

Minutes of the Planning, Highways and Transport Committee held on Thursday 9th June 2016 in St James Church Rooms, Pottergate, Alnwick at 6.00pm

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

In attendance: W Batey, Town Clerk; J Pibworth, Assistant to the Town Clerk.

P16/01 Apologies

Cllr A Shilton, P Edge and K Moore.

P16/02 Declarations of Interest

None.

P16/03 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 12th May 2016 were approved and they were duly signed by the Committee Chairman.

P16/04 Matters Arising

P15/103 Sustainable Transport Working group recommendations on safe routes to the new High School

The Town Clerk advised that no feedback had yet been received from NCC.

P15/109 Illegal Signs Councillor G Mavin reported that there was an obstructive A board outside the Plough giving limited visibility.

Councillor Swinbank thought the Town Council could write to the relevant owners.

Councillor Harrington advised that liability insurance does not cover A boards outside businesses.

The Town Clerk advised that he would speak to NCC's Planning Officers and report back to the next meetings.

Councillor Symmonds felt that councillors should send images of any dangerous signs and A boards which could be forwarded onto NCC.

P15/113 Draft Walking and Cycling strategy consultation

The Town Clerk advised that the comments had been approved and submitted to NCC.

Councillor Broom advised that the yellow signs in the Market Place were still an issue. He felt that the signs were becoming a permanent feature with no clarification as to which parking spaces they applied to.

Councillor Swinbank advised that Local Living had requested to use the parking spaces as part of the market whilst the scaffolding was in place. The Town Clerk said he would check with NCC.

P15/115 Any Other Urgent Business

Car Parking – The Town Clerk advised that he would speak to NCC about car parking issues in Greenwell Road.

The following decision notices had been received:

16/000451/FUL Former Ravensmount Care Home, Alnmouth Road, Alnwick NE66 2QG Change of use of existing care home to hotel – **GRANTED.**

16/00581/FUL (Resubmission of 14/02445/FUL) 28 Cawledge View, Alnwick NE66 1BH 1 storey extension to front of house – **GRANTED.**

16/00992/FUL 1 Percy Villas, Percy Terrace, Alnwick NE66 1AF Construction of new single storey side extension – **GRANTED.**

16/00505/LBC 1 Prudhoe Street, Alnwick NE66 1UW Listed Building Consent: Install 760mm flue on north-facing roof of the property, install 100m copper boiler pressure overflow pipe at first floor level on north wall of the property – **GRANTED.**

16/00504/FUL 1 Prudhoe Street, Alnwick NE66 1UW Install 760mm flue on north-facing roof of the property, install 100m copper boiler pressure overflow pipe at first floor level on north wall of the property – **GRANTED.**

16/00983/LBC 15 Bondgate Without, Alnwick NE66 1PR Listed Building Consent: alterations to former shopfront, new entrance door and removal of ground floor level partitions – **GRANTED.**

16/01015/LBC Fenkle Crafts 16 - 18 Fenkle Street Alnwick Northumberland NE66 1HR Listed Building Consent - insertion of internal stud walls and upgrading of sanitary ware – **GRANTED.**

P16/05 To minute responses made since last meeting
None.

P16/06 Planning Applications

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

16/01601/FUL 23 Oaky Balks Alnwick NE66 2QE. Proposal to remove existing garage and construction of new side and rear extension. – **NO OBJECTIONS.**

16/01654/FUL 58 Swansfield Park Road Alnwick Northumberland NE66 1AR. Proposal for removal of existing side garage and construction of new side extension. – **NO OBJECTIONS.**

16/01603/COU Stonelea South Road Alnwick Northumberland NE66 2NZ. Proposed change of use from residential dwelling to small veterinary practice. Alterations to the existing landscaping to provide additional car parking and an access ramp. (Amended description 24.05.2016)

Councillor Humphries asked who the applicant was. The Town Clerk advised that this was not known.

Councillor Harrington felt that it was a shame to use a bungalow for business use.

Councillor Broom felt that access was very difficult on that stretch of the road.

OBJECTION on the grounds that the access and exit to the site is close to and opposite, other junctions on a busy road. We are also concerned about the loss of a single storey residential unit (bungalow) in the town.

