

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 1ST FEBRUARY 2006

PRESENT

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

1. APOLOGIES

Mrs. Holmes.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs. Harrison declared an interest in Planning Application : 06/00048/FULL

3. PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

06/00048/FULL
Conservatory to rear and front porch.
18 Elm Road.

No objection : providing it doesn't detract from neighbour's light.

4. DECISIONS

Notice of Approval of Planning Permission
05/01971/FULL
Erection of 4 bed detached dwelling with single garage.
Land to the Rear of 43 New Street.

Notice of Approval of Planning Permission
05/01850/FULL
First floor side extension
14 Oakwood Road.

Notice of Refusal of Details
05/00533/FULL
Details of conditions to be discharged : Condition number 2 (**tiles**) attached to Planning Permission reference 05/00533/FULL dated 11/11/2005
Land to the Rear of 54 and 56 High Street

Notice of Approval of Details
05/00533/FULL
Details of conditions charged : Condition number 2 (**bricks**) attached to Planning Permission reference 05/00533/FULL dated 11/11/2005

5. TWO/THREE TIER EDUCATION SYSTEM

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the advantages and disadvantages of a two or three tier education system. It was decided to place the item on the agenda for the Services and Maintenance committee prior to sending a final letter to the Education Department of the County Council.

6. COMMENCEMENT OF WORK – ROUNDABOUT A507

A letter has been received from the Project Engineer of ISG Interior Exterior informing the committee about the impending roundabout construction on the A507 associated with the move of the District Council to their new headquarters in Chicksands. The initial work will commence on Monday 6th February. A 40 mph restriction will be in force 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week for approximately 14 weeks. Priory Road will be closed from the A507 for approximately 100m starting on Monday 27th February and be in force for 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week for approximately 7 weeks. A local diversion route will be in place.

7. ONE-WAY SYSTEM – NEW STREET

A discussion took place regarding the feasibility of converting New Street from a two-way to a one-way traffic system. It was decided to place this topic on the agenda for the next meeting of the Services and Maintenance committee. It was also felt necessary to involve New Street residents particularly in any such decision and therefore the topic will be placed on the Agenda at the forthcoming Annual Town Meeting on 21st April. In order to ensure that residents are aware of the discussions on the possibility, it was decided to place the item in the next issue of Shefford Newline.

8. MBDC – DEVELOPERS CONTRIBUTIONS

A letter has been received from the Play and Open Space Officer of the District Council informing the committee of the Developers Contribution Secured from Land at Old Bridge Way. However, the letter seemed unclear as to the exact location and the total amount of contribution could not be ascertained. Once the trigger point for the release of monies has been reached the relevant forms will be sent to the Town Council. The Officer is to be contacted for further information in order to progress any claim to which the Town Council may be entitled.

9. LETTER FROM RESIDENT re THE CLIFTON ROAD DEVELOPMENT

A resident of Coopers Court has sent the committee a copy of a letter he has written to the Planning Department at the District Council informing them of his objections to a planning application to build nine single bedroom flats.

10. INVITATION TO ATTEND AN 'ACTION PLAN NETWORK MEETING – BRCC

An invitation to attend a meeting entitled as above has been received from the Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity. The aim of the meeting is deemed to be a chance for groups who have finished or nearly finished their Parish Plan to get together and discuss any common problems or solutions. The meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st February at 7.30 p.m. in the Community Room at the BRCC's Cardington Office. As no attendees could be found from this committee, the invitation is to be extended to members of the Services and Maintenance on 8th February.

11. BEDS CC / MBDC JOINT RECEPTION – INVITATION

An invitation has been received from the respective Chairman of both the County Council and the District Council to attend a joint reception on 21st March at 7.00 p.m. in the Members' Suite at County Hall. The invitation is extended to three members of the Town Council. As no members from this committee were able to attend, the invitation is to be extended to members of the Services and Maintenance Committee on 8th February.

12. MEETING WITH SHEFFORD SAINTS F C

In order to progress the possibility of offering a 10 year lease to the Shefford Saints F C, it was decided to contact the Chairman of each sub-committee to establish mutually agreeable dates when they would be available to meet for discussions with representatives of the Shefford Saints committee. The aim being to discuss the terms and conditions of a possible 10 year lease subject to legal ratification.

13. EMERGENCY PLANNING MEETING

The Civil Contingencies Unit of the County Council has offered to give a presentation to the committee as to what measures to take in the event of an emergency in the town. i.e. who would arrive to help, what organisations are likely to be involved. It was decided to take up the offer at the earliest opportunity.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Vehicle entrance at the Post Office 'puddles' in wet weather.

Report of bushes growing across the pavement in the vicinity of Ivel Road.

Mrs. Harrison, as the Council's representative on the STMA committee, gave a verbal report on a meeting she had attended there.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.
