

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE HELD ON 10TH FEBRUARY, 2015

Present: Councillor Mrs J A Bell (Chair) and
Mrs M R Baird, E Bell, B Burn Snr,
Mrs S Forster, R Meir, N R Page, K Shaw,
C Snowball, R Whitehead

Observer: Councillor Mrs G Bleasdale

Apologies: Councillors B Burn Jnr, Mrs H Cahill,
I Paul, B Taylor, K Younger

Prior to commencement of the meeting the Chair advised members of this Committee and members of the public that in line with the amendment to 'the public bodies (admission to meetings) act 1960', which came into force in August, 2014, parts of this meeting may be recorded by photographic, video and audio means.

1. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded prior to the start of the meeting of the need to disclose any interests, prejudicial or personal, in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13TH JANUARY, 2015

RECOMMENDED the Minutes of these meetings, copies of which had been previously printed and circulated to each Member, be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman

3. TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS ISSUES

a) Neighbourhood Services - Highways

RECOMMENDED the Neighbourhood Services Highways Report in respect of week commencing 2nd February, 2015, be noted.

b) Temporary Footpath Closure – Footpath between Webb Avenue and Wycliffe Road, Seaham

RECOMMENDED the Council note the above footpath would be temporarily closed by means of a Notice under Section 14(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984 for a period of 5 days from Monday, 16th February, 2015 to enable electricity sub-station replacement and cable joining works to be undertaken. This temporary footpath closure was advised by Durham County Council on 16th January, 2015 and an alternative route would be made available during the closure.

4. LICENSING ISSUES

The Committee considered a communication from Durham County Council's Licensing team which advised of an application for a new premises licence at Vicky's Supermarket, 8 Marlborough Road, Seaham, SR7 7SA. The last date for representations was 4th March, 2015.

RECOMMENDED the Town Clerk seek clarification in respect of the Sunday hours and notify Members accordingly.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

a) Pollution of Coastal Waters

RECOMMENDED a copy of a BBC news item provided by Mr Robert Latimer to the Town Council with regard to the illegal issuing of a licence by the Marine Management Organisation to dump silt at Whitsand Bay, Cornwall be noted.

b) Seaham Town Council's Environmental Wardens

Subsequent to the request made by Members at the last meeting, clarification of the duties undertaken by the two Environmental Wardens employed by the Town Council was submitted for consideration.

RECOMMENDED the Council note the information now reported.

6. GENERAL ISSUES

a) Neighbourhood Protection Team Updates

RECOMMENDED the Neighbourhood Protection Team Performance Report for Seaham for December, 2014, be noted.

7. PLANNING ISSUES

a) Monthly List

RECOMMENDED that the list of planning applications referred to all Councillors since the last meeting, namely 5327 to 5330 as circulated be noted.

8. SIGNAGE AT SEAHAM STATION

The Committee considered a letter from Mr Grahame Morris, MP in relation to a communication he had received from a Seaham resident in respect of signage at Seaham Station.

RECOMMENDED the Council note the information now reported

9. VICTORIAN LIGHTING

A Member queried why the Victorian lighting had been removed from the sea front area and it was clarified that these had been removed to be reinforced prior to being put back into place.

RECOMMENDED the Council note the information now reported.

10. PRESS OPPORTUNITIES

RECOMMENDED the Council note that no press opportunities existed from this meeting.