

OPEN SESSION: There were no members of the public present.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING, TOWN & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Held on Friday 23rd July 2004 at 2.05pm

PRESENT: Cllr N Clarke (Chairman)
Cllr L C Ford
Cllr B H Terry
Cllr N C Wood

IN ATTENDANCE: Jo Stannard, Deputy Town Clerk
Cllr Mrs V Sullivan (for part of the meeting)
Terry Simpson, Town Clerk (for item P/4083)

P/4077 ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr N J Chard and Cllr Mrs B Charlton.

P/4078 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

P/4079 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 25th June 2004, having been circulated, were approved and signed as a correct record.

For the benefit of Cllr Mrs Sullivan, agenda items 4, 10 and 13 were discussed next.

P/4080 TOWN CENTRE WALKWAYS

Cllr Mrs Sullivan reported that the quality of town centre walkways was in serious deterioration and that this had come about, in the main, due to the amount of new developments and associated works that required the digging up of walkways for different agencies. The main areas of concern were in Meeting House Lane (between Ringwood Surplus Store and Trow Mills), Southampton Road (from The Crown to McKays), The Close and High Street.

RESOLVED: That a letter be sent to Hampshire Highways, to include the following:

- i) Asking if the quality of walkways in the town centre had been surveyed and, if so, on what criteria was the survey based.
- ii) Enquiring about a programme of inspections and maintenance for footways in the town centre and the criteria for remedial work.
- iii) Highlighting areas of concern as listed above.

P/4081

RINGWOOD HEALTHY WALKS

Mrs Stannard updated Members on the progress of this project. She said that the routes had been amended based on the Committee's previous comments and the route descriptions had been written and were currently being tested. She asked for authority to respond to Hampshire County Council with any comments arising from the volunteers testing the routes and added that she hoped to be able to bring proofs of the leaflets to the next meeting of the Committee. It was hoped that the leaflets would be printed by September.

RESOLVED: That Mrs Stannard be given authority to respond to Hampshire County Council with any comments from the volunteers testing the Ringwood Healthy Walks routes.

P/4082

CYCLE PARKING FACILITIES

Mrs Stannard reported that she had met with an officer from New Forest District Council to look at possible sites for new cycle parking facilities. As a result of this, 2 sites were being proposed, one in Southampton Road at the front of McKays and the second in Meeting House Lane by the Visitor Information Centre. 4 stainless steel cycle stands were being proposed for each location. It was noted that this may not be sufficient for Southampton Road, however, Mrs Stannard said that there was scope for more stands on the opposite side of the road if demand was high. It was also noted that there were already 4 cycle stands near the Visitor Information Centre. However, these were not well used, as they were not in a prominent position. Cllr Terry was concerned that the proposed site would disrupt the free flow of pedestrians because of the positioning of the drop kerbs. It was therefore suggested that the stands be situated to the north of the tree, rather than to the east.

Mrs Stannard added that she would be looking at other sites later in the year and would also be approaching Morrisons regarding the possibility of improving cycle parking facilities in the courtyard.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the proposal for new cycle parking facilities in Southampton Road be approved.
- 2) That the proposed location for new cycle parking facilities in Meeting House Lane be moved to the north of the existing tree.

Cllr Mrs Sullivan left the meeting. The Town Clerk joined the meeting for the next item.

P/4083

NFDC PLANNING DELIVERY GRANT FUNDING

Cllr Clarke reported that NFDC was seeking the Town Council's view on how best to use its Planning Delivery Grant funding to improve working relationships when dealing with planning application consultations. Ideas that had already been put forward were as follows:

- a) Availability of officers to attend committee meetings.
- b) Pre-Committee briefings or on-site meetings with an officer.
- c) Provision of written information in the form of briefing notes, setting out the main policy issues.
- d) Further training sessions.

The Town Clerk said that under the current system, the Committee was being asked to make judgements without having all the information. He believed that option (c) was essential in order for members to make informed decisions and added that options (a) and (b) would be useful for major applications.

