

MINUTES of the meeting of the PLANNING COMMITTEE held in Mountfield, Bridport on Thursday 29 August 2019 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT Cllr Anne Rickard (in the chair)

Cllrs: Geoffrey Ackerman Barry Irvine
Dave Bolwell Julian Jones
Sarah Carney Sarah Williams
Kelvin Clayton

ALSO PRESENT Seven members of the public

PUBLIC FORUM

Louise Perkins, Richard Nicholls, Sylvia Stafford, Jim Tigg, Kit Glaisyer, Lucy Craig and Janthea Jones spoke objecting to planning applications WD/D/19/001755 and WD/D/19/001867. Louise Perkins also presented a supporting petition to the Chairman, containing 172 names. Issues highlighted included:

- The potential loss of a large retailer and retail floor space.
- The economic and employment impact of the proposals.
- The impact on local heritage and the conservation area.
- The amenity impact on neighbouring properties and the surrounding area.
- The impact on parking and the highway.
- The absence of affordable housing.
- The effect on the future vitality of the town centre.
- The cramped nature of the proposed flats.
- The height of the proposed building.
- The poor design of the development.

The Chairman thanked the speakers for their input and acknowledged receipt of the petition.

31. APOLOGIES

No apologies for absence were received.

32. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Sarah Williams declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in application WD/D/19/001641 as owner of the application site and left the meeting for the duration of the discussion and decision on this application. She further declared an interest in applications WD/D/19/001755 and WD/D/19/001867 as a member of the Dorset Council Western and Southern Area Planning Committee, and left the meeting for the duration of the discussion and decision on these applications.

Cllr Kelvin Clayton declared an interest in applications WD/D/19/001755 and WD/D/19/001867 as a member of the Dorset Council Western and Southern Area

Planning Committee. He remained in the meeting for discussion of these applications but did not vote on either application.

Cllr Anne Rickard declared an interest interest in application WD/D/19/001641 as a friend of the applicant.

33. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 29 July 2019 were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

34. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

35. PLANNING DECISIONS

The Town Clerk reported for information, the planning decisions received relating to applications previously considered by the Committee, ENCL: 3441.

RESOLVED: that the planning decisions be noted.

36. BRIDPORT AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Town Clerk reported that the draft Neighbourhood Plan had been submitted for independent examination. The Examiner had requested further information and supporting evidence in respect of policies on principal residence and green spaces, and this had been provided. It was expected that her report would be issued in the coming weeks.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

37. COMMUNICATIONS AND ONGOING ISSUES

The Town Clerk reported that the kerb along a length of South Street from Dr Roberts Close to The Chantry was to be raised to 10cm, to prevent unwanted water run-off from the road in the event of flooding. The works were due to commence on 9 September and two way traffic signals would be in place.

The meeting closed at **8.27pm**.

The next meeting of the Planning Committee will be held on Wednesday 25 September 2019