

Minutes of the Planning, Highways and Transport Committee held on Thursday 13th October 2016 in St James Church Rooms, Pottergate, Alnwick at 6.00pm

Present: Cllrs M Swinbank (Chair), P Broom, P Edge, M Harrington, P Holt, J Humphries, G Mavin, S Mavin, K Moore and A Symmonds.

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

P16/42 Apologies

Councillors S Bell and A Shilton.

P16/43 Declarations of Interest

None.

P16/44 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th September 2016 were approved and they were duly signed by the Committee Chairman.

P16/45 Planning outcomes received:

16/02444/LBC 1-4 Dorothy Forster Court, Narrowgate, Alnwick NE66 1NL
Listed Building Consent to repair and replace the stone surround of the street entrance door - **GRANTED.**

16/02479/LBC 11 Howick Street, Alnwick NE66 1UY Listed Building Consent: General works to include; reinstate window opening beneath existing lintel and install new sash wood window, replace new door to front elevation, remove existing window/door to kitchen and introduce new door, change existing bathroom into bedroom, alter window opening and install new sash window, form new en-suite to bedroom 1, from new bathroom/passage, remove existing tiled fireplace and introduce period surround - **GRANTED.**

16/02840/LBC Hope House Farm, Hope House Lane, Alnwick NE66 2AA
Listed building consent: Removal of (single) glazing units with double glazing units in existing sashes – **GRANTED.**

16/02588/LBC 12-14 Bondgate Within, Alnwick NE66 1TD Listed Building Consent for demolition of existing building and construction of new dwelling – **GRANTED.**

Matters Arising:

P16/38 16/02824/OUT Alnwick Golf Club – Town Council comments submitted and have been asked by NCC to submit a list of outstanding questions.

P16/38 16/00354/PREAPP Swansfield Park School (Eco building) – awaiting reply from the school.

P16/46 To minute responses made since last meeting

16/03033/FUL 14 Augur Terrace, Alnwick NE66 - NO OBJECTIONS.

P16/47 Planning Applications

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

16/0203139/VARYCO McDonalds, 2 Hawfinch Drive, Alnwick NE66 2BF

Variation of condition 6 pursuant to planning permission 16/00823/VARYCO in order to extend time allowed for development of right turn – **NO OBJECTIONS** but the Town Council hope this will be the last request for a time extension.

16/02874/LBC 12 and 14 Green Batt, Alnwick NE66 1TS Listed Building Consent: Masonry repairs to front, remove 35 eroded waling stones and install new step at 14 Green Batt & installation of new door lintel at 12 Green Batt - **NO OBJECTIONS.**

16/03254/FUL Lidl Food Stores, South Road, Alnwick NE66 2QL Proposed store extension to accommodate in store bakery, including bakery preparation area, freezer and 2 chillers and reconfiguration of the existing car park – **NO OBJECTIONS** but the Town Council feel it is appropriate to explore the possibility of the applicant making a financial contribution to nearby necessary transport improvements and in particular the provision of a bus shelter at the St Paul's school bus stop and a larger refuge area for people crossing on the town side of South Road close to The Oaks roundabout.

16/02959/PRUTPO Metasequoia, Alnmouth Road, Alnwick NE66 2QG

Tree preservation order application to correct previous incorrect pruning on Metasequoia (1) and thin out canopy by 5%. Remove deadwood and 2 lower limbs on Pine (3). Removing branches overhang to footpath Pollard Yew (5). Crown thin oak (6) by 10% removing crowded, crossing and rubbing minor limbs. Crown reduce ornamental acer by a third (8) by removing dead sections – **NO OBJECTIONS.**

P16/48 Local Transport Plan Priorities

Councillor Swinbank reminded councillors that the Town Council's LTP Priorities had been passed to NCC in August 2016. At a subsequent meeting between Margaret Robinson and other officers from NCC, and County Councillors Margaret had stated that the LTP Priorities submitted were not in the format she required.

The Town Clerk advised that the format had been used since 2015 and had that Town Council officers had been advised that the format was fine.

Councillor Swinbank explained that the Sustainable Transport Working Group had revisited the LTP Priorities list and that 3 specific actions had now been highlighted within the document:

1. The Cobbles
2. Victoria Road/Wagonway Pedestrian Crossing
3. Weavers Way pavement extension

Councillor Swinbank added that the revised LTP Priorities needed to be recommended for approval by Full Council.

Councillor Holt felt that NCC should have guided the Town Council better on their LTP Priority selection. She added that communication needed improving between NCC and the Town Council regarding LTP Priorities.

Councillor Swinbank advised that the County Councillors also sent in LTP priorities and that theirs had aligned to those of the Town Council.

Councillor Humphries asked if the bus stop in Wagonway Road would be moved. Councillor Swinbank advised that it was part of the plan.

Councillor Harrington advised that cars parking opposite the Co-Op was a real issue.

RESOLVED: To recommend the amended LTPs to Full Council.

P16/49 Consultation of Enforcement of Unauthorised Obstructions

The Town Clerk advised that he had pulled together a response for NCC based on feedback from councillors. This was circulated to councillors.

Councillor G Mavin felt that something should be added about the need for NCC to consult with the Town Council.

Councillor Humphries advised that a new sign for RSK had been tied to a fixed in South Road.

Councillor Humphries explained that the crux of the problem was that people simply fixed signs where and when they wanted to.

Councillor Swinbank felt that the rules needed to be applied correctly.

Councillor Moore explained that some of the issue was that signs were put up by 3rd party companies including those for No Limits gym.

Councillor Harrington advised that fly posting is a crime in the city.

Councillor Broom felt that a standard size A board should be used by all businesses. Councillor Swinbank advised that this was in the proposed guidance.

Councillor Edge asked if signs can be attached to walls. Councillor Swinbank advised that this would need planning permission.

Councillor S Mavin felt that hanging signs looked much better and that the Town Council could support a standard design for premises in Alnwick.

Councillor Holt was concerned about people, such as the Civic Society, making negative comments and that they needed to be bought together to agree a way forward.

Councillor G Mavin thought that the Town Council could run a competition for a standard design for signs.

Councillor Swinbank felt that the Town Council should talk to NCC Planners about standard signage.

RESOLVED: To amend and submit the response reflecting the comments from the meeting, to NCC.

P16/50 a) Consultation on 20mph zones around schools

Councillor Swinbank explained that NCC have a policy to install 20mph zones outside all schools in Northumberland. He advised that these were in place at Swansfield Park School, St Michael's School, DCHS and St Paul's RC School.

He explained that there are two options:

Fixed signage which would be the default option

Time limited zones flashing signs at relevant times which he felt people would pay more attention to. He added that 20mph zones are not policed.

NCC are looking for a preferred option from the Town Council.

Councillor G Mavin suggested deferring this item until the next Planning Committee in November along with item 9b) South Road – War Memorial junction and South Road / Prudhoe Street junction designs.

Councillor Edge felt that the police should be asked for their input into 9a).

RESOLVED: To add the item to the November agenda for discussion.

P16/51 Any Other Urgent Business

Councillor Moore advised that tarmac had been used to repair the cobbled area outside Turnbull's. The Town Clerk advised that an email would be sent to Graham Bucknall (NCC) about this.

The meeting closed at 7.18 p.m.