

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 1ST OCTOBER 2003

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

1. APOLOGIES

Mr. Mackin.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

3. PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

03/01595/FULL

Erection of three two storey terraced houses.

34a High Street and land at rear of 32 High Street.

Object:- Over development of site, access inappropriate for three dwellings and the site is in the flood area.

03/01697/FULL

Two detached houses with garages.

Land between Nos 8 and 11 Palmer Close.

Object:- The land is in an area liable to flood and did so in December 2002 and January 2003.

4. DECISIONS

Notice of Approval of Planning Permission

03/01251/FULL

Garage extension

12 Powells Road

Notice of Approval of Planning Permission

03/00897/FULL

Erection of bedroom accommodation block and creation of additional parking areas.

The Carriage House Hotel, 16 Hitchin Road.

**5. CHARTER FAIR – DISTRIBUTION OF NOTICES
NOTIFICATION TO MARKET TRADERS**

Clerk to print notices giving advance warning of the arrival of the annual Charter Fair to residents and shopkeepers in the High Street and seeking their help in adhering to the advised vehicle parking procedures due to road closure. The notice also to contain road closure information for November 9th Remembrance Sunday and November 28th for switching on of Christmas Lights. Mr. Steeples to deliver notices.

Clerk to write to Market Traders' Operator informing them of the High Street closure on 10th November.

6. WAITING RESTRICTIONS – KINGSMEDE

Letter from Babbie Group informing the Town Council that the Committee recommended that the proposal to introduce waiting restrictions in Kingsmede should proceed. This was later confirmed by the Portfolio Holder for the Environment and as such the Traffic Order will be introduced on Monday 3rd November at which time the required yellow lines and traffic signs will be provided.

7. PLAY AREA – PRIORY GATE

A copy of a letter has been received from George Wimpey to Lisa White of Mid Beds D C. regarding the adoption of the above. This is to be placed on file pending further correspondence and developments.

8. DONATION OF CHRISTMAS TREE

Mrs. Jeannette Golding has offered to donate a Christmas tree to the town that is currently growing in her garden. The details of the offer are to be forwarded to District Councillor Mr. Birt to see if the Christmas Lights Committee would be interested.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

An enquiry is to be made as to whether or not a decision has been reached regarding the possibility of the Old Railway Bridge in Bedford Road becoming 'listed' due to the fact it could be of architectural or historic interest.

A trailer from Mid Beds D C displaying 'flood literature etc.' is to be placed for one day only in the car park of Somerfield's store. Various matters such as the hazards of flooding, storage and distribution of sandbags are to be discussed at the next Finance and Policy Committee meeting.

An illuminated sign has been erected outside Wade's electrical shop. Clerk to enquire if permission was given or if it is needed.

A car has been abandoned on a pathway just west of Priory Gate. Clerk to contact Mid Beds D C regarding its removal.

A report has been received regarding a raised metal access hatch in Ivel Close near to the Fire Station. It is thought that this could be a trip hazard to pedestrians.

It was suggested that as there is now a full-time Town Clerk in the Council Chamber, it might no longer be necessary for the Council to retain the services of a Booking Clerk. This proposal is to be discussed at the next Finance and Policy Committee meeting.

The Highways Department of Beds County Council are to be asked if they are likely to resurface the pavement in Willow Way.

The footpath at the junction of Priory Gate and Ampthill Road has been remodelled by the developer who altered it when the road was put in. This area now needs a gully due to the fact that it floods in wet weather causing pedestrians to walk on the road.

The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.
