



BEAMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

PLANNING ADVISORY AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Planning Advisory and Highways Committee meeting held on 2nd November 2009 in the Skyrm Room at the Public Hall, Beaminster at 7.00pm.

25. PRESENT: Councillors Baker (Chairman), Mrs Baldwin, Beazer, Mrs Beeny, Body, Mrs Maling and Mrs Page
Mrs Christine Bright (Town Clerk)
Two members of the public.

26. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:-

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Armstrong, Berry, Elliott and Mrs Knox.

27. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING MEETING HELD ON 19 OCTOBER 2009

The minutes of the Planning Advisory and Highways Committee meeting held on 19 October 2009, having previously been circulated were confirmed and signed by Vice Chairman as a correct record.

28. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

29. PLANNING MATTERS

a. GRANTS

Members **NOTED** the details of the six planning consents granted by West Dorset District Council since the last meeting.

b. APPLICATIONS

The following were considered:

- (i) No: 1/D/09/001645 **8 WOODSWATER LANE** - Erect first floor balcony. Regularisation of rooflights.

Beaminster Town Council unanimously **RECOMMEND REFUSAL** of this application for the following reasons:

- Members were extremely concerned at the impact the balcony would have on the amenity of the neighbouring properties either side, in particular, No 10 Woodswater Lane which is sited considerably lower than No. 8
- The lack of privacy in the garden of No 10 would be seriously compromised by the development contrary to Policy DA6
- The development would dominate the elevation of the property and the visual amenity of the direct neighbours contrary to Policy DA5
- The location plan does not give an accurate indication as to the close proximity of the neighbouring properties and the site plan does not show an accurate size of No 8 Woodswater Lane as it does not include the extension constructed in 2006
- Members would question why the breach of planning consent for 'first floor picture window' granted; but the subsequent installation of 'french doors' was not enforced when brought to the attention of the District Council in 2007
- Members would draw your attention to two letters of objection submitted by immediate neighbours to the property and endorse their concerns

c. PLANNING REFUSAL

Members NOTED the detail of one planning application refused by the District Council since the last meeting.

30. REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS TO:

a. Public Transport Liaison Officer

Cllr Mrs Baldwin had no specific items to report other than the popularity of the bus service from Broadwindsor to Dorchester.

Cllr Mrs Beeny questioned the future of the No. 47 which went to Yeovil via Mosterton. Cllr Mrs Baldwin advised that there had been a temporary suspension of this service due to a road closure however it was back in operation, as far as she was aware.

Cllr Beazer drew attention to changes in some South Somerset bus routes which he felt may have an adverse effect on the No. 47 service.

Cllr Mrs Baldwin agreed to raise these issues at the next scheduled WATAG meeting.

b. Rights of Way Officer

Cllr Mrs Beeny reported a broken stile at Higher Meerhay.

The Town Clerk advised that a request to replace a stile with a kissing gate on Footpath 75 had not been supported by the landowner.

31. HIGHWAY ISSUES

a. Parish Maintenance Unit

Cllr Beazer drew attention to a number of ditches that had been blocked by hedge cuttings, it was **AGREED** to add this item to the list.

Under this heading Cllr Beazer expressed his concern at the lack of HGV diversion signage on the A356 and at the crossroads on Beaminster Down despite previous requests for good signage and police patrols. It was **AGREED** to raise this with the County Council as a matter of urgency. Also in connection with the closure of the tunnel Cllr Mrs Baldwin reported that HGV's were still attempting to go through and having to reverse back in order to turn. It was **AGREED** to request a "Tunnel Closed" sign at the Clay Lane/Tunnel Road roundabout as a matter of urgency.

Cllr Body drew attention to a concrete wedge in the stream at the top of St Mary Well Street which restricted the flow of water. It was **AGREED** to draw this to the attention of the Environment Agency.

32. MEETING

There being no further business, the meeting which started at 7.00pm closed at 8.00pm.

CHAIRMAN
7 DECEMBER 2009