

Minutes of the Planning, Highways and Transport Committee held on Thursday 12th June 2014 in the Council Chamber, Alnwick at 6.00pm

Present: Cllrs R Roberts (Chairman), D Farrar, M Harrington, P Holt, J Humphries, K Moore and A Symmonds

In attendance: W Batey, Town Clerk, J Pibworth, Administration Assistant

P14/01 Apologies

Cllr Broom, Cllr Grisdale, Cllr Shilton

P14/02 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Moore declared a non pecuniary interest in planning application 13/03644/FUL

P14/03 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th May 2014 were approved and they were duly signed by the Committee Chairman.

P14/04 Matters Arising

P78/13 Councillor Farrar asked if there was any update on an alternative location for NCC North Area Planning meetings. The Town Clerk said they would be at Clayport Street until September.

The Chair gave an update on the outcomes of previous planning applications:

14/01098/ADE Yorkshire Building Society, 32 Bondgate Within, Alnwick NE66 1TD: Advertisement Consent for 1no externally illuminated fascia and 1no double sided non-illuminated projecting sign - **GRANTED**

14/01210/FELTPO Garden Cottage Alnmouth Road Alnwick Northumberland NE66 2QG, Tree preservation order application to deadwood two Lime trees, remove epicormic growth from one Lime to 6m, crown raise one Horse Chestnut to 5m, deadwood one Maple and raise over roof to give 4m clearance, crown raise one Lime to 6m and deadwood, inspect main union and deadwood one Lime, crown raise one Lime to 5m and deadwood, deadwood and remove epicormic growth to one Lime, fell two Conifers, formative prune young Beech and reduce beech hedge by 1m and trim side - **PERMITTED**

13/03644/FUL 1 Belle Vue Gardens, Alnwick, Northumberland, NE66 1XX: Erection of a garden shed - **FORWARDED TO NORTH AREA PLANNING**. A site meeting has been requested by Councillor Castle before a decision is made.

P14/05 To Minute responses made since last meeting

14/01169/COU Leisure Look, Market Place, Alnwick: Change of use from A1 (retail) to A2 (financial & professional services) also 14/11170/LBC Listed Building Consent for this - **NO OBJECTIONS provided the Conservation officer is happy with the proposed internal alterations**

14/01420/FUL Tustain Motors, Willowburn Avenue, Alnwick: Demolition of two bays of existing building, internal alterations and addition of valet bay - **NO OBJECTIONS**

14/01354/VARYCO Former Cinema Corn Exchange (Proposed Weatherspoon's) Variation of Condition 13 of planning permission - **The Town Council's view is that no drinks shall be permitted in the beer garden, smoking shelter or smoking area between the hours of 21:00 and 08:00, it has NO OBJECTIONS to the use of the smoking area and smoking shelter beyond 21:00 to say 22:00**

P14/06 Protocol for speaking at NCC Planning Committee

Councillor Roberts reminded the committee that the Town Council were entitled to speak at NCC Planning meetings if we have sent in written comments beforehand. The Town Council can also nominate someone to speak on their behalf. The Committee had decided that a policy was needed which the Town Clerk had drafted for review at this meeting.

The Town Clerk took councillors through the draft 'Alnwick Town Council Public Speaking Protocol for NCC Planning Committees' document. Councillor comments:

Councillor Humphries - if someone is going to speak do we need to nominate someone? Town Clerk to find out.

Councillor Moore - timescale is an issue for everyone especially when there are a few people wanting to speak. Think there should be more time allocated for major developments. Councillor said that NCC do tend to stick to time rigidly in meetings.

Councillor Farrar suggested a couple of slight amendments to the recommendation section of the document. Para 1 - 'town council' changed to 'town councillors'; Para 2 - 'an exception' changed to 'considered on a case by case basis'. He suggested an additional statement - those nominated to speak must support the decision of the Town Council. They can elaborate but must not digress or raise other issues.

Councillor Holt reiterated a previous statement she had made that sometimes the Town Council's message gets lost at NCC Planning meetings. She also felt that NCC should liaise with Town and Parish Councils better.

RESOLVED To accept the Alnwick Town Council Public Speaking Protocol for NCC Planning Committees document with the amendments listed above.

P14/07 Review of Free Parking

Councillor Moore - seems to be working as there are lots of free parking spaces in

Market Place. Advised about cars have been parking on the flagstones by the entrance to Northumberland Hall opposite restaurant, and some are now broken. Town Clerk reported some parking issues including at the top of The Peth had already been reported to NCC and he would report this issue.

Councillor Symmonds commented that Greenwell Lane car parks were certainly being used by workers in the town and that some limited parking was needed.

Councillor Farrar thought comments should be sent through to NCC as they are made then pulled together on a quarterly basis into a report. He also commented that the Town Council should find out what NCC are doing regarding reviewing free parking before deciding what it will do. Town Clerk to make enquiries at NCC.

RESOLVED Town clerk to forward comments about free parking to NCC as they are made then pull them together into a quarter report.

P14/08 Planning Applications

The following applications were discussed and comments made as listed:

14/01136/LBC The Valuation Office, Wagonway House. Convert/ part demolish to create 5 apartments and 1 bungalow with association parking, landscaping etc - **NO OBJECTIONS but we would enquire as to whether this development is above the limit to include affordable housing**

14/01557/FUL 37 Chapel Lands. New rear, side utility extension and provision of rear garden decking - **NO OBJECTIONS**

14/01556/FUL Hogs Head Inn. Proposed children's play area - **NO OBJECTIONS**

14/01613/FUL 5 Prudhoe Street, Northumberland, NE66 1UW. Construction of a two storey rear extension to link existing offshoot extensions - **NO OBJECTIONS**

14/01662/LBC Alnwick Tourist Information Centre (Northumberland Hall), Alnwick, NE66 1TN: Listed Building Consent, Removal of existing noticeboard on West side and replace with new noticeboard on North side - **UNABLE TO COMMENT AS THIS IS THE COUNCIL'S OWN APPLICATION**

14/01620/LBC Alnwick War Memorial, Denwick Lane, Alnwick: Listed Building Consent for stonework to be re-pointed with an appropriate lime mortar. Organic growth removed and biocide applied. Spalling and delaminating areas brushed back, consolidated in acetone then filled/capped to match surrounding stone. Surface pinned with stainless steel threaded dowel set in with polyester resin and capped with acetone then pigmented and textured to match the surrounding stone. Scratched graffiti toned out and cuprous staining removed or lessened. Sulphation removed from all bronze elements. Sculptures, lamp and panels treated with a chelating agent, pitting and holes filled with pigmented epoxy resin and new patina applied then buffed to desired finish. The Memorial has not had any work since being built and needs urgent restoration work - **UNABLE TO COMMENT AS THIS IS THE COUNCIL'S OWN APPLICATION**

P14/09 Any Other Urgent Business

None

The meeting closed at 6.58 p.m.