

MINUTES of a meeting of the PLANNING COMMITTEE held at Mountfield, Bridport on Monday 30 January 2023 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), and two members of the public.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr Nigel Amor spoke in support of his request to the Town Council for parking restrictions in Osbourne Road. He reported that he was affected by commuter parking, in particular by postal workers, outside his home. There was also an overflow from Victoria Grove. The increase in the number of postal workers parking in Osbourne Road could have been affected by changes at Lyme Regis Delivery Office. Mr Amor considered that, as Dorset Council regarded postal workers as 'heroes of lockdown', they should offer free parking in Dorset Council car parks. There was casual and inconsiderate parking, sometimes with only one wheel on the road. There was a lack of enforcement and blue badge holders appeared able to park anywhere, in contrast with London. Two large vehicles parked in Osbourne Road, and two on Victoria Grove, obstructing visibility. The previous owner of Mr Amor's home had given up part of the frontage for parking, and Mr Amor would like to restore this to lawn. His neighbours agreed with his concerns, and two had paid for white lines across their entrances.

The Town Clerk advised that the request had been considered by the Highways & Transportation Working Group and a recommendation would be considered as part of the main agenda.

Members discussed the request with Mr Amor and asked the Town Clerk to establish whether retrospective action could be taken, in respect of parking violations.

Mr Jim Tigg spoke in respect of planning application P/FUL/2023/00134. He advised that he was speaking on behalf of a number of people, and West Bay Community Forum. He referred to photographs displayed at the meeting, showing that a path had existed for over 100 years, where the application proposed to place an extended dining area. An earlier proposal had been withdrawn and this application included an alternative footpath of 1.35m, with a slope. Mr Tigg considered that this would strangle the walkway, and that the ease of pedestrian access and the pleasure of walking would be lost. He noted that Dorset Council Highways had recommended that a check be carried out, to determine whether any rights of way had been established over time. He also referred to further concerns; the impact on nearby residents, a conflict with Local Plan policy ENV16, and the heritage impact. He considered that the area could be tidied up cheaply, without these disadvantages.

The Chairman thanked Mr Amor and Mr Tigg for their addresses.

65. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

66. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Dave Bolwell and Kelvin Clayton advised that they would leave the meeting for the duration of consideration of application P/FUL/2023/00134, in order to avoid any conflict of interest with their role as members of Dorset Council's South and West Area Planning Committee.

67. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 9 January 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

68. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

69. PLANNING DECISIONS

The Town Clerk reported for information, the planning decisions received relating to applications previously considered by the Committee, ENCL: 3780.

Members discussed ongoing concerns about the difficulties in obtaining permission for carbon reduction measures on listed assets, and noted a current consultation on the National Planning Policy Framework that could be of relevance.

RESOLVED: that the planning decisions be noted.

70. HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION WORKING GROUP

The notes of the meeting held on 12 January 2023 were received and summarised by the Town Clerk. The following recommendations therein were approved:

(Note 4) WATAG Public Transport Issues

RESOLVED: that the Town Council write to Dorset Council, copied to the MP, to request action in respect of the Service 6 timetable, to meet the needs of commuter passengers.

(Note 6) Other Highway Matters

a. Request for double yellow lines in Osbourne Road

RESOLVED: that the Town Council should report concern about pavement parking in Osbourne Road to Dorset Council and the Police, and should

encourage residents to do the same.

RESOLVED: that this matter also be raised with Royal Mail, and with the Police when a representative next attends Full Council.

b. Request for lighting in The Tanyard, South Street

RESOLVED: that the Town Council liaise with Magna Housing to request reinstatement of the lighting, and/or additional lighting.

c. Request for a Phoenix Palm tree to be planted on the roundabout opposite Parkdean.

RESOLVED: that the request be supported, subject to (i) the tree being a native species, and (ii) sponsorship or other funding being identified by the highway authority, to meet ongoing costs.

d. Camper Vans in Jessopp Avenue

RESOLVED: that the matter be reported to the Police for monitoring and action.

e. Dropped kerbs

RESOLVED: that members forward any dropped kerb requests to the Town Surveyor.

f. Drains by the Real Tennis Club, Walditch

RESOLVED: that the Town Council review the working group in light of the potential for delayed responses to highway matters.

RESOLVED: that the notes of the Highways & Transportation Working Group meeting held on 12 January 2023 be noted.

71. ST MICHAEL'S ESTATE – RESPONSE TO TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Consideration was given to a representation from Hayward & Co, ENCL: 3785, providing responses to comments made by the Town Council in respect of three planning applications for changes to St Michael's Trading Estate.

RESOLVED: that the comments of Hayward & Co be noted.

72. COMMUNICATIONS AND ONGOING ISSUES

No matters were reported.

The meeting closed at **8.29pm**.

The next meeting of the Planning Committee will be held on 27 February 2023