16/01626/FUL 26 Meadow Riggs Alnwick Northumberland NE66 1AP. Proposed garage conversion including internal and external alterations. – **NO OBJECTIONS.**

16/01629/LBC Flat 18 Narrowgate Alnwick Northumberland NE66 1JG. Proposed loft conversion and replacement timber sliding sash windows to front elevation. – **NO OBJECTIONS** but the Town Council feel that the windows should be retained and repaired not replaced.

16/01616/FUL Alnwick Telephone Exchange Fenkle Street Alnwick NE66 1HW. Provision of 1 no. pole mounted omni antenna attached to the side of the telephone exchange building. 1 no. small scale equipment cabinet and 1 no. meter cabinet at ground level within the covered car park of the exchange and minor ancillary works. – **NO OBJECTIONS.**

16/01721/FUL 7 West Acres Alnwick NE66 2PU. Proposed single storey kitchen extension to rear including internal alterations and external alterations. – **NO OBJECTIONS.**

16/01716/FUL Bondgate Hall Bondgate Without Alnwick Northumberland NE66 1PX. Removal of existing portacabin and construction of new stone build garage. – **NO OBJECTIONS.**

16/01717/LBC Bondgate Hall Bondgate Without Alnwick Northumberland NE66 1PX. Listed Building Consent: Removal of existing portacabin and construction of new stone build garage. – **NO OBJECTIONS.**

16/01733/COU 12-14 Bondgate Within Alnwick NE66 1TD. Change of use from Restaurant (A3) to mixed use Office (B1) & Sales area (A2). – **NO OBJECTIONS.**

16/01734/LBC 12-14 Bondgate Within Alnwick NE66 1td D. Listed Building Consent: Change of use from Restaurant (A3) to mixed use Office (B1) & Sales area (A2). – **NO OBJECTIONS.**

16/01742/LBC Lloyds Bank Chambers 24 Bondgate Within Alnwick Northumberland NE66 1TD. Listed Building Consent: Erection a wall mounted single sided fibreglass sign. – **NO OBJECTIONS.**

16/01264/ADE Lidl Food Store, South Road, Alnwick NE66 2QL Advertisement consent for 1no internally illuminated free standing sign - **OBJECTION** based on the height of the sign, which is within the conservation area of the town, and the illumination.

Some councillors felt that the proposed sign was not in keeping with its surroundings. They felt that they may be able to accept a sign if the height was significantly reduced. They also wanted assurance that the sign would not be illuminated when the store is closed.

P16/07 Planning Appeals

None.

P16/08 Local Bus Service Proposal

Councillor G Mavin circulated a proposal concerning Local Bus Services. He asked if the Sustainable Transport Working Group could be asked to look at the proposal and report back to the Planning Committee.

Councillor Symmonds supported the proposal as he did not feel it was good to always drive everywhere.

Councillor Humphries also supported the proposal.

Councillor Swinbank asked what the proposal was just for the current services. Councillor G Mavin advised that he was looking for a loop service around the town.

Councillor Holt hoped that NCC had not changed their structure as they had a team that looked at transport routes. She advised that a new bus route to Alnmouth stations had been added.

Councillor Swinbank asked if there was a stakeholder group. Councillor Holt advised that there was.

Councillor Broom commented that the current bus service does not come into the middle of town but only to the bus station.

Councillor Harrington advised that Travelsure were now using smaller buses.

Councillor G Mavin advised that his proposal was suggesting smaller buses.

RESOLVED: To ask the Sustainable Transport Working Group to look at the proposal and report back to the Planning Committee.

P16/09 Any Other Urgent Business

Councillor Humphries asked about the Housing Needs Survey and felt that he did not see a high return. The Town Clerk advised that positive comment had been received and that a number of questionnaires had already been returned.

Councillor Harrington reported that he had found the form easy to fill out.

Councillor Broom asked if there was any update regarding the proposed crossing on Victoria Terrace. The Town Clerk advised that no feedback had yet been received.

Councillor Swinbank felt that the Town Council needed to chase feedback on all their previous LTPs to better inform to prepare this year's LTPs.

The meeting closed at 7.05 p.m.