

Droitwich Spa Town Council

MINUTES of the meeting of the **PLANNING COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, St Richards House, Victoria Square, Droitwich Spa, on Monday 1 July 2019 at 6.00pm.

PRESENT: Councillor G Duffy – Chairman
Councillor GR Brookes- Vice Chairman
Councillor G Beale
Councillor E Bowden
Councillor J Grady
Councillor RP Hopkins
Councillor AM Sinton
Councillor WT Moy (Ex officio)

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors, Mrs C Bowden, Mrs JM Chaudry, DM Craigie , Mrs K Fellows, NR Griffiths, , RJ Morris and CM Murray.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors A Humphries and DJ Morris.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Councillor GR Brookes – Vice Chairman took the chair for the public participation session. Mr Stuart Dudley of SJD Architects was invited to speak first and updated Members present over various issues connected with application reference 19/00738 FUL. Mr Dudley explained that he was the Architect working with Fortis Living for the application and issues had arisen when a building contractor commissioned for the work had gone into administration part way through the contract. Mr Dudley acknowledged the concerns expressed by neighbours and gave an assurance that he was working with Fortis and Wychavon District Council Planning Officers to resolve these matters satisfactorily for all those concerned.

Mr James Jackson resident of 65 Drovers Way, WR9 9DA & Mr Chris Kirk resident of 67 Drovers Way both attended to raise further concerns with regard to planning application reference number 19/00738/FUL. In general discussion various concerns were raised including building height levels outside agreed parameters, loss of privacy , overlooking windows, surface water run- off, risks of flooding and land slippage and general anti- social behaviour attributed to the development. Concern was also drawn towards the unsatisfactory approach and inferior levels of cooperation encountered through Wychavon District Council planning officers and the Enforcement Team. Councillor RP Hopkins raised similar concerns on behalf of Mr Graham Hands, resident of 63 Drovers Way .The Vice Chairman thanked all for their input and explained that the matters raised were the responsibility foremost of Wychavon District Council as the Local Statutory Planning Authority. Clarification was sought from Mr Dudley that a retrospective application was currently in course with Wychavon to regularise aspects of the build that were not in accordance with the planning permission granted. Mr Dudley confirmed this was the case. The Vice Chairman recommended to members of the public that their concerns should be raised with the local District Council Elected Ward Members, namely Councillor Mrs JM Chaudry and G Duffy who have the option to request calling the application to the Wychavon Planning Committee for full scrutiny rather than further delegation to Planning Officers. Mr Dudley added that he hoped that the application would not be called to Committee because this would further delay progress on the site following the aforementioned difficulties with the contractor and the arising problems.

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64. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors E Boden and AM Sinton both declared a non- pecuniary interest in application reference 19/01306/FUL- Former industrial site off Salwarpe Road, Droitwich Spa for the reason that they are District Councillors and Members of the Wychavon Planning Committee. The application is current and noted to be called to Committee for consideration at Wychavon. To this effect both Councillors declared an interest and their intention to abstain from any vote in decision making for the application during consideration for the Town Council consultation response this evening.

65. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 10 JUNE 2019.

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 10 June 2019 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

66. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Councillors E Boden, RP Hopkins and AM Sinton all abstained from the vote in decision making for application reference 19/01306/FUL- Former industrial site off Salwarpe Road, Droitwich Spa.

RESOLVED That the comments of the Planning Committee upon the planning applications received from Wychavon District Council, appended as a schedule to these Minutes, be approved.

67. AMENDED PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were none.

68. DECISIONS OF THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY

(A) Approval Notices: Wychavon District Council, the Local Planning Authority, has issued 6 approval notices. 3 of which had no Town Council consultation response owing to the restricted timetable of Committee meetings in the period of purdah and the change in Administration. From those consultations submitted all 3 decisions did accord with the recommendations of the Town Council.

(B) Refusal Notices: Wychavon District Council, the Local Planning Authority has issued no refusal notice in the intervening period since the last DSTC Planning Committee meeting held on 10 June 2019.

69. NOTIFICATION OF WITHDRAWAL OF PLANNING APPLICATION

To note that Wychavon District Council notified on 11 June 2019 that the following application has been withdrawn by the applicant.

- Applicant Name- Rob Gidley
- Proposal- Erection of dwelling
- Location -Woodlands, The Holloway, Droitwich Spa, WR9 7AH

The information was noted

70. VEHICLE ACTIVATED SPEED WARNING SIGNS (VAS)

To note that Pursuant to Minute reference 18 of the Town Council, Planning Committee meeting held on 10 June 2019. To confirm that,

- (a) Two further requests to consider position and operation licences for periodic rotation of portable VAS units have been lodged with WCC Highways. The assessment process can take up to approximately six weeks and the outcome will be notified thereafter. The locations requested are Westwood Road in the vicinity of Park Way and Oakland Avenue (resident enquiry).
- (b) An enquiry has been made with Westcotec Traffic Safety Systems regarding the different types of VAS unit currently available to purchase, costings & the various components and power supply options. Details circulated as part of the Agenda to 1 July 2019 Planning Committee meeting.

The information was noted

71. WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Update on the state of repair of the retaining wall at the far end of Miller Street. To be advised that the WCC Highways Liaison Officer has reported on 14 June 2019 that the Structures Team have inspected damage to the wall. A works order has now been issued to carry out repairs although no specific schedule of dates has been confirmed so far. The report follows concerns expressed by residents about the safety of the wall following collision damage. The information was noted

72. WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Section 14 (as amended).-Notice of Closure of A4133 Roman Way, Droitwich Spa. Closure provision for 3 days commencing 10 July 2019 to enable carriageway patching repairs. The closure section extends from the junction with A442 Kidderminster Road for the entire length of both carriageways up to the Copcut A38 roundabout. Details for three alternative routes have been published. The Town Clerk updated that the date had been slightly deferred from 4 July and the operating duration of the works reduced from 5 to 3 days. Councillor RJ Morris explained that he had requested these amendments to the original proposals to help mitigate any disruption due to a series of similar road works in the vicinity over recent weeks. The revisions will help the coordination of the various works and recommended diversion routes better. The making of the order was noted.

73. WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Road Traffic Act 1984 (as amended). Proposed temporary closure order for that part of Winslow Avenue from its junction with Mayflower Road (U41513) to its junction with Charles Henry Road (U41518). To enable a new/ replacement water main to be installed. Maximum duration up to 18 months, anticipated duration 82 days commencing from 22 July 2019. The making of the order was noted.

74. WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Road Traffic Act 1984 (as amended). Order to create a disabled persons parking place on St Richards Gardens (northern arm), (west side). From a point 7.5 metres north of the main arm St Richards Gardens junction for a distance of 6.6 metres in a northerly direction . The Order is effective from 4 July 2019. The making of the order was noted

The meeting closed at 6.32 pm.

Chairman of Committee
29 July 2019

Chairman of Council
23 September 2019
