

Minutes of a (Virtual) meeting of the **PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** held on Monday 11th January 2021 at 7.00 pm.

Present: Cllr. R. S. Jones (Chairman) and Councillors T. Allen, D. Chapman, Mrs A. Duncan, Mrs K. Gandy, Mrs J.E. Jones, P. Rye, G.F.A. Snell and Cllr M. Sweeney.

In attendance:
Town Clerk Mrs Angela Alexander
Office Assistant Mrs Diane Cavey
Fourteen members of the public

1. CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman, Councillor Robert Jones, made the following announcement:

Good evening and welcome to the meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee.

Please note that this meeting is open to members of the public to view via Zoom.

Please could all Councillors ensure their microphone is set to mute unless they are speaking. It is important to remember that you may only speak when called by the Chairman. Also ensure any other devices nearby are switched off.

Councillors should use the 'raise hand button' when they wish to speak. When it is your turn to speak I will call your name and invite you to speak. Once you have spoken I will 'flatten' your hand.

All votes will be taken by roll call, where the name of each Councillor is read out and they must respond with either For, Against or Abstain.

I will only accept amendments to motions via the chat function so that it is clear to everyone what is being proposed.

As the Chair of the Planning Committee, I would like to make a statement for the benefit of all Councillors present at this meeting and for members of the public.

The applications before you and indeed any applications in the future must be considered on Planning merits only. It is essential that Councillors adhere to this principle and ensure that their decisions are based on the papers before you and any information provided to you during this meeting.

This is not a forum to discuss any ancillary issues relating to the planning applications.

We will now move on.....

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No absentees.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors agreed to declare interests as and when they arose.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Councillors received and noted letter from a member of the public regarding agenda item 7c.

5. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 14th December 2020 were signed by *the Chairman as a true record.*

Proposed by Councillor M. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs J. Jones

For: 3

Abstentions: 5 (Councillors Mrs K. Gandy, Mrs A. Duncan, D. Chapman, P. Rye and T. Allen).

Councillor G.F.A. Snell unable to vote due to iPad issues.

6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) 20/1919/FH – Brimar New Lane Lydd

Felling of a Monterey Cypress tree situated within a conservation area.

Planning Clerk informed the Planning Committee that the application will not be considered as the Planning Officer at Folkestone and Hythe District Council had informed Lydd Town Council that a visit had been made and subject to discussions with the Folkestone and Hythe District Councils Arboriculture Specialist and senior Planning Officer, a consideration for an objection to be raised and a tree preservation made on the tree to prevent it from being felled.

(b) 20/1969/FH – The Ferns Station Road Lydd

Change of use of dwelling (Class C3) to care home for children (Class C2).

RESOLVED: To support the proposal for change of use

Proposed by Cllr Mrs J. Jones and seconded by Cllr Mrs A Duncan.

Voting in support of the proposal

For: 8

Councillor G.F.A. Snell unable to vote due to iPad issues.

(c) 20/1936/FH – Mulberry Cottage High Street Lydd

For erection of eight dwellings together with parking and landscaping, following demolition of existing outbuildings.

Councillor Mrs Ann Duncan commented there are too many houses for the size of the plot and access in and out of the plot has not been addressed as there is not enough road space for cars in and out.

Councillor Bob Jones replied I was on the case in 2013 and fourteen houses were cut down to eight as the site was not large enough.

Councillor Martin Sweeney commented that the area is over intensified and agreed with Councillor Mrs Ann Duncan as there will be too many houses for the size of the plot.

Councillor Mrs Jean Jones commented the building is over intensive and not fair on the residents of Tourney Hall and in the past, the residents of Tourney Hall have tried to buy the land being built on.

Councillor Mrs Ann Duncan commented the plot has nine houses built in a space which was originally for fourteen. They now want to build another eight but part of the land has been sold, this means a smaller plot and a greater number of houses being squeezed in.

Councillor Mrs Jean Jones said I am dead against this application and I would turn this down.

Councillor Martin Sweeney said there is no report from highways.

Councillor Mrs Ann Duncan replied on- line it does say the road names.

Councillor Martin Sweeney said we need meat on the bone to look at the 8 houses.

Councillor Paul Rye commented on the privacy of surrounding properties regarding views into neighbouring gardens.

Councillor Trevor Allen commented over intensive building detrimental to the area including road safety and Tourney Hall is grade two listed.

Councillor Bob Jones concluded noting concerns raised by the Planning Committee:

1. Gross over development
2. Road access and safety
3. Detrimental to the area
4. Tourney Hall is a grade two listed building

Chairman: Who is against this application?

Proposed by Cllr Mrs J. Jones and seconded by Cllr Mrs A Duncan.

Cllr T. Allen	No
Cllr D. Chapman	Against
Cllr Mrs A. Duncan	No
Cllr Mrs K. Gandy	No
Cllr Mrs J. Jones	No
Cllr R. S. Jones	No
Cllr P. Rye	Object
Cllr M. Sweeney	Reject

Councillor G.F.A. Snell unable to vote due to iPad issues.

Voting for the proposal for the erection of eight dwellings together with parking and landscaping, following demolition of existing outbuildings at Mulberry Cottage High Street Lydd, was unclear due to the wording used by Councillors who did not follow the correct voting terminology of FOR, AGAINST or ABSTAIN to the proposal.

(d) 20/1805/FH – Park Street Car Park, Park Street Lydd

Retrospective application for 10 x shipping containers in the yard/car park for a period of 12 months.

Councillor Darren Chapman declared an interest and commented 54-55-56 are the houses opposite the car park and I think it is an eyesore, the containers have already been there for twelve months. Vikki Dawson had looked into it and Product Imports own the car park. I have no problem with this myself.

Councillor Bob Jones commented that a removal firm had it at one point but Shepway should have declared a financial interest.

Councillor Martin Sweeney said “I am a stickler for planning rules and eyesore is not a planning proposal”.

Councillor Bob Jones said “I have no problem with this”.

Councillor Darren Chapman commented the containers have been in the car park for a year and the proposal says 10 but there is 11.

Councillor Paul Rye commented what about the light to the houses?

Councillor Darren Chapman replied “it has always been a form of car park”.

RESOLVED: To support the proposal
Proposed by Cllr D. Chapman and seconded by Cllr P. Rye
Voting in support of the proposal
For: 5
Against: 1 Councillor T. Allen
Abstentions: 2 (Councillors Mrs K. Gandy and Mrs J. Jones)

Councillor G.F.A. Snell unable to vote due to iPad issues.

(e) 20/2074/FH – The Grange Dennes Lane Lydd

Felling of three Sycamore trees (T1, T2 and T3) situated within a conservation area.

Councillor Trevor Allen asked why they wanted to remove the trees.

Councillor Mrs Jean Jones replied the owners were moving.

Councillor Mrs Ann Duncan said they were not planted but self-sown.

RESOLVED: To support the proposal for the felling of three Sycamore trees
Proposed by Cllr Mrs A. Duncan and seconded by Cllr Mrs J. Jones
Voting in support of the proposal
For: 6
Abstentions: 2 (Cllr Mrs K. Gandy and Cllr M. Sweeney)

Councillor G.F.A. Snell unable to vote due to iPad issues.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm.

Chairman_____

Date_____