

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE HELD ON 2ND MAY 2007**

PRESENT

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

1. APOLOGIES

Mrs. Harrison.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

07/00663/FULL

Change of use from school to residential.
East Lodge School, Amptill Road.

Comment : outside of the Shefford Town envelope but would object as the buildings are unsuitable for domestic habitation.

07/00671/LB

Amendment to staircase to attic as approved under Listed Building Consent Ref. 06/01392/LB dated 26/10/06.
35 High Street.

No objection.

07/00627//TPO

Two Alders to be felled.
13 The Hollies.

Objection : would agree if an Arboricultural Officer advises on two suitable trees to replace them.

07/00700/FULL

Revision to house type Plot 11 (revised scheme to that previously approved under reference: 06/00997/FULL dated 16/11/06 for erection of 10 No. 3 bed terraced houses, pair of semi-detached houses, studio flat and associated parking).

81-85 Clifton Road.

No objection.

07/00639/FULL

Screening of Air Conditioning Units.

Malt House Building, Ivel Road.

Objection : unsuitable development and would impinge on footpath and further act as a trap for debris and hence a potential fire risk.

4. DECISIONS

Planning Permission Granted

BC/CC/2007/4

Extension to form 3 additional classrooms, toilets and storage space.

Robert Bloomfield Middle School, Bloomfield Drive.

5. PLAN THIS PLACE – MBDC QUESTIONNAIRE

The committee is in receipt of a document and questionnaire from the District Council entitled *Mid Bedfordshire Local Development Framework : Core Strategy Plan This Place Questionnaire*. The questionnaire was duly completed in readiness for forwarding to the District Council before Monday 7th May.

6. COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUMS

The committee has received a letter from the Community Safety Manager at the District Council informing them that the Mid Beds Community Safety Partnership brings together Mid Beds District Council, Beds County Council, Beds Police, Beds Police Authority, Beds Fire & Rescue Service, Aragon Housing Association, Primary Care Trust, Crown Prosecution Service and Beds Probation Service to jointly tackle crime and anti-social behaviour across Mid Bedfordshire. The primary aim of this proposal is to improve the effectiveness of the partnership's approach to community safety by bringing together local officers from the full range of Community Partnership agencies in one public forum. Although the Officer indicated that he would welcome any comments from the committee, it was decided that there was no need to respond at the present time.

7. HIGHWAYS PARTNERSHIP SCHEME 2007/2008

The committee has received a letter from the County Council requesting them to state their needs in respect of highway matters. The letter enclosed a list of approximate costs per activity and stated the amount of the Town Council's allocation. It was decided that the documentation would be more relevant to the Services and Maintenance committee and is to be forwarded to them accordingly.

8. BRIDGE HOTEL – AIR CONDITIONING UNITS

The committee is in receipt of a reply from the Mid Bedfordshire D C's Planning Enforcement Officer regarding their concerns about the siting of air conditioning units and hence a possible breach of planning control at The Bride public house in Ampthill Road. The whole matter is now under discussion with the Conservation Officer in the hope that the units can be re-located

1505 : 5/2007

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Invitation to a Climate Change Conference on 16th May from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. at the Forest Centre, Marston Vale Country Park.

An invitation to the Mid Beds Council Chamber to see a film on global warming entitled *An Inconvenient Truth*. The showing of the film will take place on Tuesday 15th May at 7.30 p.m. Film-goers are invited to take their own light bites and soft drinks but without any packaging or plastics.

Concerns over apparent poor workmanship on the storm drains in Ampthill. Although the work appears to be completed, they still have an unfinished appearance.

The Environment Agency is to be requested to remove the debris and vegetation which has accumulated in the river at Southbridge.

It was reported that the part of the kerb in Willow way has become uneven. The Highways Department is to be requested to carry out a repair.

The meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.