Cllr Clarke suggested that options (c) and (d) should be pursued. He also felt that there was greater scope for electronic interchange and said that it would be beneficial to have access to NFDC's GIS mapping system to give a contextual picture of planning applications in the town. The Town Clerk said that the Town Council had joined NFDC's Town and Parish Council Internet Project and had expected one of the benefits of this to be greater access to common electronic data, such as the GIS system.

- RESOLVED:** That the Town Council would like to see NFDC's Planning Delivery Grant funding spent in the following areas:
- i) Provision of more written information in the form of briefing notes, setting out the main policy issues and details of calculations, for example, in respect of percentage increases.
 - ii) Further training sessions on how the planning system operates and what are 'material planning considerations'. Also tailored training sessions on particular policies relating to Ringwood – the reasons behind them and what they really mean.
 - iii) Greater access to information through electronic means e.g. GIS mapping system, submission of observations etc.

The Town Clerk left the meeting.

P/4084

RINGWOOD INFORMAL TRANSPORT LIAISON MEETING

Mrs Stannard reported that this meeting had been called by NFDC and would include District Councillors, County Councillor, Hampshire County Council and the Police. The Town Council had been asked to nominate up to 2 representatives to attend and to put forward items for the agenda.

- RESOLVED:**
- 1) That Cllrs Wood and Terry represent the Town Council at the Informal Transport Liaison Meeting to be held on 4th October 2004.
 - 2) That the following issues be included on the agenda:
 - i) Distributor route – the north/south route through the town is not appropriate for the volume of traffic.
 - ii) Location of the bus station and the effect this has on traffic flow through the town centre.
 - iii) The effects that traffic calming schemes in Eastfield Lane and Southampton Road have had on the pattern of traffic.
 - iv) Northfield Road – speed and release of traffic to Salisbury Road.
 - v) Hightown Road / Quomp
 - vi) Traffic Management Plan for Ringwood and long-term parking management issues

P/4085
REVIEW OF TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

It was noted that NFDC was undertaking a review on the introduction of the Clock and Pay-and-Display schemes and had asked for views from Parish and Town Councils.

Members felt that the introduction had generally been successful. Initially there had been complaints about the availability of the Clocks when the Visitor Information Centre was closed, but this no longer appeared to be a problem. It was noted that 60,000 Clocks had been sold across the District. However, members wished to receive data on the number of tickets that had been purchased from the machines.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Town Council had no suggestions for improving the successful Clock and Pay-and-Display schemes.
- 2) That NFDC be requested to provide data on the number of car parking tickets purchased.

P/4086
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO DISTRICT OF NEW FOREST (OFF-STREET PARKING PLACES) ORDER

Mrs Stannard reported that the consultation period for proposed changes to this Order was now underway. The Town Clerk had arranged to receive copies of all objections/comments so that these could be reviewed before the Town Council made its own response to the consultation. A special meeting of the Full Council had been set up for Wednesday 1st September to consider this issue.

RESOLVED: That the arrangements for responding to the consultation be noted.

P/4087
EASTERN SERVICE ROAD

Members noted that Hampshire County Council had confirmed the Eastern Service Road and turning area was public highway and therefore the no waiting 'at any time' restriction was an enforceable traffic order. In addition, the Highways Authority had agreed that it was important for lorries to be able to exit the service road in forward gear and had therefore recommended providing 'Keep Clear' signs in the turning area.

The Town Clerk had suggested that this could be an opportunity to provide on-street parking places for businesses at the end of the Eastern Service Road, whilst still retaining sufficient space for lorries to turn around. Spaces could be provided at a fee to be agreed with the District Council.

Cllr Wood was concerned that if the vehicles currently parking in the Eastern Service Road are moved on, this could exacerbate problems in the long-stay car park. She said that if this suggestion was to be given serious consideration, it should be looked at in conjunction with the idea to provide reserved parking spaces in the long-stay car park for use by local businesses.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk's suggestion to provide on-street parking places in the Eastern Service Road be approved.

P/4088

PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED

Planning applications in respect of the weeks ending 22nd and 29th June and 6th and 13th July 2004 were considered and observations made as shown in Annex 'A'.

