

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 17TH SEPTEMBER 2008

PRESENT

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

1. APOLOGIES

Mrs. Holmes.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

08/01635/FULL

Change of Use from agricultural land to football pitches and associated works.
Provision of new sports ground and construction of associated facilities.
Land off Stanford Road.

No Objection.

Comment : the visibility spay shown is too small - traffic calming is required – 30mph limit should be extended. Further youth pitches are not required as there are already over 10 in the town. If the youth pitches were removed this would allow for the re-siting of the adult pitch thus making more vehicle parking spaces available plus an area for coach parking. Must be to Football Association standard.

4. DECISIONS

Full Conditional Approval

08/01228/FULL

Loft conversion with dormer to side elevation.

1 The Pyghtle.

Full Conditional Approval

08/01237/FULL

Two storey rear extension & erection of new chimney to side.

31 Queen Elizabeth Close

5. RESPONSE FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCIL re SQUIRES CLOSE

The committee had previously enquired from Building Control as to why both the postcode and road name at Squires Close had been changed. Apparently the residents of the new development at Squires Close requested their own postcode and in order to make this possible it was necessary to change the road name, hence Squires Park. However, the committee disagreed with this and quoted Ampthill Road which has 4 post codes.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was reported that a crack has appeared in the perimeter wall surrounding the proposed Tesco retail store in the High Street. Tesco is to be informed accordingly.

Concerns were raised about the indiscriminate use of weed killer in Ampthill Road.

The committee agreed that new pedestrian crossing in Churchill Way had been incorrectly sited. Beds Highways is to be informed of their concerns. Surprise was also registered as to why the Town Council had not been informed. There appears to some doubt as to whether or not the road has been adopted.

It was stated that a reporter from the Biggleswade Chronicle had visited a resident in Stanford Road who had previously complained about raw sewerage in her garden.

A Clifton Parish Councillor has been approached to enquire if the committee would consider requesting Beds Highways to 'drop the kerb' at the Southfields junction to assist people in wheelchairs. The clerk is look at the area to ascertain the feasibility but if it is felt necessary then an application to Highways will be made.

An invitation to a play area seminar has been received from the Beds Playing Fields Association. The seminar will take place on 25th October at the Princess Charlotte Rooms, Shuttleworth. Mr. Leith said he will try and attend.

Information from Beds Highways has indicated that the re-surfacing of Ampthill Road is in the 5 year plan and beyond. Highways are to be informed that this is totally unacceptable as the County Council's own freight Survey shows that over 70 large HGV's travelled down Ampthill Road in less than 10 hours.

The committee is in receipt of the results of the Beds Highways 'walkabout' which Mrs. Harrison undertook with an Amey's representative. As it was thought that the report did not show all the areas covered, the clerk is to enquire as to whether or not a full report had been sent.

It was reported that a representative of Independent Funeral Homes Ltd wrote to Campton & Chicksands P C to express an interest in renting the Cemetery Chapel as a Chapel of Rest and place of worship for Funeral Services. As no adverse comments were received from the Campton and Chicksands P C, the letter was subsequently forwarded to Mr. Hardwick, Clerk to the Committee, Campton & Shefford Joint Burial Board.

The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.