

MINUTES of the meeting of the PLANNING COMMITTEE held at Mountfield, Bridport on Monday 25 July 2022 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT Cllr Dave Bolwell (in the chair)

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

ALSO PRESENT: Will Austin (Town Clerk)

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

19. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Barry Irvine.

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

21. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 27 June 2022 were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

22. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

23. PLANNING DECISIONS

The Town Clerk reported for information, the planning decisions received relating to applications previously considered by the Committee, ENCL: 3731.

Members considered the refusal of planning application P/FUL/2021/02804, replacement of windows at Church House, South Street, Bridport. Concern was expressed that the definition of the term 'public gain', as used in the Conservation Officer's report on the application, was open to subjective interpretation. Members discussed how best to ensure that heritage assets could contribute to energy saving measures that would benefit the community, now and in the future, and whether this application could be appealed or resubmitted.

RESOLVED: that the Chairman and Clerk liaise to contact the applicant and to consider further comment to the planning authority in respect of planning application P/FUL/2021/02804.

RESOLVED: that the planning decisions be noted.

24. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN JOINT COUNCILS COMMITTEE

The Town Clerk presented the minutes of a meeting held on 22 June 2022.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Joint Councils Committee meeting of 22 June 2022, and the decisions therein, be adopted.

25. SITTING OUT LICENCES

The Town Clerk reported that from September 2022 it was expected that a limit of £100 on the fee for a sitting out licence, enacted by the government during pandemic restrictions, would be withdrawn. Members were asked to consider whether a graduated fee would be appropriate, possibly taking account of various criteria such as the space made available, the number of seats, and the commercial value.

RESOLVED: that a graduated fee for sitting out licences be considered further, and that the fees be delegated to the Town Clerk and Town Surveyor for implementation.

26. COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman reported on enforcement action by Dorset Council in respect of shopfront signage at two barber shops – Gunz in East Street, and Hawa Barbers in West Street – and further enforcement matters in respect of properties in Downes Street (large scale poor pointing on the brickwork) and East Road (original doors replaced with PVC).

The Town Clerk reminded members to provide any comments on the Foundry Lea Construction Traffic Management Plan for submission to the developers. He also noted that the outcome of the Community Governance Review would have implications for the Council in its role as a statutory consultee, and asked members to keep this in mind ahead of any formal discussions on the issue.

Cllr Kelvin Clayton reported that the previous Environment & Social Wellbeing Committee had approved further work to install beach matting at West Beach, and that Dorset Council had indicated that Community Infrastructure Levy funding might be available for this purpose. The issue would be considered at the next Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting.

Cllr Dave Rickard noted that a rubber strip on Barrack Street was in need of protection.

The meeting closed at **8.16pm**.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 5 September 2022