



## **Minutes of the Planning, Highways and Transport Committee held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2016 in St James Church Rooms, Pottergate, Alnwick at 6.00pm**

**Present:** Cllrs G Mavin (Vice Chair), P Broom, P Edge, M Harrington, P Holt, J Humphries, 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.

### **P15/97 Apologies**

Cllr W Grisdale.

### **P15/98 Declarations of Interest**

None.

### **P15/99 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th March 2016 were approved and they were duly signed by the Committee Chairman.

### **P15/100 Matters Arising**

#### P15/94 View on Car Parking Enforcement

The Assistant to the Town Clerk advised councillors that she had spoken to NCC's Enforcement Officer for Alnwick who had advised that NCC knew about the problem with cars parked around the town. They had issued a Community Protection Order to the resident involved about 8 weeks previously. NCC are also organising a meeting, in the next couple of months, involving a number of agencies including the DVLA and Police to discuss the matter further.

The following decision notices had been received:

**16/00272/PRUTPO** Garden Cottage, Alnwick NE66 2QG Tree preservation order application to 7 Tilia, 1 Aesculus hippocastanum, 1 Acer to remove deadwood, crossing branches and diseased timber, crown raise to 4 metres from ground level, target prune to allow 3 metres clearance from dwelling and remove epicormics growth – GRANTED

**15/00782/FUL** Land South of St James Park football ground, Willowburn Avenue, Alnwick Change of use of disused land to create car park area for the rugby club – GRANTED

**16/00359/VARCCD** Land South Of Alnwick Rugby Club Weavers Way Alnwick Northumberland Variation of condition 2 (Plans) relating to planning permission 14/02529/CCD (Relocation of Duchess High School and development of site to provide new school premises, parking, landscaping and sports facilities) – GRANTED

**15/04164/FUL** Flat, 44 Bondgate Within, Alnwick NE66 1JD Reconfiguration of rear entrance to first floor residential flat by installing external staircase and repositioning doorway – GRANTED

**15/04339/FUL** Thornbrae, Alnmouth Road, Alnwick NE66 2PS Construction of detached single storey two bed holiday let and construction of detached garage with first floor 1 bed self-contained unit to be used as ancillary accommodation to Thornbrae - GRANTED

**16/00149/FUL** St James Park, St James Estate, Alnwick NE66 1BG Proposed construction of new Youth Centre / Junior Club House – GRANTED

**16/00201/FUL** 17 Ravensmede, Alnwick NE66 2PX Side and rear single storey extension to form garage, utility, wc and kitchen – GRANTED

**16/00358/FUL** Alnwick Telephone Exchange, Fenkle Street, Alnwick 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 - GRANTED

**16/00195/FELTPO** Ravensmede, Alnwick Tree Preservation Order – Proposal is to clear fell 1 x sycamore (T8) as tree is leaning into highway – GRANTED

**16/00492/LBC** 7 Prudhoe Street, Alnwick NE66 1UW Listed Building Consent for relocation of central heating boiler. Re-modelling of bathroom and installation of new WC and basin, installation of shower, installation of new internal door, refurbishment of back door and refurbishment of internal doors to conservatory with single glazed panels being replaced by a double glazed – GRANTED

**16/00560/FUL** 1 Sawmill Industrial Estate Alnwick Northumberland NE66 2QW 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 – GRANTED

**16/00129/FUL and 16/00133/LBC** The Old Post Office, Clayport Street, Alnwick NE66 1LA Listed Building Consent for change of use from former Post Office to provide ground floor restaurant and flatted accommodation above - WITHDRAWN

**P15/101 To Minute responses made since last meeting**

**16/00686/CCD** 1 The Shambles Alnwick Northumberland NE66 1TN Replacement of first floor windows, ground floor fire exit and external stonework repairs – **NO OBJECTIONS**

**16/00687/LBC** 1 The Shambles Alnwick Northumberland NE66 1TN Listed Building Consent: Replacement of first floor windows, ground floor fire exit and external stonework repairs – **NO OBJECTIONS**

**16/00801/ADE** New Pets At Home Store, Willowburn Retail Park, Willowburn Avenue, Alnwick, NE66 2JH. New retail signage comprising of 5 x internally illuminated fascia signs & 5 non illuminated signs – **NO OBJECTIONS**

**16/00823/VARYCO** Land North of Alnwick Motorway Services, Hawfinch Drive, Cawledge Business Park, Alnwick. Variation of condition 7 pursuant to planning application 15/013752/VARYCO to extend time allowed for development of highways right turn - **NO OBJECTIONS**

**16/00879/FELTPO** Thornbrae Children's Home Alnmouth Road Alnwick Northumberland NE66 2PS Tree Preservation Order: Fell 1no. Holly (figure 1) and 1no. Leyland Cypress (figure 2) (Poor example due to restricted area for growth) to

provide more space for remaining trees. Fell 1no. Willow (figure 3) due to concerns to neighbouring property in high winds. Tree has been badly pruned previously which has introduced rot and rendered unsuitable for reduction - **NO OBJECTIONS**

### **P15/102 Planning Applications**

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

**16/00519/CCD Land South of Alnwick Rugby Club, Weavers Way, Alnwick.** Proposed extension to the new school and development of site for landscaping, sports and parking facilities – **NO OBJECTIONS** but the Town Council strongly feels that the travel plan submitted is inadequate for this application and furthermore it does not meet the conditions of the original planning approval. We strongly suggest that any approval is conditioned to require prior to the occupation of the school, an adequate travel plan that properly reflects the additional 500 pupils. It needs to contain additional research, up to date data, and more accurate plans for those arriving by bus/coach, dropped off by car, as well as those walking and cycling to the new school site.

