

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 6TH SEPTEMBER 2006**

PRESENT

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

1. APOLOGIES

None.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

At this moment Mrs. Holmes welcomed Mr. Clive Batchelor from Whitebarn Properties and Mr. Peter Botsford from Wormald, Burrows Partnership who arrived to discuss a proposed development on the Shefford Business Park in Southbridge Street.

The development, if planning permission is granted, will comprise of 58 dwellings in total with 16 affordable units. The members had a chance to study various drawings and plans of the development as well as an opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Batchelor informed those present that the Planning Application had been forwarded to the District Council's Planning/Environment Department approximately two weeks ago.

Both representatives were thanked for their attendance and courtesy in informing the members of their intentions after which they left and the meeting continued.

3. PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

06/01368/FULL

Two storey side and single storey front extension.
37 Bury Road.

No objection.

Comment to say : concerns that the extension to property is too close to boundary.

06/01171/FULL

Single storey rear extension and erection of double garage following demolition of existing triple garage.
14A Clifton Road.

No objection.

4. DECISIONS

Notice of Approval of Planning Permission

06/00770/FULL

First floor side extension over existing garage.
26 Eisenhower Road.

5. EAST OF ENGLAND PLAN (DRAFT)

The Draft East of England Plan (EEP) was subject to Examination in Public between November 2005 and March 2006. The Report of the Examination Panel was published at the end of June 2006 and is presently being considered by the Government. They will be consulting on any changes they propose to make to the Draft EEP as a result of the Panel Report which is expected in the Autumn.

However, revised Government guidance on provisions to be made for Gypsies and Travellers was issued too late to be considered at the Examination in Public and will not be reflected in the final EEP when it is published in 2007. Bedfordshire County Council has been asked to assist the East of England Regional Assembly (EERA) in carrying out a 'single issue' review of the emerging EEP.

6. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 2006

The above document has been received from Mid Beds District Council. The information contained covered such topics as the Local Development Scheme, Gypsy & Traveller Development Plan Document and Core Strategy : Preferred options.

7. BRCC - PARISH ACTION PLAN DATA BASE

In order to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, the Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity has requested the Council's consent to hold and process information about them.

Assurances were given that the information given would not be passed to any third parties without the Council's permission. Bearing this in mind the committee agreed to sign the form.

8. ROAD CLOSURE – CHARTER FAIR

The Licensing Manager of the District Council has enquired if the committee has any objection to the application from Harris & Son regarding the road close required for the Charter Fair which will be taking place on 11th October. The road closure will also be in operation for part of 10th and 12th October.

No objections were raised and the Licensing Manager is to be informed accordingly.

9. COPY OF LETTER FROM RESIDENT RE RIVER FLIT

The committee has received a copy of a letter and some photographs from a resident in Powells Road to the Environment Agency. The resident's concerns related primarily to the amount of debris impeding the flow in the River Hit. It was thought that some of the debris consisted of rocks which were left by the contractors after carrying out remedial work on the weir as well as some *natural debris* planted by the E A.

The committee supported the resident's comments and will contact the EA accordingly.

10. SOUTH BEDS D C – ON-STREET PARKING ENFORCEMENT

Information has been received from the Joint Parking Board (Mid & South Bedfordshire) decriminalized Parking Enforcement Annual Report 2005/6. Bar charts were also enclosed indicating the Total Number of Hours of Enforcement, Number of Hours of Enforcement in the Mid Beds area, total Number of Penalty Charge Notices issued and the Number of Penalty Charge Notices issued on the streets in Mid Beds. Statistics were also supplied for the number of Enforcement Notices in each Town/Parish. In 2004/5 the number of Penalty Charge Notices for Shefford was 32 and for the year 2005/6 the number was 50. The Joint Parking Board is to be contacted to ascertain the numbers of hours that the Parking Attendants patrol in Shefford.

11. HOUSE NUMBERING

The addresses for dwellings being constructed on Land to the Rear of 5, 7 & 9 Elm Road will be :

Plot 1 7A Elm Road – Plot 2 7B Elm Road – Plot 3 7C Elm Road

All houses will have the Post Code SG17 5LD

128 Clifton Road – Postal numbers following conversion of dwelling into two properties, also bungalow to rear :

Plot 1 (r/h side of existing dwelling) 128 Clifton Road SG17 5AN

Plot 2 (l/h side of existing dwelling) 130 Clifton Road SG17 5AN

Bungalow r/o existing dwelling 132 Clifton Road SG17 5AN

The addresses for dwellings being constructed on Land to the Rear of 54 & 56 High Street will be :

Plot 1 54A High Street, Plot 2 54B High Street

Both houses will have the Post Code SG17 5AX

Postal address for 14 new dwellings on Land to the Rear of 1 to 25 Lucas Way will be known as Walkers Close.

4A Midland Gardens SG17 5YF now has the addition of a name – Ripley House.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Information has been received that contractors in Ampthill Road installed a drain that doesn't belong to them. It is believed that the County Council remedied the poor quality of the work.

The mayor gave a short report on the various matters discussed with the Assistant Director – Highways and Transport.

The Planning Enforcement Officer is to be informed that the two lights attached to Shefford Building Supplies are still in situ although they are not illuminating.

The grass cutting contractor is to be contacted to see if he is interested in operating a weed clearance programme in various parts of the town.

A resident reported a smell of rotting vegetation emanating at the top end of Ampthill Road. It is believed this is only temporary and will disappear in a day or two. The resident reported his complaint to the County Council.

1395 : 9/2006

Part of the pathway in Ivel Road is suffering from prolific weed growth. It is known that the County Council will not be carrying out weed control on actual pavement surfaces and it may be that this issue will have to be covered by the Council subject to negotiations with the County Council and the Town Council's own contractor in due course.

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.
