

MINUTES of the meeting of the PLANNING COMMITTEE held at Mountfield, Bridport on Monday 7 September 2026 at 6.00pm.

PRESENT Cllr Ian Bark (in the chair)

Cllrs:	Jonathan Bourbon	Paddy Mooney
	Sarah Carney	Bev Thornton
	Kelvin Clayton	

ALSO PRESENT: Jo Hughes (Ward Clerk), Claire Peters-Way (Property Manager), 1 member of the public and 1 member of the press (online).

PUBLIC FORUM

The Chairman welcomed everyone.

A member of the public was given the opportunity to speak with regard to agenda item 6, Licensing Application for Seal's Cove. He stated that he felt that the licensing application contradicts Dorset Council's own licensing policy; that Seals Cove is an adventure centre for children and facilitating alcohol outside encourages underage drinking. He added that the outside area is part of a green corridor and nature reserve providing a peaceful setting and felt that providing alcohol outdoors alongside televised matches and live music only promotes loud noise and light pollution which would have a detrimental effect on local residents, wildlife and users of the area. He further stated that pubs within Bridport are struggling and with an additional licensed premises this will cause further impact and that alcohol outside cannot be easily controlled and difficult to police. He felt that an increased amount of regulation would be required for this premises to control the use of alcohol.

Councillor Bev Thornton questioned if the statement was agreed by St Andrews Residents Association. The member of the public reported that the statement was approved by the Chairman of St Andrews Residents Association, however there was not adequate time to call a meeting. Councillor Paddy Mooney clarified that Seals Cove operated with an alcohol license for the last two years, due to an error the application lapsed, and the current application is a renewal. No complaints relating to the establishment have been received by Bradpole Ward councillors. He has spoken to residents in the immediate area none of whom have raised any complaints regarding Seals Cove.

The member of the public stated that a large outdoor TV screen has been erected. Councillor Sarah Carney emphasised that the licence was a renewal and if there are problems concerning the outside TV screen this would fall under planning consent.

The Meeting Commenced at 6.05pm.

26. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Anna Killick and David Worthington.

27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

28. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 20 July 2026 were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

It was proposed and RESOLVED to consider agenda item 6. Licensing Applications next followed by item 4. Planning Applications.

31. LICENSING APPLICATIONS

Consideration was given to an open licensing application at Viking Village, St Andrews House, Bridport, DT6 3EX. It was noted that the application indicated restrictions on showing films or plays, no boxing or wrestling, and no live music, though members questioned the live music restriction given that live performances had previously occurred at the venue.

RESOLVED: that the licensing application be supported subject to clarification on the live music restriction.

One member of the public left the meeting and did not return (6.18pm)

29. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

30. PLANNING DECISIONS

The Chair reported for information, the planning decisions received relating to applications previously considered by the Committee, ENCL: 4153.

RESOLVED: that the planning decisions be noted.

32. PINCH POINT – WEST ROAD – WEST ALLINGTON

An update from Dorset Council regarding the pinch point is due in mid-September.

Councillor Sarah Carney reported on the ongoing issues relating to vehicles driving along the pavement to pass one another through the pinch point. This has resulted in a broken manhole cover and is evidence of driver behaviour due to the lack of signage. The issue has been reported to Dorset Council's Highways Team and via Fix my Street.

33. COMMUNICATIONS AND ONGOING ISSUES

Councillor Jonathan Bourbon advised members that a site meeting is to be held at Miles Cross on Thursday 17th September 2026. Councillor Paddy Mooney said that the road surface has been raised.

The meeting closed at 6.38pm.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 28 September 2026