**16/00094/PREAPP Land at Clayport Bank, Alnwick** Change of use to campsite, Scout meeting hall & stores - **NO OBJECTIONS** but the Town Council would like the site restricted to scouting activities.

**16/01014/COU Fenkle Crafts, 16-18 Fenkle Street, Alnwick NE66 1HR** Change of use from A1 to D2 – to create yoga centre and physiotherapy rooms, retailing products associated with yoga and physio – **NO OBJECTIONS.**

**16/00992/FUL 1 Percy Villas, Alnwick NE66 1AF** Construction of a new single storey extension – **NO OBJECTIONS.**

**16/00983/LBC 15 Bondgate Within, Alnwick NE66 1PR** Listed Building Consent for alterations of former shopfront, new entrance and removal of ground floor level partitions – **NO OBJECTIONS** but the Town Council have concerns about the parking situation as there are no drop curbs outside the property.

**16/00581/FUL 28 Cawledge View, Alnwick NE66 1BH** Resubmission of 14/02445/FUL 1 storey extension to front of house – **NO OBJECTIONS** as long as the materials are in keeping with existing materials.

**16/00504/FUL 1 Prudhoe Street, Alnwick NE66 1UW** Install 760mm flue on north-facing roof of the property, Install 100mm copper boiler pressure overflow pipe at first floor level on north wall of the property – **NO OBJECTIONS.**

### **P15/103 Sustainable Transport Working Group recommendations on safe routes to the new High School**

Councillor M Swinbank gave the committee feedback on the document produced by the Sustainable Transport Working Group, which had been previously circulated.

Councillor questions / comments:

Councillor Humphries noted that the document mentioned bridging the A1. Councillor Swinbank confirmed that the siting of the proposed bridge crossing on South Road had been chosen as this would be useful in the future when the A1 was bridged.

Councillor Harrington thought that although safe routes could be identified, children do not always follow plans put in place.

Councillor G Mavin commented that the working group had identified the best routes to the new school site.

**RESOLVED: To recommend the Sustainable Transport document to Full Council.**

#### **P15/104 Arrangements for Future Meetings**

- a) The Town Clerk advised that the Constitution review had suggested that the Planning Committee be held on a different night to Full Council.

Councillor Harrington felt that it was useful to have the Planning Committee before Full Council meeting.

Councillor Humphries felt that perhaps a monthly Planning Committee was not needed and suggested six weekly meetings.

Councillor Symmonds felt that 12 extra meetings in the year was not ideal for Officers. He felt that if councillors ensured that the Planning Committee started at 6pm prompt then all the matters if business should be concluded in an hour. He suggested that the meetings be kept as they were.

**RESOLVED: To keep Planning Committee as monthly meetings at 6pm before Full Council meetings.**

- b) The Town Clerk advised that in May the applicants for councillors would be attending the council to meet councillors informally for ½ an hour either before the Planning Committee at 6.00pm or before the Full Council at 6.45pm. He reminded councillors that there had been no election called by electors so both councillors would be co-opted.

Councillor Swinbank felt that as all councillors did not attend the Planning Committee 6.45pm was preferable.

**RESOLVED: To ensure that the Planning Committee on May 12<sup>th</sup> is completed by 6.45pm.**

#### **P15/105 Any Other Urgent Business**

Councillor Broom advised that the yellow signs in the Market Place saying "no parking spaces available" on Saturdays were confusing. The Town Clerk advised that he would look into this.

Councillor Broom advised that the new development in Alnwick was being called The Maltings and felt this was confusing as Alnwick already had The Maltings.

Councillor Harrington asked if the Town Council had been asked about the name Thomas Percy Close. The Town Clerk advised that the Town Council had suggested Close rather than Drive which had originally been suggested.

Councillor Humphries reported that there were still a lot of display signs around Alnwick. The Assistant to the Town Clerk advised that she had spoken to NCC, who were aware of the issue with illegal signs around Alnwick and had advised that the Enforcement team would be working with NCC Highways Department to remove

them. She always advised that NCC had not updated their policy on A boards and that the policy was that room was needed to get a wheelchair or pushchair past.

Councillor Harrington advised that under the Town & Country Planning Act companies can be asked to take signs down.

Councillor Shilton asked if the request could include signs with no dates on them which seem to be up on a permanent basis.

Councillor Broom reported a broken sign outside Greggs. The Town Clerk advised that this had been removed.

The meeting closed at 7.05 p.m.