

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE HELD ON 6TH OCTOBER 2004**

PRESENT

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

1. APOLOGIES

Mrs. Collins.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

None.

4. DECISIONS

Notice of Approval of Planning Permission
04/01364/FULL
Single storey side/rear extension.
11 Elgar Drive

Notice of Approval of Planning Permission
04/01504/FULL
Conservatory to rear elevation.
12 Priory Gate

Notice of Refusal of Planning Permission
04/01540/FULL
Change of use from residential to day nursery and single storey rear extension.
10 Victoria Road

Notice of Withdrawal of Planning Permission
04/01575/FULL
Dormer window to loft extension.
1 Mallard Close.

Received from Mid Bedfordshire District Council for Information Only:
A Notice to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area
Removal of Leylandii trees at the rear boundary of Shefford Community Hall.

The Committee did not object to this request but information to be sought as to the likelihood of 'bats' being present in the area.

5. TREES AT WATERSIDE

A request has been received from a resident enquiring if the Committee had any objection to the removal of Elder trees and scrub on land adjacent to the property but owned by the Town Council. The resident stated that the reason for the request was in order to replace the existing fence and promised to plant appropriate replacement trees and/or shrubs after the work is completed. The Committee said they had no objection.

6. MID BEDS ANNUAL RECEPTION

An letter has been received from Councillor Richard G Baker BEM inviting up three Councillors to attend the Annual Reception for Mid Bedfordshire Town and Parish Councils on November 1st at County Hall, Bedford. The letter also included a programme of events and workshops. Mrs Holmes stated that she would like to attend and the letter is to be presented to members of the Services and Maintenance Committee next week to see if they are any others members that would like to attend.

7. COUNCILLOR TRAINING

An offer of a Councillor Training Session on Planning has been received from the Bedfordshire Association of Town and Parish Councils. Mrs. Holmes and Mr. Leith requested to be booked on the course.

8. LETTER FROM MR J SAYEED M P

The letter from Mr Sayeed regarding the location of mobile masts as previously noted at the full Council meeting was discussed. The letter included a copy of the Conservative Party's recent consultation paper on the subject which was photocopied and distributed to members for further study and comment.

9. ACCESS TO FOOTPATH No 3

A letter has been received from the Chairman of the local branch of the P3 Group regarding access to footpath No.3 which runs alongside the river. The letter informed members that the contractor had not cut the grass in this area for some considerable time. Access to the area had previously been gained through the gates at the entry to the Business Park but last May the site went for sale at auction. As a consequence of this sale, the gates have been subsequently closed thus denying access to any contractor. The letter also outlined three distinct areas that are suffering from erosion and require remedial action. This work would require access to the site through the Business Park gates and it was because of this that the letter urged the Council to try and secure ongoing access rights in advance of any planning issues that might arise as a result of the sale. Information is to be sought from the current owner of the land and the Drainage Board to see how access could be maintained as it was thought that several other authorities would also need to enter the area to carry out work.

10. STREET LIGHTING – MBDC

A letter has been received from Mid Beds District Council suggesting that the Town Council notes any street lights that are their responsibility and places notices on them informing residents as to who to contact in the event of a repair being required.

11. SHEFFORD SAINTS F C (juniors)

A letter has been received from Sherrards Solicitors (who act for the Saints F C) asking for reasons as to why the Council will not permit their client's proposed works. A reply is to be sent informing Sherrards that the Council are the landowners and do not have to give reasons as to what should or shouldn't take place on their land.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A report of a litter bin outside No. 95 Ampthill Road that requires replacing.

A request is to be to Babtie/County Council to enquire into the possibility of erecting an armco adjacent to the play area in Kingfisher Way. It is thought that there will undoubtedly be an increase in traffic once the work has been completed on the Churchill Way crossing.

Enquiries are to be made regarding 'a safer route to school' scheme in the Churchill Way area.

The meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.
