

Minutes of the Planning, Highways and Transport Committee held on Thursday 8th May 2014 in the Council Chamber, Alnwick at 6.00pm

Present: Cllrs R Roberts (Chairman), P Allcroft, P Broom, D Farrar, B Grisdale, M Harrington, P Holt, J Humphries, A Shilton and A Symmonds

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

P73/13 Apologies

Cllr G Mavin, Cllr Moore

P74/13 Declarations of Interest

None

P75/13 Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th April 2014 were approved and they were duly signed by the Committee Chairman.

P76/13 Matters Arising

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

14/00475/LBC 1 Percy Villas, Percy Terrace, Alnwick NE66 1AF; Listed Building Consent: Proposed sun lounge - **WITHDRAWN**

14/00475/FUL 1 Percy Villas, Percy Terrace, Alnwick NE66 1AF; Listed Building Consent: Proposed sun lounge - **WITHDRAWN**

P66/13 Councillor Holt thought you could build anything in your own garden due a new law. The Town Clerk said that the Town Council's comment was based on existing planning permission condition.

P68/13 Speaking at NCC Planning Committee Councillor Farrar asked if there was any update as a result of the Planning Training. The Town Clerk said this had not been covered in the training but that he would review, update and circulate the revised document.

P77/13 To Minute responses made since last meeting

None

P78/13 Planning Training feedback

Feedback was given by Councillors who attended the training:

Councillor Humphries:

1. Exercises were very useful but the rest of the session could have been covered by handouts
2. Acoustics were very bad in Northumberland Hall

3. Any future training could be more around the practical side of planning

Councillor Holt:

1. The lady from NCC was very knowledgeable

Councillor Shilton:

1. 2nd training course attended and exercises very useful. Would have liked a wider range of examples including something ATC would have approved but would have been refused by NCC
2. Staff need more training before coming out to train others on how to deliver sessions. The content was good but the delivery not so
3. Timings not good as went over time and they had not covered some of the items

Councillor Roberts:

1. Some of the documents were not printed out very well so had limited usefulness

Councillor Symonds:

1. The use of the microphones by NCC staff during the training was very poor. He also said that Alnwick International Music Festival had bought a PA system with Community Chest funding and that it would be available for others to use such as community groups

Future training needs:

1. Enforcement
2. S106 applications
3. List of areas / issues that can be used to object to planning applications

General feedback / comments:

Councillor Farrar asked if an alternative location was available? The Town Clerk said NCC were looking for alternative rooms

Town Clerk to send reminder to NCC for slides from session and pass on councillor feedback

P79/13 Review of Free Parking

The Town Clerk gave an update from NCC: The Market Place will be a disc zone, as Alnwick Town Council had requested with a 30 minute limit. The order process is ahead of schedule and a contractor is in place to paint white lines. June 2nd will be the enforcement date.

Several councillors have had feedback about free parking:

Councillor Broom said shopkeepers feel the return time should be longer.

Councillor Gridale reported that most shopkeepers he had spoken to seemed happy. Traffic wardens had reported long stay car parks getting full by 10am.

Town Clerk suggested when we review we could suggest to NCC that they make the car parks in Greenwell Lane $\frac{1}{2}$ long stay and $\frac{1}{2}$ short stay, as in previous years.

Town Clerk to ask NCC when they will collect data / review the system.

Councillor Farrar asked if traffic wardens could collect data on parking?

Councillor Harrington said that we'd fought long and hard for free parking. Feedback is that businesses have been busy.

Councillor Humphries asked if Duchess High School could be asked to do a traffic / parking survey. Town Clerk to enquire with NCC.

P80/13 Section 106 Agreements

Councillor Roberts advised that the Parish Liaison Group had sent a document on Section 106 agreements

Councillor Farrar commented that the document suggest that T&PCs can suggest s106 items, he was interested in what sort of things can we suggest? are there minimum development values before s106 come into play? And how to get involved at an early stage?

Councillor Roberts advised that if a Neighbourhood Plan is in place, T&PCs may be able to place a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) on developments in their area and get 25% of any money for schemes.

Councillor Gridale commented that there was concern at the Parish Council Liaison Group meeting about the use of the other 75% of the CIL.

Councillor Farrar commented that Southwark have a scheme where the public suggest items for s106 money.

P81/13 Planning Applications

The following applications were discussed and comments made as listed:

14/00613/FUL, New Row Alnwick Northumberland NE66 1JT, Erection of five no. three storey four bedroom houses. Demolition of two existing workshops and use of current private car park area - **NO OBJECTIONS**

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 - **NO OBJECTIONS provided the future health of the trees is maintained and if possible the conifers retained.**

P82/13 Any Other Urgent Business

None

The meeting closed at 6.58 p.m.