



Minutes of the Planning, Highways and Transport Committee held on Thursday 10th March 2016 in St James Church Rooms, Pottergate, Alnwick at 6.00pm

Present: Cllrs R Roberts (Chair), P Edge, W Grisdale, M Harrington, P Holt, J Humphries, G Mavin, K Moore, A Shilton and A Symmonds.

In attendance: W Batey, Town Clerk; J Pibworth, Assistant to the Town Clerk; T Kirton, Project & Funding Officer.

P15/87 Apologies

Cllrs P Broom and D Farrar.

P15/88 Declarations of Interest

Cllr R Roberts declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 7. Planning Appeal 15/03090/VARYCO.

P15/89 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 11th February 2016 were approved and they were duly signed by the Committee Chairman.

P15/90 Matters Arising

P15/85 Councillor Shilton asked for the word rural to be replaced with the word urban, this was agreed.

P15/86 Street naming

The Town Clerk gave an update on the Town Council's suggested name of the development and the streets in the new development south of the town.

He advised that the majority of councillors favoured naming streets after medieval guilds, continuing the theme of the existing names already used the other side of Weavers Way and that the preferred name for the estate was Swordy Park.

He also advised that NCC had sent notification that the Town Council's suggestions would be passed forward to the developers. NCC had also notified the Town Council that, for future reference, a name could not be used more than once within the town so Swordy Park may not be a viable name as Swordy Drive has already been used.

The following decision notices had been received:

15/03903/CCD Swansfield Park First School, The Avenue, Alnwick NE66 1UL
Propose classroom extensions to existing school – **GRANTED**

15/004242/FUL 19 Market Street, Alnwick, Alnwick NE66 1SS Formation of new access door within courtyard to existing first floor flat – **GRANTED**

15/04316/LBC 12 Bondgate Within, Alnwick NE66 1TD Listed Building consent of change of use and extension to form 1no dwelling and construction of 1no new dwelling – **WITHDRAWN**

16/00070/LBC The George Inn, 63 Bondgate Within, Alnwick, NE661HZ Listed Building Consent: Installation of four low energy flood lights, two bottom fixed

Stratford brass lanterns, two correct display units, one illuminated hanging sign and one illuminated fascia sign – **GRANTED**

16/00042/ADE The George Inn, 63 Bondgate Within, Alnwick, NE661HZ
Advertisement Consent: Installation of four low energy flood lights, two bottom fixed Stratford brass lanterns, two correct display units, one illuminated hanging sign and one illuminated fascia sign - **GRANTED**

16/00140/LBC Linhope House South Street Alnwick Northumberland NE66 1AH
Listed Building Consent: Re-application for conversion of outbuilding to granny flat – **GRANTED**

16/00136/FUL Linhope House South Street Alnwick Northumberland NE66 1AH
Proposed garage – **GRANTED**

16/00128/LBC Linhope House South Street Alnwick Northumberland NE66 1AH
Listed Building Consent: Proposed family room ground floor extension – **GRANTED**

16/00127/FUL Linhope House South Street Alnwick Northumberland NE66 1AH
Proposed family room ground floor extension (as amended 29/02/16) – **GRANTED**

16/00038/COU Charlton House, 2 Aydon Gardens, Alnwick NE66 2NT Change of use from residential back to bed & breakfast as it was in 2008 – **GRANTED**

15/04305/LBC Camphill Cottage, Road South to Greensfield, Alnwick NE66 2AB
listed building consent for erection of single storey timber framed conservatory - **REFUSED**

P15/91 To Minute responses made since last meeting

16/00358/FUL Alnwick Telephone Exchange, Fenkle Street, Alnwick, Northumberland NE66 1HW Proposed removal of 3No existing antennas and the installation of 3No new antennas and 2No 0.6m transmission dishes onto existing support poles on the roof The proposal would also involve the removal of 2No existing equipment cabinets and installation of 2No replacement cabinets at ground level adjacent to the building – **NO OBJECTIONS**

P15/92 Planning Applications

The following applications were discussed and comments to be submitted were:

16/00451/FUL Former Ravensmount Care Home, Alnmouth Road, Alnwick NE66 2QG Change of use of existing care home to hotel 16/00468/LBC 7 Howick Street, Alnwick NE66 1UY Internal alterations, general repairs and removal of garage to rear – **NO OBJECTIONS** but the Town Council voices serious concerns about the level of parking spaces and the effect on local residents. There are too few parking spaces and this needs to be properly thought out for staff and guests.

