

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 30 July 2018 at 6.00pm.

PRESENT: Councillor G Duffy - Chairman
Councillor G Beale
Councillor GR Brookes
Councillor Mrs A Hawkins
Councillor A Humphries
Councillor RE Murphy

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors, AH Laird, and AL Roberts and TJ Noyes.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors Ms J Bolton, Mrs C Bowden (Ex officio) , AM Sinton (committee members) L Evans , Mrs S Harris , RJ Morris, WT Moy and Mrs K Tomalin.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Mr Geoffrey Harrison of Westwood Close, Droitwich Spa attended for public participation and raised two concerns -speeding traffic on Westwood Way and inadequate directional road signage for traffic approaching the adjacent Ombersley Way roundabout from the Ombersley direction. This latter issue is causing numerous heavy vehicles to mistakenly access Westwood Way as the first turning before the intended main A38 slip road for the direction of the M5 Motorway. The result is that these heavy vehicles then take evasive action by turning round and reversing into the entrance of Westwood Close. This in turn causes danger to road users, exasperates the speeding hazards and creates a nuisance for residents of Westwood Close. Mr Harrison accepted from the agenda report that the Town Council has limited VAS equipment, many similar request and operational constraints but requested that consideration be given for the positioning of VAS equipment on Westwood Way to be resumed as soon as possible. The Chairman thanked Mr Harrison for bringing these matters to the attention of the Town Council Planning Committee including his provision for circulation of speed monitoring data originating from September 2014.

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75 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

76 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 2 JULY 2018.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 2 July 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

77 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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.

78 AMENDED PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The application reference 18/00599/HP – Mr Lindon Powell, 72 Stalls Farm Road, Droitwich Spa, WR9 8JL – Amendments to single storey rear extension and two story front/side extension, dated 13 July 2018 was noted.

79 DECISIONS OF THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY

The Committee noted that Wychavon District Council, the Local Planning Authority, had issued 5 approval notices of which all accorded with the recommendation of the Town Council.

One refusal notices had been issued for application reference 18/00929/OUT and associated application W/12/02336/OUT, Persimmon Homes Ltd land north of Pulley Lane and Newland Lane Droitwich Spa.

80 VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGNS

The Town Council has acquired and currently maintains 5 Vehicle Activated Speed Warning Signs. These have been funded by County Councillor Divisional Funds over recent years and are the responsibility of the Town Council for positioning, maintenance and insurance purposes. Two signs are in fixed locations on Lyttleton Road and Primslad Way powered from the street lighting infrastructure with permission granted from WCC Street Lighting. The remaining three signs are battery operated and intended for temporary rotation between various assessed and approved locations in the Town. These 3 signs have been in place on Westwood Road, Westwood Way and Celvestune Way for some considerable time. Councillor WT Moy recently arranged for an additional location on Tagwell Road to be authorised with the Highways Officer .Thereafter the sign from Westwood Way has been moved across to Tagwell. Subsequently a complaint has been raised by a member of the public that the Westwood Way sign has been removed.

This sign has been in place continually at Westwood Way for over 3 years. As more requests for different locations are now being received the Officers recommendation is to maintain a logged rotation system to accord with the servicing regime for all three portable signs between various requested sites with a minimum three month change over interval. This would also introduce some greater effectiveness whereby motorists do not become used to the signs in the same location. The suggested 3 month period for each location would give reasonable consideration towards balancing the additional costs, work and time required to change locations, over and above the existing fortnightly battery changes.

The Committee considered the above report from the Town Clerk and also the concerns raised by Mr Geoffrey Harrison of Westwood Close in the course of the public participation session which preceded this meeting. The Town Clerk also updated that he had registered a further request with the West Mercia Safer Roads Partnership on 26 July

RESOLVED To rotate all three of the portable VAS signs between suitably authorised

positions throughout the Town as required with a three monthly placement timescale. A suitable record by date and location is to be maintained. That the Town Clerk liaises with County Council Ward Members Councillor R Morris and Councillor A Millar and the local Highways Officer to investigate any possible options to enhance the road signage or engineering aspects to help address misdirected HGV,s and speeding problems on Westwood Road .

81 WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Road Traffic Act Regulation Act 1984.

Bromsgrove /Queen Street, Droitwich Spa – Confirmation of the existing and proposed waiting restriction works order plan (attached). Councillor Brookes confirmed that WCC contractors are due to install double yellow lines as part of the current road resurfacing works for Bromsgrove road on the section of Chapel Bridge. This matter was raised as a concern for attention at the Town Meeting on 19 March 2018 and is duly recorded in the minutes.

The making of this order was noted.

82 WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Section 14 (as amended).

Notice of Closure of BR7638 Little Hill Court Foot Bridge as an emergency measure.

The works proposed are emergency repairs to the timber bridge. The provision is in force for a maximum of 21 days commencing 26 July 2018.

The making of this order was noted.

83 WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Section 14(2) (as amended).

Notice of closure of Briar Mill, Droitwich Spa (the highway) as an emergency measure.

The purpose is to facilitate urgent surface dressing of the carriageway. The provision shall continue in force for a maximum of 5 days, however it is anticipated that it will remain in force for 1 night (19.30 to 05.00) commencing 26 July 2018.

The making of this order was noted.

84 WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Section 14(2) (as amended).

Notice of closure of B4090 Salt way, Droitwich Spa (the highway) as an emergency measure.

The purpose is to facilitate urgent surface dressing of the carriageway. The provision shall continue in force for a maximum of 5 days however it is anticipated that it will remain in force for 1 night (20.00 to 05.00) commencing 26 July 2018.

The making of this order was noted

The meeting closed at 6.30 pm.

Chairman of Committee
10 September 2018

Chairman of Council
24 September 2018