

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2008**

**PRESENT**

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

**1. APOLOGIES**

Mr. Gray.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

At this point Mrs. Holmes welcomed Paul Doyle and Max Whitehead from Bloor Homes and Mark Wilson from Vincent and Corbing who arrived to discuss the proposed Shefford Mill site in Stanford Road.

Several questions were asked about the proposal and there was plenty of opportunity for the members to state their views and preferences.

The three guests were thanked for their attendance after which they left.

Overall the members thought it was a good meeting.

**3. PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION**

08/00266/FULL

Conservatory to rear.  
47 Eisenhower Road.

No objection.

08/00210/FULL

Erection of two new dwellings with associated parking.  
Land off Midland Close.

No objection.

08/00295/FULL

Erection of ground floor rear and side extension, two storey porch extension to front and loft conversion with dormers.

61 Bedford Road.

Objection :

This modification represents an unacceptable enlargement of the dwelling to the detriment and appearance of the street scene.

**4. DECISIONS**

None.

**5. SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NAME OF A NEW DEVELOPMENT**

The Building Control Manager at the District Council has e:mailed the council to ask if they would like to suggest a name for the new development previously known as 8 Clifton Road. The committee suggested Smiths Court in recognition of Smiths garage that had stood on the adjacent site. The recommendation is to be forwarded to the D C Officer.

#### **6. E;MAIL FROM CPRE - ISSUES AND OPTIONS CONSULTATION**

Information has been received from CPRE regarding the above along with an offer for assistance or support in commenting on specific site proposals should a Town/Parish Council require it.

#### **7. EAST OF ENGLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY – PLANNING FOR GYPSY AND TRAVELLER SITES**

EERA recently submitted the Draft *RSS Single Issue Review on Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation in the East of England*, to Central Government for consideration.

The Government is now inviting views on the draft policy through a 12 week public consultation which runs from 25<sup>th</sup> February to 16<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

Evidence suggests that many of the problems faced by Gypsy and Travellers, who are the most deprived and socially excluded groups within the region, arise from a lack of authorised provision for their accommodation needs. The draft policy therefore demonstrates EERA's commitment to addressing the pressing needs of travelling communities across the East of England region.

Responses can be sent on line to : [www.goeast.gov.uk](http://www.goeast.gov.uk) and the deadline is 5.00 p.m., Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

#### **8. BRCC – SUPPORT FOR PARISH ACTION PLANS**

The BRCC has contacted all Town/Parish Councils to enquire if they can assist in raising the profile of the Parish Action Plans. Bearing this in mind, they have requested that all towns and parishes complete an Action Plan Monitoring Form which they have tailor-made and distributed to each individual parish based on their already published Parish Plan. This will give them an indication of which issues have either been dealt with or are being dealt with. The clerk is to complete the form and any undetermined matters will be discussed at next weeks meeting of this committee.

#### **9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Concerns were raised about lorries obstructing the pathway on the new Old Bridge Way development.

The Mid Beds M P to be contacted to ascertain if she has had her meeting with Tesco's regarding their proposed site in the High Street.

The Highways Department is to be contacted about the poor state of the pathway outside the Fire Station, Hyde Close and the Priory Gate footpath.

It was agreed that the Planning and Environment committee meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> March should start at 7.00 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.