

WATERBEACH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Planning Committee** of Waterbeach Parish Council held on 16th August 2011 at 7.30 p.m. at the New Pavilion, Cambridge Road, Waterbeach.

PRESENT

Councillors W Bullivant, P Johnson, N Kay, C Smith and A Wright.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors B J Bull, J Cornwell, K Grant and J M Rabbett.

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor M Williamson

01/11 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

In view of the limited number of Members present at the meeting, it was

RESOLVED

that consideration of the election of the Chairman of the Committee be deferred until the next meeting.

02/11 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Similarly, it was

RESOLVED

that consideration of the appointment of the Vice Chairman of the Committee be deferred until the next meeting.

03/11 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN, PRO TEM

Further to Minute Nos. 01/11 and 02/11, Councillor Kay was elected as Chairman of the Committee, pro tem, for the purposes of this meeting only.

Councillor Kay in the Chair

04/11 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No declarations of interest were made in respect of items appearing on the agenda.

05/11 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) Applications

Members considered the following applications for planning permission, arising from which it was

RESOLVED

that the following observations be submitted to South Cambridgeshire District Council:-

- (i) **S/1360/11 Blayson Olefines Ltd. Facility, Denny End Industrial Estate, Pembroke Avenue – Alterations and additions to external windows and doors; erection of three extract flues**

that the District Council be recommended to approve the application,

- (ii) **S/1478/11 Building 7100, IQ Cambridge, Beach Drive – External compound.**

that the District Council be recommended to approve the application,

- (iii) **S/1492/11 Waterbeach Lodge, Ely Road, Waterbeach - Variation of condition 3 of planning application S/1099/10/F for the substitution of approved plans.**

that the District Council be informed that, while having no objection to the amended plans for the building itself, the Parish Council remain concerned over various highway aspects of the proposal in terms of the visibility splay and access arrangements at the junction with the A10, the width of the access road and the provision of sufficient parking at the development.

Arising from a suggestion with regard to the long term impact of the development in the Parish, it was further

RESOLVED

that the operators of Waterbeach Lodge be invited to a meeting of the Committee to outline their proposals for the future of the facility.)

(b) Decisions

Members noted that the following application for planning permission had been granted by the District Council:-

S/1163/11 24A Station Road – Single storey rear extension and front open porch

06/11 ENFORCEMENT

Arising from a comment in the District Councillors' report at the previous meeting of the Council (Minute No. 108/11(ii) refers), the Committee briefly reviewed the planning enforcement situation in terms of Lock Farm. It was thought that the old house was to be demolished, as a result of which Councillor Johnson promised to investigate and report back to the September meeting.

07/11 FUTURE OF WATERBEACH BARRACKS

(Councillor Wright declared a personal interest in the following matter as a member of the golf club situated on the site.)

The Committee discussed the future of Waterbeach Barracks following reports in the national media that they were to be closed and the site redeveloped for housing.

Members stressed the importance of the Barracks to the local community, both in terms of the potential loss of amenities on the base currently open to local residents and the reduction in business and usage of village facilities by base personnel and their families. It was agreed that closure of the Barracks would have a major impact on Waterbeach and that the Parish Council's support should be extended for the retention of the base as an operational unit. Mention was made of a public meeting at the local school in November which was to be addressed by the local M.P.

With regard to comments by national politicians that the base should be re-developed for housing, the Committee were of the opinion that circumstances had not changed from some 10 years previously when the Parish Council and neighbouring parishes had objected to the possible expansion of Waterbeach in favour of Northstowe. The arguments against development remained the same in terms of the lack of capacity on the A10 and the risk of flooding.

Attention also was drawn to subsequent changes in planning legislation, as a result of which the East of England Regional Planning Strategy had been withdrawn and the scale and location of development were now the total responsibility of district councils. Although development at Waterbeach had not been included in the Core Strategy for South Cambridgeshire, the Committee was aware that the District Council had recently invited submissions from landowners and developers for sites for potential development as part of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment, the results of which would be published for consultation in the coming months.

Under the circumstances, it was

RESOLVED

- (a) that the Committee expresses its support for the retention of Waterbeach Barracks as an operational base in view of the major impact that its loss would have on the community of Waterbeach; and

- (b) that a meeting be convened to discuss the future of the Barracks in the event of its closure, involving two representatives from Waterbeach, Milton and Landbeach Parish Councils and the local County and District Ward Councillors and to which the relevant officers from the County Council Highways and District Council Planning Divisions respectively be invited.

08/11 MINERALS AND WASTE PLAN

The Committee was informed that the County Council had now adopted the Minerals and Waste Plan Core Strategy. With regard to the site specific DPD, a further period of consultation had been opened on changes to Government guidance and its effect on the plan, before consultation would take place on changes emerging from an Examination in Public.

As no specific proposals were thought to be contained in the Plan with regard to Waterbeach, it was not thought that this would have any significant impact on the Parish.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 8.40 p.m.

Chairman