013 at 7.00 p.m.

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

Cllrs: G.J. Ackerman C.O. Michell  
E.T. Colfox C.M. Ray  
Ms R.C. Kayes Ms G.E. Summers

Also present: Cllrs: Ms G.E. Massey and Ms A-M.A Vincent

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

The following members of the public spoke in objection to the Broomhills application:

Mr D. Wragg spoke regarding the complexity of the documentation, the number of amendments from the previous application and the lack of time for public consultation. There had been a lot of objection to this site during the site selection, but this was not reflected in the responses to the application. The Highways Agency had also not confirmed that the proposal was acceptable in terms of highway safety.

Mrs S. Stafford raised concerns regarding the process and the difficulties for people to understand and respond to the consultation. The short timescale to consider the documentation was not acceptable. It was also understood that the County Council was looking to take the application to its Planning Committee on 20 December.

Mr S. Hynes stated that there was a general feeling that local people were being ignored. The proposal to have traffic lights at this location was not supported and the timescale for comments was too short.

Mr A. Watson stated that the impact of this development on traffic would be detrimental to the area and potentially would affect the number of visitors. On traffic grounds, the application should be opposed.

Mr A. Harding added that the traffic implications of this site should not be looked at in isolation, bearing in mind the issues along the A35 at Miles Cross. These matters were currently being considered following the well attended public meeting a year ago.

### **63. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllrs P.J. Lathey and D.G. Rickard.

### **64. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 28 October 2013 were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to noting that Cllr E.T. Colfox had submitted his apologies for that meeting.

## **65. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following declarations of interest were made.

Cllr E.T. Colfox declared an interest in application A3/1489 – 22, Knightstone Rise as he owned land adjoining the site. He left the room during consideration of this application.

Cllr Ms R.C. Kayes declared an interest in application A6/A7 1249/1251L – 42, East Street as she knew the owner. She left the room during consideration of this application.

## **66. WASTE MANAGEMENT CENTRE - BROOMHILLS APPLICATION**

Councillors considered the Dorset County Council's planning application.

The Plans Committee made the following comments:

- there was only a short period of time allowed for comments. Bearing in mind the complexity of the documentation (it was also understood that there were over 270 changes from the previous application), more time should have been allowed for consultation. It was felt that the low number of public responses to this application, compared to previous comments during the site selection process, illustrated the difficulties for the public in commenting on the application.
- it was understood that the County Council wanted to meet on 20 December to determine the application. It was felt that the timing of this meeting, so close to Christmas, was not good and that the application should be taken at the next County Council Planning Committee in January. This would also allow further time for comments.
- the Committee had very serious concerns regarding the traffic implications arising from the application. In particular, there were concerns regarding the use of traffic lights, the speed of traffic in this area, congestion at the Crown Roundabout, the impact on adjoining roads and also the need to consider other related traffic issues on the A35, which were currently being looked at by a working group chaired by Oliver Letwin, MP.
- it was noted that the Highways Agency direction of non approval, whilst it looked to resolve issues of access and road safety, was still in place and the proposed Highways Agency conditions would not be known until 5 December. Therefore, at this stage, it was not possible for the Town Council to know whether the proposed traffic measures would address members' concerns.
- there was some concern about the environmental mitigation measures in respect of the view of the site from the east.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the Committee object to the application on highways grounds, particularly in respect of the proposed use of traffic lights, the impact on traffic speeds, congestion at the Crown Roundabout, the impact on adjoining roads and the need

to consider any proposed traffic measures in the context of other A35 traffic issues.

- (2) that the Town Clerk, on behalf of the Town Council, ask the County Council not to determine the application until its meeting in January, at the earliest, to allow additional time for public consultation and for the Highways conditions to be fully considered.

#### **167. 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 application listed for information in Schedule B be noted.

#### **68. USE OF ASKER MEADOWS FOR EVENTS**

The Town Clerk reported on a proposal to hold a one day music festival on Asker Meadows in July 2014 (the proposed date was 12 July, but this remained to be confirmed). An initial meeting had been held with organisers and they would be submitting a licensing application to West Dorset District Council for the event.

Further discussions would be held with organisers, but at this stage members were asked if they would allow the event to take place on Asker Meadows.

RESOLVED: that the use of Asker Meadows for a Music Festival in July 2014 be approved in principle, subject to completion and approval of the Town Council's event application form and the granting of a licence by West Dorset District Council.

#### **69. HIGHWAYS – WEST BAY PARKING ON SLIPWAY / ENTRANCE TO THE PIER**

The Town Clerk reported on a request received from the West Bay Harbour Master, asking for the Town Council's support to raise an issue of cars parking on double yellow lines, around the front of the entrance to the slipway and entrance to the pier. At times, this made it very difficult to get past, towing boats, and blocked access to the pier. It was hoped that the Town Council would support an approach to Dorset County Council to include this issue on the list of proposed Traffic Regulation Orders.

Members supported the referral of this issue and it was:

RESOLVED: that the issue of parking on double yellow lines around the front of the entrance to the slipway and entrance to the pier be referred to Dorset County Council for consideration.

#### **70. PLANNING DECISIONS**

The Town Clerk reported for information, the planning decisions received relating to applications previously considered by the Committee, ENCL: 2743.

**71. STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING**

There were no items raised.

**72. COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no matters to report.

The meeting closed at **8.15 p.m.**

**The next meeting of the Plans Committee will be held on 6 January 2014**