

MINUTES of the meeting of the PLANNING COMMITTEE held at Mountfield, Bridport on Monday 24 February 2025 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT Cllr Ian Bark (in the chair)

Cllrs: Nigel Amor, Jonathan Bourbon, Kelvin Clayton, Anna Killick, Paddy Mooney, Anne Rickard and David Worthington.

ALSO PRESENT: Will Austin (Town Clerk).

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no Public Forum contributions from members of the public.

87. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Sarah Carney.

88. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

89. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 27 January 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Members discussed parking arrangements in South Street, arising from minute 84, and noted that a notice relating to the withdrawn parking changes was still in place on the corner of Gundry Lane. The Town Clerk reported that future parking arrangements would be the subject of discussion later in 2025, and would include Dorset Council, Central Ward members, and community engagement.

90. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED: that the recommendations set out in column 4 of the attached [Schedule A](#) be forwarded to Dorset Council.

91. PLANNING DECISIONS

The Town Clerk reported for information, the planning decisions received relating to applications previously considered by the Committee, ENCL: 3972.

Members considered those applications where the planning authority decision did not accord with the Town Council's comments, and discussed in particular

application P/FUL/2024/06377, which had sought to replace timber framed windows with UPVC, and had been refused despite support from the Town Council. Members reflected on NPPF and Local Plan policies and their interpretation where less than significant harm needed to be balanced against public benefit.

RESOLVED: that the planning decisions be noted.

92. HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION MATTERS

No highway or transportation matters were received for consideration at the meeting.

93. LICENSING APPLICATIONS

No licensing applications had been received for consideration at the meeting.

94. COMMUNICATIONS AND ONGOING ISSUES

The Town Clerk reported that the Town Council had been consulted as landowner regarding proposed tree works arising from branches overhanging a neighbouring property, and asked members to submit their comments to him by email.

Cllr David Worthington asked how a concern regarding the Old Railway Line would be considered. The Town Clerk reported that this would be tabled for consideration by Finance & General Purposes Committee on 10 March 2025.

Cllr Sarah Carney reported on a meeting with Andrew Billany of Dorset Council regarding the possibility of inclusion of housing as part of redevelopments of the Bus Station, and Boldwood House. Mr Billany had been instructed to identify sites, and Magna Housing had expressed a desire to pursue the matter. Cllr Carney was pleased at the prospect of progress, and would update the Neighbourhood Plan JCC. Cllr Paddy Mooney added that the proximity of the two sites had been pointed out to Dorset Council officers and members. Cllr Anna Killick expressed frustration that the previously completed Bus Station Feasibility Study and Investment Plan had needed to be resubmitted to Dorset Council, as they had received it on more than one occasion already.

Cllr Paddy Mooney asked whether the application in respect of Eype Picnic Area would be returning for further member consultation. The Town Clerk advised this would only be the case should there be changes to the application previously considered. Following discussion, the Chair advised he would liaise with the Town Clerk further on this matter.

Cllr David Worthington asked whether a map could be produce showing the Flood Lane, Fisherman's Arms and Sidney Gale House sites and their ownership. The Town Clerk advised he would provide this.

Cllr Nigel Amor reported that the application relating to the abattoir on Mangerton Lane would be considered by Dorset Council's Planning Committee on 27 February.

Cllr Amor asked whether Speed Indicator Devices were moved between sites. The Town Clerk confirmed this was the case.

Cllr Amor raised concerns about e-bikes moving too fast on Watton Hill, and causing damage.

The meeting closed at 8.23pm.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 17 March 2025