

7th April 2005 4.30pm  
Antrobus House  
Amesbury

## Minutes

**These minutes should be kept for use by District Councillors at the next Council meeting**

**Present:**

**Chairman:** Councillor M A Hewitt

**Vice Chairman:** Councillor J Noeken

**Councillors:** M Baker, J Brady, D Brown, A Peach, J Spencer, I West, F Westmoreland, T Woodbridge and K Wren

**Parish and Other representatives:**

Mr G Burt (Bulford), Mr P Porter (Figcheldean), representative from Idmiston, Mr S Stubbs (Newton Tony), Mrs J Swindlehurst (Amesbury).

**Apologies:** Councillors C Mills, Mrs J Greville

### **MINUTES NOT REQUIRING COUNCIL APPROVAL**

**329 ELECTION OF A VICE-CHAIRMAN**

**RESOLVED** – That Councillor J Noeken be elected Vice-Chairman for the duration of the meeting.

**330 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

None

**331 COUNCILLOR STATEMENT/QUESTION TIME**

Councillor A Peach stated that he had grave concerns about the development of the Focus DIY store on London Road in Amesbury. The workmen had been working on the site until 1am and this was causing great concern and disturbance to local residents. Councillor Noeken also stated that he had been made aware of the problem by local residents.

Both councillors had visited the site as had Environmental Health Officers from Salisbury District Council. The officer had agreed with the developers that work would no longer be continuing until late into the night. The councillors indicated that they would be keeping a close eye on the situation.

**332 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting of the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2005 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**333 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Woodbridge declared a personal and prejudicial interest in planning applications numbers S/2005/369 and S/2005/457 as he is a close personal friend of the owner of a nearby business and withdrew from the room during consideration thereof.

**334 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman informed members that he had noticed incidents in recent months whereby

unauthorised developments had been taking place over weekends and holidays as the developers knew that by the time officers returned to work the majority of the building would already be complete. Therefore the Chairman informed members that he had asked officers to investigate whether an on call or stand by system could be developed to allow designated officers to take action immediately during non work hours.

The Chairman informed members that a liaison visit to Solstice Park had been arranged for the afternoon of the 3<sup>rd</sup> May before the next Northern Area Committee meeting. The visit would last approximately 1½ hours. The Chairman informed members that a letter would be sent to members confirming the exact start time once officers knew how many site visits would be taking place on that afternoon.

### **335 RURAL FLORAL SCHEME**

The Committee considered the previously circulated report of the Parks Manager.

Members felt that as the Committee had given an undertaking to support the scheme in principle in September 2004 that they should keep to the agreement for the current year. There was some discussion over the level of funding that should be provided and opinion was divided over whether or not this was something that the Northern Area Committee should be funding the future.

#### **RESOLVED – that**

1. The Northern Area Committee allocate £4,500 of the discretionary budget for 2005/6 to support the scheme.
2. The Parks Manager bring a report to the Northern Area Committee in September outlining the future options for the scheme including alternative funding options.

### **336 CONSULTATION ON THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS**

The Committee considered the previously circulated report of the Head of Legal and Property Services.

The Head of Legal and Property Services informed members that they were being consulted on all aspects of the Code of Conduct. If any member wished to make a personal response to the code of conduct then they could send individual responses directly to the Standards Board for England.

The members expressed concern about the small number of individuals that make vexatious complaints against councillors. It was felt that a record of such complaints should be kept. Members enquired as to whether local authorities could have some powers to determine complaints. The Head of Legal and Property Services explained that, at present, the Standards Board for England has the option to refer cases to the monitoring officer of the relevant local authority. He informed members that there had been concerns raised that having the local standards committee or the Monitoring Officer investigate possible breaches of the code may expose its members, or the M/O as the case may be, to undue pressure from local residents or councillors.

The suggestion was made that perhaps neighbouring local authorities could investigate any alleged breaches of the code by members of its surrounding local authorities. It was noted that the appropriate re-imbursements for costs would also have to be made.

#### **RESOLVED – that**

1. The leaflet and report be noted.
2. That members discuss individual issues and comments with the Head of Legal and Property Services.

### **337 SWAG REVIEW PANEL MEMBERSHIP**

**RESOLVED –**

1. That Councillor T Woodbridge be appointed as a member of the SWAG review Panel.
2. That, as both Councillor Woodbridge and Councillor Noeken are unable to attend the next meeting, that Councillor Hewitt and Councillor Westmoreland attend on their behalf.

**338 UPDATE ON THE CO-LOCATION OF A PUBLIC OFFICE ON THE LIBRARY/HEALTH CENTRE SITE**

The Head of Legal and Property Services informed members that a meeting between officers was held on 29<sup>th</sup> March to agree a programme for relocating customer services from the portakabin to the library site. He informed members that there would be an 8-10 week period for the delivery of furniture and therefore the completion of any solution would not be available until June at the earliest and more likely in July.

Councillor Noeken informed members that it was anticipated that Amesbury Town Council would be opening their new office on the health centre site in tandem with the CAB in May subject to the agreement of the Amesbury Town Council Policy Group. This new facility was intended to be a surgery for residents.

