

MINUTES of the meeting of the PLANNING COMMITTEE held in Mountfield, Rax Lane, Bridport on Monday 29 October 2018 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT Cllr Anne Rickard (in the chair)

Cllrs: Geoffrey Ackerman Jeremy Brodie
Terry Harrison Barry Irvine
Julian Jones Dave Rickard

ALSO PRESENT W Austin (Town Clerk) and two members of the public.

PUBLIC FORUM

The following people spoke in the Public Forum:

Mr P Taylor spoke to object to planning application WD/D/18/002015. He outlined the history of alteration works to date and expressed concern at damage caused and a lack of respect for the planning process. He said that there had been no effort to preserve the building, that the proposed reinstatement of a wall should not be required as it should not have been removed, and that the works needed more control.

Mr P Benjamin spoke in support of planning applications WD/D/18/001439 and WD/D/18/001659, on behalf of the applicant. He outlined the history of works at the property, and advised that the applicant wanted to replace an existing hedge with a fence. This was the last part of the renovation of the property that required planning permission. He noted that the Town Council and others had previously objected to the applications, and advised that comments had been taken into account. He reported that amended plans had been submitted and hoped the Town Council would now approve the applications.

The Town Clerk advised that the Town Council had not received any revised plans, and that none had been posted on the West Dorset Planning website. The Council would be reconsidering the applications, but this was solely because of advice from West Dorset District Council that the Conservation Officer's comments on the original applications, on which the Town Council's comment had been based, had been revised. The District Council had advised that the original comments exceeded the brief set for the application.

47. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllrs Sarah Horniman and Sarah Williams.

48. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No personal interests or disclosable pecuniary interests were declared by members present.

49. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 24 September 2018 were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Cllr Jones asked whether a presentation on proposals for Watton Hill had been arranged. The Clerk advised that no date had yet been requested by the group developing the proposals.

50. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

51. PLANNING DECISIONS

The Town Clerk reported for information, the planning decisions received relating to applications previously considered by the Committee, ENCL: 3362.

RESOLVED: that the planning decisions be noted.

52. HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION WORKING GROUP

The notes of the meeting held on 11 October 2018 were received and the recommendations therein approved, as below: -

(Min 5) Community Bus

RESOLVED: that the Community Bus Working Group provides a report to the November 2018 meeting of the full Town Council.

(Min 6) Barrack Street Proposals

RESOLVED: that the proposals be considered by the Town Centre Working Group, as part of a discussion about improvement to the town centre.

(Min 7) Bus Station Proposals – update following meeting with WDDC

RESOLVED: that the Open Spaces Working Group be engaged in developing the proposals for the Bus Station.

(Min 8) Updates on Traffic Management Issues

St Swithins Road, AmSafe – Parking restrictions

RESOLVED: that a request be sent to DCC to consider a scheme to address the concerns raised by AmSafe Bridport, without a specific recommended solution from the Town Council and highlighting the existing acute parking issues in the area.

South Street Car Park and Church Street – Lighting

RESOLVED: that West Dorset District Council be approached to consider additional lighting from South Street Car Park.

(Min 9) Other Highways Matters

RESOLVED: that the Town Centre Working Group consider a 20mph restriction in the town centre, and that DCC be approached to provide supporting information.

53. DORSET AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY (AONB)

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Council's response to a consultation on the Dorset AONB Management Plan, ENCL: 3363.

The Town Clerk reported that a response, tabled with the agenda, had been submitted under delegation due to time constraints, following consideration by a working group of councillors.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

54. WEST DORSET AND WEYMOUTH & PORTLAND LOCAL PLAN

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Council's response to a consultation on a review of the West Dorset and Weymouth & Portland Local Plan, ENCL: 3364.

The Town Clerk reported that a response, tabled with the agenda, had been submitted following extensive consideration by a working group.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

55. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, ENCL: 3365.

The Town Clerk reported that following consideration of changes to the National Planning Policy Framework, and possible delays in the provision of technical advice, the Neighbourhood Plan Joint Committee had resolved to set back the date for submission of the draft Neighbourhood Plan to West Dorset District Council until 25 January 2019. It was not expected that this would delay the proposed date for a referendum on the Plan.

RESOLVED: that the Committee notes a delay in the proposed date for the submission draft of the Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan.

56. A35 WORKING GROUP

The Town Clerk reported that the notes of the meeting were not yet available and would be tabled at the next meeting.

RESOLVED: that the report of the Town Clerk be noted.

57. COMMUNICATIONS AND ONGOING ISSUES

No communications or ongoing issues were reported.

The meeting closed at **9.03pm**.

The next meeting of the Planning Committee will be held on 26 November 2018