

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 5TH NOVEMBER 2003

Mr. Gray presided over Mesdames Harrison, Holmes and Collins, Messrs. Leith, Fisher, Mackin and Steeples.

1. APOLOGIES

None.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

3. PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

03/08168/FULL
Re-open entrance to warehouse
Aljec Wholesale, Ivel Road.

No objection.

03/01021/FULL
Change of use A1 (Newsagents) to A2 (Professional and financial services)
46-48 High Street

Object:- Retail outlets should be sustained – not more offices. Residents do not want to lose shops. The Town Plan ‘flagged up’ that it was more shops that were required not more offices.

03/01922/LB
Internal alterations and removal of dividing wall on ground floor.
46-48 High Street.

Object:- Would like a report from Structural Engineer before comment can be made as removal of the dividing wall may cause the building to become unsafe.

03/01923/TPO
Remove deadwood and reduce crown of two Oak Trees by 10-15%
12 Mayfields.
No objection.

03/00878/OUT
Residential development of up to 18 dwellings – additional highway details.
R/O 72 – 88 Ampthill Road

Object:- Proposed building will be on flood plain PPG23. Opposite school.

4. DECISIONS

Notice of Approval of Planning Permission
03/01436/FULL
Erection of rear conservatory.
126 Ampthill Road

Notice of Approval of Planning Permission
BC/CC/2003/46

6-new classrooms, ICT room, extensions to 4 existing classrooms and hall. Additional car parking spaces, new pedestrian route and realigned driveway.
Shefford Lower School, Bloomfield Drive.

5. COUNTRYSIDE AND RIGHTS OF WAY ACT

Maps and information received were passed to P3 Group to analyse.

6. SPEEDWATCH

Letter received from Occupational Support Division of Bedfordshire Police regarding Parish Speedwatch Schemes. The Council would be interested in running a scheme as proposed by the Casualty Reduction Officer as it was felt funds and labour were in place. Clerk to write and inform Beds. Police of this fact.

7. LICENCE – BLACK SWAN P H

Notice of an Application for a Public Entertainment Licence has been received from Mids Beds D C in respect of the above establishment. The Town Council to write a letter of objection to the Licensing Authority as there have been complaints of under-age and late night drinking.

8. LICENCE – UNWINS OFF-LICENCE

An application has been made for a change of licensee name at Unwins. The Council has no objection.

9. NEW STREET PLAY AREA

E:mail from Lisa White – Play and Open Space Officer – enquiring if the revised planting plan for the above play area was acceptable to all parties. Town Council to reply that they are happy with said plan.

With regard to the Priory Gate Play Area it was stated that it would depend on what the Town Council were asked to adopt but in any case would only consider the actual play area.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

E:mail received from PC Battams stating that that he will be leaving the Shefford Police Post on November 10th in order to take up a post with the Prisoner Handling Unit at Dunstable Police Station certainly until early 2004. Hopefully this will only be temporary and clerk to inform the Chief Constable of the Council's disappointment at the loss of the town's Beat Manager.

A letter has been received from Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins (35 High Street, Shefford) regarding the re-development of the old laundry in the High Street. Clerk to inform them that this was for a renewal only and appropriate comments had been made at the time of the original application.

A report of a dead tree has been received east side of Southbridge. This is in hand.

Mr. Mackin has made various plans and comments regarding sponsorship of the roundabouts. A list of possible contractors has been made but various questions still need to be answered.

Mr. Leith is to draft a letter to Brigadier Everson at Chicksands regarding the possibility of Chicksands personnel assisting the town in the event of flooding. Clerk will forward letter as if from the Town Council.

It was stated that 'dog bins' were required at various sites in the town, i.e. Churchill way and Priory Gate.

The meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.
