

MINUTES of a VIRTUAL meeting (Zoom ID: 871 6343 4423) of the PLANNING COMMITTEE held on Monday 27 September 2021 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT Cllr Dave Bolwell (in the chair)

Cllrs:	Geoffrey Ackerman	Julian Jones
	Sarah Carney	Anne Rickard
	Kelvin Clayton	Dave Rickard
		Sarah Williams

ALSO PRESENT: Will Austin (Town Clerk)

PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public attended to speak at the Public Forum.

43. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Barry Irvine.

44. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Dave Bolwell declared that he had predetermined his position on planning applications P/FUL/2021/02620 and P/LBC/2021/02621, and would not participate in consideration of these applications. The Clerk excluded Cllr Bolwell from the meeting for the duration of discussions and decision.

The Town Clerk advised that the Town Council was the leaseholder of the site relating to application P/FUL/2021/02268.

45. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 6 September 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record, and that the Chairman should sign the minutes at the earliest available opportunity.

Cllr Jones asked for clarification of the maintenance arrangements in respect of the A35 East Road roundabout. The Town Clerk advised that Highways England had delegated responsibility to Dorset Council for a period of two years. The arrangements after that time were not known.

46. BUILDING BETTER LIVES

There being no representative of Dorset Council in attendance for this item, it was

RESOLVED: that this item be deferred to a future meeting.

Members noted that any proposals for highway changes arising from the Building Better Lives project would need to take account of the Town Council's Access and Movement Study.

47. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

48. PLANNING DECISIONS

The Town Clerk reported for information, the planning decisions received relating to applications previously considered by the Committee, ENCL: 3660.

RESOLVED: that the planning decisions be noted.

49. VEARSE FARM WORKING GROUP

The Town Clerk summarised a meeting of the working group held on 10 September 2021. The meeting had received an update from Chesters Harcourt on behalf of Symondsburry Estate. Ideas were sought and reassurances given regarding the incorporation of the employment land into the wider mixed use development. Vistry Partnerships had reported on efforts to involve the Community Land Trust in provision of affordable housing, and on work on the provision of a skills academy. Barratt David Wilson Homes had expressed disappointment with the Design Review Panel process, which was thought to be commercially unrealistic. More time had been requested for a planning application for access from Pine View. Bridport Town Council and Symondsburry Parish Council had been thanked for their work to highlight the recent consultation; the change of name from Vearse Farm to Foundry Lea had been the biggest single issue raised. A Dorset Council Planning Officer had attended the meeting, and had advised on matters of process, including for floodlighting of a sports pitch, which he considered to be unlikely to be acceptable. Delays in the development had been reported, with roundabout works unlikely to commence in January 2022. The reserved matters application was expected by the end of October 2021.

Members discussed:

- Concern that the Planning Officer had suggested it was unusual for developers to meet with town and parish councils and other stakeholders, when this was considered to be good practice.
- A need to engage with Symondsburry Parish Council on potential uses for the employment land.

RESOLVED: that a meeting be arranged with Symondsburry Parish Council.

RESOLVED: that Dorset Council be thanked to their attendance at the working group, and that the value of engagement by the developers be stressed.

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

50. COMMUNICATIONS

The Town Clerk reported that Dorset Council had published a survey in respect of a proposed Rights of Way Improvement Plan.

The meeting closed at **9.10pm**.

The next meeting of the Planning Committee will be held on 1 November 2021