

PRUDHOE TOWN COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the Planning, Contract and Works Meeting held in The Spetchells Centre, Front Street, Prudhoe at 7:00pm on Wednesday 13 April 2016

PRESENT Cllr Mrs J McGee (Chair), Cllr Mrs E Burt, Cllr B Futers, Cllr A Gill, Cllr G McCreedy, Cllr G Price, Cllr A Piper, Cllr Ms J Rose (arrived 1905), Cllr A Reid (arrived 1910) In attendance: R Whinney (Clerk)

1516/1095 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Mrs C Cuthbert, Cllr Mrs N McGee Cllr K Graham, County Councillor Mrs A Dale

1516/1096 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None. Cllr A Reid took no part in the meeting until the conclusion of Item 1516/1099, Planning Matters.

1516/1097 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING CONTRACT & WORKS COMMITTEE HELD ON 9 MARCH 2016

It was AGREED to receive the minutes as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr B Futers Seconded: Cllr A Gill

1516/1098 MATTERS ARISING.

1516/1090 Northumberland Local Plan: Core Strategy: In response to a question from Cllr G McCreedy, the Clerk reported that no progress had yet been made in respect of the enquiry made regarding the possibility of seeking advice from professional planning consultants, but that a letter had been sent to G Opperman MP, requesting that he support the Council and residents in their objections / concerns regarding the latest stage of the draft Northumberland Local Plan.

1516/1091 Edgewell Cemeteries: Northern Powergrid – Request for Wayleave: The Clerk reported that he had checked with Northern Powergrid to establish whether or not there would be a single wayleave, with the payment details as reported to the March meeting of the Committee, or a new wayleave to go alongside the existing one. The answer received was there would be a single wayleave. Noting that the Council also stood to receive the back-dated wayleave monies owing for seven years, plus the one payment of £250, all from Northern Powergrid, he was now proceeding to conclude the arrangement with Northern Powergrid as agreed by the Council.

1516/1092 Castle Dene Play Area: in response to Cllr Mrs E Burt, the Clerk stated that he would chase NCC for progress on the work to the tree roots that he had previously requested on behalf of the Council.

1516/1094 Office Equipment: Cllr Mrs Burt noted that the new photocopier / printer / scanner had now been installed and was operational, and that new upgraded telephones had also been commissioned on this day. Cllr B Futers commented that the office layout had also been changed.

1516/1099 PLANNING MATTERS

1. Planning applications considered

Prudhoe Hall Ward

Planning Ref. 16/00664/FUL

Proposal: Proposed single storey extension to rear providing new kitchen/ utility and WC

Location: 19 Moor Road, Prudhoe, Northumberland NE42 5LH

Applicant: Mr Richard Paisley (address as above)

Response date: 26 February 2016

It was AGREED to respond SUPPORTING the application

Proposed Cllr B Futers Seconded Cllr A Gill

Mickley Ward

Planning Ref. 16/00764/FUL

Proposal: Proposed single storey side extension

Location: Phoenix House, 14 Bewick Garth, Mickley, Stocksfield, Northumberland NE43 7AU

Applicant: Mr Paul Newton

Response date: 11 April 2016

It was AGREED to respond SUPPORTING the application

Proposed Cllr Mrs E Burt Seconded Cllr A Gill

2. Notifications from the Planning Authority in respect of planning applications

(i) Decisions

General – Castlefields and Low Prudhoe Ward

Ref. 15/03774/CCM [denotes “County Matters”]

Proposal: Change of use to develop a waste recycling facility to bale cardboard, paper, plastic and cans and storage of skips for GS Skip Hire in yard area

Location: Unit 2, Station Industrial Estate, Prudhoe, Northumberland NE42 6NP

Applicant: Mr Gary Sim, 35 Langley Gardens, Haydon Bridge, Hexham, Northumberland NE21 5AB

Response deadline: 11 January 2016

Northumberland County Council decided to GRANT permission

[The Council had responded supporting the application]

Castle & Eltringham Ward

Planning Ref. 16/00322/FUL

Proposal: Construction of living room extension and canopy to garage on front elevation

Location: 20 Masters Crescent, Prudhoe, Northumberland NE42 6NT

Applicant: Mrs Brenda Wilkin (address as above)

Response date: 26 February 2016

Northumberland County Council decided to GRANT permission

[The Council had responded supporting the application]

General - Mickley Ward

Planning Ref. 15/03234/FUL

Proposal: Erection of two three storey semi-detached dwelling houses (Use Class C3) with associated parking [NB “as amended 14/01/16”]

Location: Land East of Burnside Lodge, Eastgate Bank, Mickley, Northumberland (NE43 7LY)

Applicant: Mr S Porter, Lyndene, Millfield Road, Riding Mill, Northumberland NE44 6DL

Response date: 16 December 2015

Northumberland County Council decided to GRANT permission

[The Council had responded objecting to the application on the following material considerations (the same considerations as indicated when the application was previously considered, in November 2015): Overlooking / loss of privacy; loss of light or overshadowing; layout and density of building. The proposed development would “tower above” existing properties; it would represent over-development of the existing site; the front elevation is not in line with the existing streetscape; and the roof elevation is not in line with the existing roof elevations. It was also felt that the proposed development was out of character for the area.

It was AGREED to receive the notifications

Proposed Cllr Mrs J McGee

Seconded Cllr Mrs E Burt

(ii) Pre-application consultation

Pre-application consultation

West Wylam Ward

Planning Ref. 16/00135/PREAPP

Proposal: Change in use from D1 Place of Worship to C3 Family Residence

Location: Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, Stonyflat Bank, Prudhoe, Northumberland NE42 5EP

Applicant: Mr Geoffrey Burn, 29 Rockwood Hill Estate, Greenside, Tyne & Wear NE40 4BQ

Response date: 29 April 2016

It was AGREED to respond to the pre-application consultation as follows:

In view of the size of the property and noting in particular that it was described as having 4 no. bedrooms, to question the adequacy / sufficiency of the parking provision stated as required in the pre-application, being for one vehicle only.

