

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE HELD ON 8TH MARCH, 2016

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

Apologies: Councillors Mrs H Cahill, B Taylor.

Observer: Councillor Mrs G Bleasdale

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 9TH FEBRUARY, 2016

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 Report for the weeks commencing 8th, 22nd and 29th February, 2016 issued by Durham County Council, be noted.

3.2 Proposed 20mph Speed Limit at Six Schools and Issues Concerning Crossing Patrols

Members were reminded that following discussion at the January meeting of this Committee, in accordance with Members' instructions, a response was submitted to Durham County Council indicating the support of the Town Council for the introduction of the 20mph speed limit at the suggested locations. At that meeting, Members also raised a variety of issues concerning how the new limits would be monitored, and also with regard to perceived inconsistencies in the actions of crossing patrols. All of these concerns were relayed to DCC and a report received from Mr Paul Watson, DCC Road Safety Manager with regard to crossing patrols, and the earlier email exchange including Mr Stephen Jones, Area Traffic Assistant

Engineer, with regard to how the speed limits will be monitored was considered by Members at this meeting.

RECOMMENDED the Council note the information now reported.

4. **GENERAL ISSUES**

4.1 **Neighbourhood Protection Team Update**

RECOMMENDED the Neighbourhood Protection Team Update for Seaham for January, 2016 issued by Durham County Council, be noted.

5. **PLANNING ISSUES**

5.1 **Monthly List**

RECOMMENDED the list of planning applications referred to all Councillors since the last meeting, namely 5384 to 5388 as circulated be noted.

6. **PRESS OPPORTUNITIES**

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