

MINUTES of the meeting of the PLANNING COMMITTEE held in Mountfield, Rax Lane, Bridport on Monday 25 November 2019 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT Cllr Anne Rickard (in the chair)

Cllrs: Geoffrey Ackerman	Kelvin Clayton
Dave Bolwell	Dave Rickard
Sarah Carney	Sarah Williams

ALSO PRESENT Will Austin (Town Clerk)

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr J Stubbs, the applicant for planning application references WD/D/19/002457 and WD/D/19/002458, spoke in the Public Forum in support of the applications. He introduced himself as a former planning officer who had restored a number of other older houses. His wife was a painter/sculptor wanting a studio, and he was seeking a further restoration project. Mr Stubbs described the history of the house which he also said was in poor condition. Previous permissions had enabled the conversion of the top floor and other alterations, but these were largely impractical. Extensive repair and modification was needed and Mr Stubbs said he would appreciate the Town Council's support.

Cllr Dave Rickard asked whether pre-application advice had been sought and Mr Stubbs confirmed that it had.

The Chairman thanked Mr Stubbs for his contribution.

59. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllrs Julian Jones and Barry Irvine.

60. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

61. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 28 October 2019 were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

62. VEARSE FARM

The Town Clerk advised that in discussion with the group ADVEARSE, it had been considered appropriate to defer a presentation until after the general election had taken place.

RESOLVED: that this item be deferred.

63. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

64. PLANNING DECISIONS

The Town Clerk reported for information, the planning decisions received relating to applications previously considered by the Committee, ENCL: 3471.

RESOLVED: that the planning decisions be noted.

65. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Commenting on the notes of an inquorate meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Joint Councils Committee held on 7 November 2019, the Town Clerk reported that the notes outlined the final steps towards a referendum version of the Neighbourhood Plan. The last amendments had been made and a referendum version is now on the Council's website, ahead of submission to Dorset Council. It was expected that Dorset Council would approve the Plan to go forward to a referendum and a date would be provided shortly.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

66. COMMUNICATIONS AND ONGOING ISSUES

The Town Clerk reported on the following:

- The notes of the A35 Working Group held on 27 September 2019, which were tabled for information.
- A reminder of a meeting on 9 December, 6pm, Town Hall, with Dorset Council and the developers for the Flood Lane and Fisherman's Arms sites.
- A Town Council consultation that had commenced on a management plan for Riverside Gardens. Details were available on the Council's website and at Riverside Gardens, and survey forms could be collected from the TIC and Town Council reception.
- Three new events were expected in 2020: A 'Festival in a Day' in April in support of the Trick Factory, VE Day weekend activities in May, and a Morris Dancing Festival, also in May.

Cllr Sarah Williams asked for confirmation of the organiser of the Morris Dancing Festival and the Town Clerk advised he would confirm by email.

Cllr Dave Rickard reported on a letter received regarding the former railway crossing gates at Sea Road North, which would be followed up by the Town Surveyor. He further asked that any actions required of the Town Council for a tree planting session on 7 December be carried out.

The meeting closed at **8.27pm**.

The next meeting of the Planning Committee will be held on 6 January 2020