Proposed Cllr Mrs J McGee Seconded Cllr A Gill

1516/1100 PRUDHOE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL: ADOPTION PLAQUE PRESENTED BY HM LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY TO COMMEMORATE ADOPTION OF MOTOR LAUNCH HMML42, MARCH 1942

Cllr A Gill and the Clerk confirmed that the plaque, which was displayed at the meeting, had formerly been mounted at the offices of Prudhoe Urban District Council on South Road. The Clerk reported that the plaque had been restored thanks to the efforts of a local resident, Mr Derek Tulip, and advised that the matter had been brought before the Council for any action to be agreed in respect of finding a permanent home for the plaque. He added that the construction of the plaque, with the metal emblem mounted on a wooden shield, meant that the plaque ought not to be mounted so that it was open to the elements.

In the course of the ensuing discussion, the following locations were considered:

- Cllr B Futers and Cllr Mrs E Burt suggested that the Church of St Mary Magdalene would be appropriate as it was the parish church. Cllr A Reid wondered if the fact that the plaque was about a fighting ship, rather than commemorating the fallen in war, might make it less appropriate for the plaque to be mounted there;
- Prudhoe Waterworld, where the Millennium Collage is already displayed;
- Prudhoe Library / the Spetchells Centre: Cllr Mrs Burt suggested that the walls might not be able to hold up the plaque. The permission of Prudhoe Community Partnership as the owners of the building would need to be sought, but the plaque could be mounted in the covered entrance;
- The Prudhoe & District United Services Club.

At the conclusion of the discussion, **it was AGREED** to contact the Vicar of St Mary Magdalene, Revd Charles Hope, to enquire if the plaque could be mounted there, and offering to pay for the expense of the work if agreement was reached.

Proposed: Cllr Mrs E Burt Seconded: Cllr Mrs J McGee

1516/1101 HUMBLER WOOD / MOOR ROAD – STREET LIGHTING

Cllr B Futers stated that he had been contacted by a resident of Humber Wood regarding this issue. The resident raised concern on behalf of themselves and other residents about the condition of Moor Road. The resident stated that pedestrians, including the resident's own teenaged children, were faced with having to walk on the unlit road after dark. The resident had reported that they had gone to NCC, the developer (Gentoo Homes) and the Homes & Communities Agency, and had informed Cllr Futers that they would collect and present information to this Council, so that the Council could liaise with NCC Highways regarding the state of the road and lack of street lighting. However, the resident had not in fact liaised further with the Council.

Cllr Mrs E Burt stated that Moor Road needed to be improved because of the development at Humbles Wood, but she noted that the roadways at the lower end of the Castlefields Estate had never been adopted when that development was completed. Cllr A Reid stated that this complex issue had been going on for a year and a half. He said that there had been some contention as to where Moor Road narrowed, and that the road had been widened up to around 20 yards from the entrance to Moor Grange. Regarding street lighting, contact had been made with the NHS unit at Ferndene via Cllr G McCreedy, and Cllr Reid had suggested that he would contribute [via his county councillor's small schemes allowance] towards the installation of lighting, perhaps with support from Ferndene and from the developer. However, despite follow-up enquiries, nothing had been heard back from either party. When Cllr Reid had recently met with the unit manager of Ferndene, he had explained that having obtained NHS Estates' funding (£250,000) for an extension of the car park, he had concluded that he would not succeed in obtaining further funding, and this was found to be the case. This would leave Cllr Reid as the sole contributor.

Cllr Reid stated that the county-wide street light replacement programme [previously announced] had commenced in Ashington, and that problems had been reported with it: complaints had been made that the beam on the new lights was much narrower, with the focus of the light being downwards. Each new light would cost £1,000, and a maximum of 10 would be needed. Cllr Reid advised that NCC would suggest waiting until the light replacement programme reached Prudhoe before using the councillor's small schemes allowance to carry out this work. Regarding the width of the footpath / pavement, Cllr Reid said that the only solution was to clear the path, as the resources were not there to widen it. In response to Cllr B Futers, Cllr Reid suggested that the issue might receive more attention now because there was now more traffic on the road, and more council tax would be coming in from the additional resident taxpayers now living at Humbles Wood. Both he and Cllr McCreedy noted that there were many more people attending at Ferndene than had been envisaged: this was because the site was now being used as a training facility – which had necessitated the provision of the additional car parking.

Cllr Futers suggested that the road ought to have been upgraded before the development had been completed, but Cllr Reid noted that, while the roads might be considered as “struggling to cope from a Prudhoe perspective”, the traffic engineers deemed that the roads were capable of carrying the traffic that was using them. In response to Cllr Futers' suggestion that a new road access to Humbles Wood would be opened up at the old entrance further uphill, Cllr Mrs Burt stated that this was “gossip” and was not on the plans.

Following further discussion, in which Cllr Mrs Burt stated that NCC needed to ensure that the road met the required standard for its type and that this should be checked, **it was AGREED** as follows:

- To request NCC to arrange for the footpath / pavement to be cleared [thereby widening it]
- To contact NCC as the Planning Authority to ascertain what were the conditions relating to the road access to the development. It was noted that the need for additional lighting could be raised, and a marker put down regarding the residents' concerns regarding this.

Proposed: Cllr Mrs E Burt Seconded: Cllr Mrs J McGee

END OF MEETING