

PL/04/19

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the **PLANNING COMMITTEE** held on Monday 6th July 2020 at 7.00pm via Zoom

Present: Cllr. M. Cole JP (Vice Chairman)
 Cllr. J. Harvey
 Cllr. A. Mahi
 Cllr. Mrs. L. O'Donoghue (Chair)
 Cllr. A. Ralph
 Cllr. R. Stuchbury
 Cllr. M. Try

Also present: Mrs. C. Cumming (co-opted member)
 Mr. P. Hodson (Town Clerk)
 Mrs K. McElligott (Planning Clerk)

No members of the public attended and so there was no public session.

205/20 Apologies for Absence

Members received apologies from Cllr. P. Hirons.

206/20 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

207/20 Amended Planning Application

18//01098/APP

Deferred for further information

23, 23A and 23B, Moreton Road

Erection of 6N^o self-contained apartments and boundary wall (retrospective)

Members felt that an officer who required a response in such a hurry that a request for an extension of time was declined – leading to an Extraordinary Meeting having to be called - should at least have the courtesy to respond to previous concerns as expressed in their March 2020 response and provide appropriate new documents. In the matter of the historic boundary wall, the Committee was glad that remedial measures had been agreed with the Heritage Officer.

However:

1. Though a Tracking diagram had been supplied, it dated from the 2013 application for the neighbouring property, pre-dating the premises under current consideration by 5 years, and there was no evidence on the website of
(a) acceptance of the drawing as valid taking the new houses and their parking arrangements into consideration, or
(b) a response from Waste & Recycling indicating that it satisfies their requirements. According to this drawing the refuse collection was to be from the usual household bins, whereas the bin store and cycle rack shown have never been installed and refuse disposal is via large skip bins - as is the refuse from the three houses - and doubtless a different type or size of vehicle is required. Furthermore, officer comments in 2013 indicated concern in relation to the ease with which large vehicles would be able to manoeuvre in the area, so a larger lorry would find it more difficult.

2. It was noted that the present parking arrangements are inadequate, with vehicles parked on the access road leading from Moreton Road into the site, restricting the width available even further and an up-to-date Tracking diagram should show this. 6 dwellings require parking for 6, plus visitors. It has already been noted that the University intends to build student residences on campus, so each tenant of these flats could well need a parking space. Members would welcome the officer's views on whether sharing one visitor space between 14 flats is acceptable.

3. The synthetic grass on the frontages remains in situ, though indicated as a pebbledash finish on the February drawing 200C and acknowledged as requiring replacement in an email of 20th May. Whatever the eventual decision is, this must be replaced; Members suggested cobbles or other surface unsuitable for casual parking to avoid further encroachment into the yard access.

Members point out that this is the heart of the town and in the Conservation Area; commercial skip bins are not attractive (and those for the houses are clearly visible from the Moreton Road). In Members' response to the February revisions they asked whether the proposed bin store was supposed to house skip bins for both sets of flats, or just the houses, whether it was of adequate size (there are currently four skips in use) but no response has yet been received.

Taking all of this into consideration the Committee felt it has not had answers to the concerns expressed in its March response, and the only 'new' document meriting attention is a 2013 drawing of questionable relevance.

The Committee's next scheduled meeting is on the 20th July; it asks that the Case Officer seeks answers to the many issues raised both here and previously and should the requested information be available by then, the Committee will review it and make proper response.

Members voted 7-0 to defer response, Cllr. Stuchbury abstaining.

208/20 Matters to report

208.1 Cllr. Cole had circulated photographs of superfluous signage for the Pegasus crossing adjacent to the Bletchley road roundabout, and the failed bridge over the river north of the Bourton Road roundabout. This had been reported last year, but deemed not urgent, but could have been attended to during the recent bypass works.

208.2 Mrs. Cumming reported that the bins on West Street by the Hamilton House wall were still blocking the pavement.

Both matters will be reported again.

ACTION PLANNING CLERK

209/20 Chairman's items for information

Members were asked to note that Amended Plans for the West End Farm Care Home would be on the Full Council agenda for 13th July 2020.

210/20 Date of the next meeting: Monday 20th July 2020 at 7pm

Meeting closed at 7.30pm.

Chairman..... Date.....

Planning Minutes (date)

DRAFT

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PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY 2010/CRIME AND DISORDER ACT, 1988: the decisions made during the course of the meeting were duly considered and it was decided that there were no resulting direct or indirect implications in respect of crime and disorder, or equalities considerations, other than those stated in the minutes.

Initial.....