P/4089

URGENT BUSINESS

i) Moortown Farms Ltd – Enforcement Appeal

It was noted that Moortown Farms Ltd had appealed against an Enforcement Notice, which had been served because a building constructed of scaffold poles had been erected without planning permission.

RESOLVED: That the Council did not wish to make any representation with regard to the appeal by Moortown Farms Ltd.

ii) Quality Walking and Cycling Routes

Mrs Stannard reported that the 'Walkabout Notes' had now been updated to include details of priorities and when it was likely that work would be carried out. Peter Savidge, the Chairman of the Working Group, was in the process of preparing a Project Action Plan and Project Appraisal Report and intended to include the views of the Town Council made by this Committee on 2nd April (P/4044 refers).

RESOLVED: That the previous resolution made by the Committee on 2nd April 2004 be used as the Town Council's views in the Ringwood Quality Walking & Cycling Project Action Plan.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 4.10pm.

Ringwood Town Council - Planning Observations - 23rd July 2004

Numbe	Site Address	Proposal	Observatio	Comments
2004/30	Rear garden of 10 Riverside, RINGWOOD	Prune - Alder and Ash	Support	
2004/31	Tree near the garage 65A Southampton Road	Prune - 1 Holm Oak	Support	
81446	9 Highfield Drive	Single-storey rear extension; additions to roof to provide new first floor; detached garage (AMENDED DESCRIPTION)	Support	
81820	Norwood, Gorley Road, Ringwood	Single-storey front extension; additions to roof; dormers in association with new first floor	Support	
81843	26b Kingsbury Lane, Ringwood	Pair of semi-detached houses (partial demolition of bungalow) access	Support	Sensible solution to problem of limited on-street parking in area.
81855	Done Bookmakers, 12-14 High Street, Ringwood	Single-storey rear extension; replacement shopfront	Support	
81857	Potters Cottage, Hightown Hill, Ringwood	Single-storey side & rear extension; detached double garage	Support	Subject to being within 30% Policy

Numbe	Site Address	Proposal	Observatio	Comments
81863	4 Forest Hills Court, Hightown, Ringwood	First floor extension	Support	
81871	164 Barrack Lane, Crow, Ringwood	Front porch	Support	
81890	Land rear of The Cedars, fronting Oak Lane	Pair of semi-detached bungalows, access	No comment	Subject to TPO 61/04
81909	29 Woodstock Lane	Detached garage	Support	
81919	Greenacres, Christchurch Road, Kingston	Side conservatory	Support	
81924	Applegarth, Hightown Hill	Rear first floor extension	Support	Subject to being within 30% Policy
81927	21 The Mount	Conservatory	Support	
81932	Humbug House, Ebenezer Lane	Single storey rear extension, detached garage	Support	
81956	4 Southampton Road, RINGWOOD	3 externally illuminated fascia signs; 3 internally illuminated menu boxes	Support	
81957	4 Southampton Road, RINGWOOD	3 externally illuminated fascia signs; 3 internally illuminated menu boxes (application for Listed Building Consent)	Support	
81968	5 Morant Cottages, 177 Southampton Road, RINGWOOD	Replacement boundary fence	Object	Incongruous, out of keeping with street scene.
81971	19a Broadshard Lane, RINGWOOD	Two-storey and first floor extensions	Support	

Numbe	Site Address	Proposal	Observatio	Comments
81972	Titchbourne Cottage, Hampshire Hatches Lane, Moortown, RINGWOOD	One and two-storey extensions	Support	
81974	Ealing Dene, 22 Woodford Close, RINGWOOD	Two-storey rear extension	Support	
81978	2 West Street, RINGWOOD	Illuminated projecting sign	Support	
81986	Land of 6 Poplar Way, RINGWOOD	House; new access	Support	
81987	Land of 53 Hightown Road, RINGWOOD	House	Support	
82019	43 Fairlie, RINGWOOD	One and two-storey extension	Support	
82030	The Music Corporation, Market Place, RINGWOOD	Partial demolition	Support	
82032	38 College Road, RINGWOOD	Two-storey side/rear extension	Support	