16/00468/LBC 7 Howick Street, Alnwick NE66 1UY Internal Repairs, general repairs and removal of garage to rear – **NO OBJECTIONS**

16/00133/LBC The Old Post Office, 1 Clayport Street, Alnwick. Listed Building Consent for change of use of former Post Office to provide ground floor restaurant and flatted accommodation above – **NO OBJECTIONS**

16/00492/LBC 7 Prudhoe Street, Alnwick, Listed Building Consent for relocation of gas central heating boiler, re-modelling of bathroom and installation of new WC and basin, installation of shower and refurbishment of doors – **NO OBJECTIONS**

16/00359/VARCCD Land South Of Alnwick Rugby Club Weavers Way Alnwick Northumberland Variation of condition 2 (Plans) relating to planning permission – **NO OBJECTIONS**

16/00560/FUL 1 Sawmill Industrial Estate Change of use to allow the stock and sale of a range of pet, footwear, equestrian, smallholder, gardening and wild bird products, new lighting column, fencing, pedestrian access path, car parking and external alterations – **NO OBJECTIONS**

P15/93 Planning Appeal

15/03090/VARYCO 173 Allerburn Lea, Alnwick NE66 2QR Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of application 15/01195/FUL

The Town Clerk advised that a reply was needed by the end of March if the Town Council wished to make further comments, if necessary.

Councillor Holt said she was troubled from the beginning about the application. She felt that although the applicant should not have gone ahead with the work she knew that other houses had already had similar work done and could not see why planning permission should not have been given. The Town Clerk explained that planning permission had been given initially but this application related to a proposed amendment to the design, and the works would appear to have been completed.

Councillor Grisdale wondered if they could be asked to knock it down.

Councillor Harrington wondered if it had been constructed incorrectly.

Councillor Symmonds asked if the Town Council get copies of the additional comments made by other people about the application. The Town Clerk advised that paper copies were not supplied but the comments could be seen on the Planning Portal on the NCC website.

Councillor Symonds felt that the Town Council could support the NCC Officers comments about the application.

RESOLVED: To review the Town Council's comments in conjunction with Councillor G Mavin (Chair at the February planning meeting) and enhance the comments, if necessary.

P15/94 View on a car parking enforcement – Long term parking

The Town Clerk advised that he had received correspondence about possible business operations occurring on NCC car parks in the town. A similar issue was occurring in Morpeth and he advised that Morpeth Town Council had asked NCC what could be done and they had advised that their Enforcement Officers had suggested limiting car parking to 24-hour maximum. He also advised that Councillor Castle was moving towards a view that all day parking should be restricted in Alnwick NCC car parks to a 24-hour maximum. He reminded councillors that the system needed to accommodate residents and visitors.

Councillor Grisdale thought that the system needed to be reasonable as not to affect all residents. He also felt that the town may end up with residents parking again.

Councillor Moore advised that vehicles were no longer parking at the rear of the

youth hostel due to the bollards.

Councillor G Mavin said he was not in favour of 24 hour restrictions on parking as it could be a problem for residents.

Councillor Harrington did not think that 24-hour parking restrictions would work and may have an adverse effect.

Councillor Humphries suggest that there could be restrictions on commercial vehicles.

Councillor Roberts said she was not in favour of 24-hour parking restrictions but that if key problems arose they needed to be addressed on an individual basis.

RESOLVED: To notify NCC that the Town Council are not in favour of 24-hour parking restrictions and that issues need to be addressed on an individual basis.

P15/95 Rights of Way

Councillor Holt advised that she wanted to raise an issue regarding the right of way on the left hand side of the road just over Lion Bridge. Several residents had reported that the entrance was blocked by an enormous amount of foliage which was blocking the footpath. She asked who was responsible. Councillor Roberts advised that this was NCC and that this could be reported. The Town Clerk advised that the footpath was in Denwick but that he would report it to NCC.

RESOLVED: To advice NCC that the entrance to the footpath (right of way) just over Lion Bridge was blocked by an enormous amount of foliage.

P15/96 Any Other Urgent Business

Councillor Moore advised that he had reported issues using the NCC's website but that they were not being actioned. He also advised that bollards had been placed in several streets but that no work was taking place.

Councillor Harrington reported that he had seen a great deal of litter from McDonalds. He also reported that he had complained to the manager at McDonalds and that a weekly litter pick was now taking place.

Councillor Edge advised that there were still a large number of advertising signs around the town. The Town Clerk advised that he would chase NCC about these and ask for any new policy that they had regarding advertising signage.

Councillor Grisdale asked who was responsible for enforcement in the town. The Town Clerk advised that it was the responsibility of NCC.

Councillor Harrington reported that there were lots of A frames on the roundabout just outside Alnwick.

Councillor Moore asked of the Town Council could write to the Chamber of Commerce to remind tier members of the rules regarding A frames and signage.

The meeting closed at 6.54 p.m.