

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE HELD ON 7TH APRIL, 2015

Present: Councillor Mrs J A Bell (Chair) and
Councillors E Bell, B Burn Snr, B Burn Jnr,
S Cudlip, Mrs S Forster, I Paul, K Shaw,
C Snowball, B Taylor, R Whitehead,
K Younger

Apologies: Councillors Mrs H Cahill, R Meir,
Miss S Morrison

Observers: Councillor Mrs G Bleasdale
Mrs W Berry

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 10TH MARCH, 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

3.1 Neighbourhood Services - Highways

RECOMMENDED the Neighbourhood Services Highways Reports for weeks commencing 16th and 23rd March, 2015, be noted.

3.2 Temporary Road Closure – The Avenue

RECOMMENDED the Council note a 70 metre length of the above road was temporarily closed from 9.30 am to 1.00 pm on Thursday, 2nd April, 2015 by means of a Notice under Section 14(2) of the Road Traffic Act, 1984, to allow replacement manhole cover works to be undertaken.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

4.1 Access Newsletter

The Committee considered the Access newsletters received from DEFRA in March, 2015. In discussion a Member queried whether this region was still covered by DEFRA as he had been advised that the boundaries had been changed.

RECOMMENDED:

- (i) Issue numbers 67 and 68 of the Access newsletters published in March, 2015 by DEFRA copies of which had been previously circulated, be noted.
- (ii) The Deputy Town Clerk seek clarification as to whether East Durham was still covered by DEFRA and report back at the next meeting of this Committee.

5. GENERAL ISSUES

5.1 Police and Crime Plan 2015 – 2017

The Committee considered a communication from Mr Ron Hogg the Police and Crime Commissioner for the County which advised that the Police and Crime Plan for 2015 – 17 had been refreshed and that a further document had been produced which detailed his findings and response subsequent to the completion of a consultation exercise.

RECOMMENDED the Council note the information now reported.

5.2 County Durham Plan

RECOMMENDED the press release issued by Durham County Council in respect of the County Durham Plan be noted.

6. LICENSING ISSUES

6.1 Seaham Park Sporting Club

The Committee considered details of a new premises licence application in respect of Seaham Park Sporting Club Pavilion. The Deputy Town Clerk clarified that this was a new Club which consisted of various sports users.

RECOMMENDED the Council note the information now reported.

7. PLANNING ISSUES

7.1 Monthly List

RECOMMENDED that the list of planning applications referred to all Councillors since the last meeting, namely 5337 to 5340 as circulated be noted.

7.2 Proposed Development of 135 no. Dwellings (C3 use class) with Associated Access and landscaping Works on land to the east of A19 and south of Dalton Heights, Seaham by Bellway Homes Ltd

Prior to the consideration of this item, Councillor S Cudlip declared an interest, left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

The Committee considered a communication from Mr S Timmiss, the Head of Planning and Assets at Durham County Council in relation to the above proposed development.

RECOMMENDED the Council note the information now reported.

8. PRESS OPPORTUNITIES

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