

HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLANNING COMMITTEE

15 JANUARY 2008 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT: MR P HALL - CHAIRMAN
MR R MAYNE - VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mrs M Aldridge, Mr JG Bannister, Mr PR Batty, Mr JC Bown, Mr MB Cartwright, Mr WJ Crooks, Mr DM Gould, Mrs A Hall, Mr DW Inman, Mr K Morrell, Mr K Nichols, Mr LJP O'Shea and Mr R Ward.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.4 Messrs DC Bill and KWP Lynch also attended the meeting.

Officers in attendance: Mr P Cash, Mrs J Cooper, Mrs T Darke, Mr C Merriman, Miss R Owen, Mr R Palmer, Mr S Payne and Mr TM Prowse.

412 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Mr JD Cort, Mr T McClure, Mrs J Richards and Mr BE Sutton and the following substitutions authorised in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.3:

Mr Batty for Mr Cort;
Mr Morrell for Mrs Richards;
Mr Ward for Mr Sutton.

413 MINUTES (P53)

On the motion of Mr Bown, seconded by Mr Nichols, it was

RESOLVED – the minutes of the meeting held on 18 December 2007 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

414 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr and Mrs Hall declared personal and prejudicial interests in applications 07/01066/FUL and 07/01125/FUL but both requested the right to speak on the latter application before leaving the Chamber.

Mr Inman declared a personal interest in applications 07/01066/FUL and 07/01125/FUL as a member of the Parish Council, although he stated that he had not been involved in any discussions on these matters and it was therefore confirmed that this did not constitute a prejudicial interest.

Although not a member of the Committee, Mr P Cash declared a personal and prejudicial interest in application 07/01066/FUL as the applicant was known to him.

415 TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 - APPLICATIONS TO BE DETERMINED (P48)

The Committee considered a schedule of planning applications, together with a list of late items, and the recommendations of the Head of Culture and Development.

It was agreed that the recommendations of the Head of Culture and Development contained in the schedule submitted be approved.

(a) 07/00940/FUL – The Rectory, 57 Main Street, Newbold Verdon – RPN Underwood & Son Limited

Members supported the recommendation to approve the application but felt that there was no capacity for any more dwellings on the site. It was moved by Mr Crooks and seconded by Mr Inman that a note to applicant be added to suggest that it would not be advisable to submit further applications to increase density on the site. Upon being put to the vote, the AMENDMENT was CARRIED.

RESOLVED – the application be approved subject to the conditions contained within the report and the abovementioned note to applicant.

Messrs Bill and Lynch left the meeting at 7.29pm.

Having declared personal and prejudicial interests in items 03 and 04 (applications 07/01066/FUL and 07/01125/FUL), Mr and Mrs Hall left the Chamber at 7.29pm.

Mr Mayne took the Chair for items 03 and 04. It was agreed that Mr Bannister should sit alongside during this time to list the order of speakers.

Mr and Mrs Hall returned to the meeting at 7.37pm

(b) 07/01125/FUL – J and R Mac Ltd, Sunnysdene Works, Woodland Avenue, Burbage – Morris Homes East Midlands Ltd

After having made representations on this item, Mr and Mrs Hall repeated their personal and prejudicial interests and left the meeting at 7.43pm during discussion on the item.

Some Members expressed concern with regard to the imposing nature of the proposed 3-storey building at the edge of the application site. Mr Inman proposed that the application be refused on the basis that the 3-storey element was over-bearing. In the absence of a seconder, the amendment was not put to the vote.

Mr Cartwright, seconded by Mr Crooks, proposed that the application be approved but the 3-storey buildings be relocated to the middle of the site. Officers explained that this was not possible as it constituted an entirely different scheme, therefore the amendment was withdrawn.

It was moved by Mrs Aldridge, seconded by Mr O'Shea and

RESOLVED – the application be approved subject to the conditions contained within the officers report.

Mr and Mrs Hall returned to the meeting at 8.17pm. Mr Gould left the meeting at 8.17pm and returned at 8.19pm.

416 CONSULTATION DOCUMENT BY THE DCLG – HOUSING AND PLANNING DELIVERY GRANT (P55)

Members received a report which sought their views on the Department of Communities and Local Government's (DCLG's) consultation document for the Housing and Planning Delivery Grant.

Mr Bown left the meeting at 8.40pm.

Members expressed concern about the pressures on time that were being imposed affecting the quality of decisions, and the risk of encouraging poor design. Members also agreed that the Authority's response should include the need to monitor performance against climate change indicators.

It was moved by Mr Inman, seconded by Mr Crooks and

RESOLVED – officers be asked to respond with the following comments:

- (i) Members are concerned that the added pressure created by timescales may affect the quality of decision making;
- (ii) performance against climate change indicators should be monitored.

417 OMBUDSMAN DECISION – 36 EDENDALE DRIVE, HINCKLEY (P56)

The Committee received a report which provided information on the latest Ombudsman decision. It was moved by Mr Crooks, seconded by Mrs Aldridge and

RESOLVED – the report be noted.

418 ENABLING ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION OF BUILDING CONTROL DOCUMENTS (P57)

Members were presented with a report which advised them of the recent consultation on Building Control matters by the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG). It was moved by Mrs Aldridge, seconded by Mr O'Shea and

RESOLVED – the response to the report be endorsed.

419 APPEALS LODGED AND DETERMINED (P58)

A summary was submitted of appeals lodged and determined since the last meeting. It was moved by Mrs Aldridge, seconded by Mr Crooks and

RESOLVED – the report be noted.

420 APPEALS – PROGRESS (P59)

A schedule was submitted indicating the stages that various appeals against planning decisions had reached. It was moved by Mr Crooks, seconded by Mrs Aldridge and

RESOLVED – the report be noted.

421 MATTERS FROM WHICH THE PUBLIC MAY BE EXCLUDED

On the motion of Mr Nichols, seconded by Mrs Hall, it was

RESOLVED - in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the undermentioned items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 2 and 10 of Part I of Schedule 12A of that Act.

422 PLANNING ENFORCEMENT ACTION (P60)

At this juncture, Mrs Aldridge declared a personal interest in this item as she knew the owner of one of the sites listed.

Members were provided with a periodic report on planning enforcement actions taken. A Member reminded the report author that on previous occasions they had requested a key to the abbreviations in the report. On the motion of Mr Crooks, seconded by Mr Nichols, it was

RESOLVED – the report be noted.

(The meeting closed at 9.00pm)