**AGREED –** That an update be brought to a future meeting to keep members informed of the progress of the co-location.

**339 UPDATE ON THE EXPANSION OF PORTON DOWN**

Councillor Wren informed members that this item had originally been included on the agenda because there was a threat that DSTL would close the A30 between Winterslow and Porton. However, this threat diminished when it was announced that DSTL would be expanding its operation in Salisbury with an increase in staffing levels of up to 300%. It was also announced that HPA was considering increasing staffing numbers substantially and that Tetricus would also be expanding its operation on Porton Down. He emphasised that as this expansion would be occurring over the next 10-15 years there would be many ramifications for local residents.

As a result of this Councillor Wren explained that he had contacted DSTL to request that they arrange a meeting with all parishes in the Bourne Valley to explain the future plans and likely timescales. Representatives of DSTL welcomed the opportunity to have a meeting with the parishes and stated that they would attempt to organise a meeting in the next eight weeks. They explained that whilst they could not guarantee that HPA and Tetricus would be willing to attend the meeting DSTL would invite them to be involved.

Councillor Wren explained that whilst events were moving forward, albeit at a modest pace, this was a good opportunity to bring all three companies together and to consider the implications for the infrastructure of the area carefully particularly in relation to highways, transport, housing, schools and health facilities.

A suggestion was made that as a green travel plan was being formulated for Porton Down this was a good opportunity to investigate all the other environmentally conscious aspects of the development.

A suggestion was also made that as the Winterslow to Porton road was an old bye-way it would be an advantage to have it under the control of WCC. Councillor Wren explained that the County Council were investigating the ownership of the road to ensure that public access is protected.

**RESOLVED –** That this item remain on the agenda to enable members to be informed as to the progress of the expansion, and the future ownership and maintenance responsibilities of Winterslow Road.

**340 UPDATE ON RECREATION ROAD**

The Head of Legal and Property Services informed members that the Chief Executives of both the District Council and the County Council had met on 24<sup>th</sup> March and discussed this issue and that discussions were still ongoing.

**RESOLVED** – That this be brought back to a future Northern Area Meeting when there is progress to report.

**341 UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CO-OP IN AMESBURY**

The Head of Legal and Property Services informed members that one of his officers had inspected the site and that demolition works were underway and should be completed by 8<sup>th</sup> April.

Members raised concerns about the car park and it was noted that some of the area had been roped off. It was also noted that the land was no longer under the control of the District Council.

**RESOLVED** – That this be brought back to a future Northern Area Meeting to update members on the progress of the development.

**342 S/2005/165 - FULL APPLICATION - KITCHEN EXTENSION: LILAC COTTAGE  
11 NEWTON TONY SALISBURY SP4 0HA FOR MR C MAXLOW-TOMLINSON**

Mr Maxlow-Tomlinson, the applicant, spoke in support of the above application.

Mr Stubbs, on behalf of Newton Tony Parish Council, informed the Committee that the Parish Council had no objections to the application.

Following the receipt of these statements and further to the site visit held earlier that day, the Committee considered the previously circulated report of the Head of Development Services.

**RESOLVED: -**

- I. That the above application be delegated to the Head of Development Services for approval subject to the case officer undertaking further negotiations to his satisfaction with the applicant with regards to revising the design of the front window

And that subject to this the application be **approved** for the following reason:

- (1) The proposed extension is felt to be in keeping with its surroundings.

And subject to the following conditions:

- I. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of five years from the date of this permission.

Reason: To comply with the provisions of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (0004)

2. The materials to be used in the construction of the external surfaces of the extension hereby permitted shall match those used in the existing building.

Reason 0013: To ensure that the proposed extension will satisfactorily harmonise with the external appearance of the existing building.

**343 S/2005/166 – LISTED BUILDING WORKS - KITCHEN EXTENSION: LILAC COTTAGE 11 NEWTON TONY SALISBURY SP4 0HA FOR MR C MAXLOW-TOMLINSON**

Further to the site visit held earlier that day, the Committee considered the previously circulated report of the Head of Development Services.

**RESOLVED -**

- I. That the above application be delegated to the Head of Development Services for approval subject to the case officer undertaking further negotiations to his satisfaction with the applicant with regards to revising the design of the front window

And that subject to this the application be **approved** for the following reasons:

- (I) The proposed extension is felt to be in keeping with its surroundings.

And subject to the following conditions:

- I. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of five years from the date of this permission.

Reason: To comply with the provisions of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (0004)

2. The materials to be used in the construction of the external surfaces of the extension hereby permitted shall match those used in the existing building.

Reason 0013: To ensure that the proposed extension will satisfactorily harmonise with the external appearance of the existing building.

**344 S/2005/369 – FULL APPLICATION - PROPOSED ALTERATIONS AND EXTENSION OF EXISTING GARAGE/STORE AND STORE ROOM TO FORM ONE BEDROOM DWELLING: MEADOW STORES MEADOW ROAD BULFORD SALISBURY SP4 9DN FOR MISS M LOUGHLIN**

Ms M Loughlin, the applicant, spoke in support of the above application.

Mr Burt, on behalf of Bulford Parish Council, informed the Committee that the Parish Council objected to the application.

Following the receipt of these statements the Committee considered the previously circulated report of the Head of Development Services, together with the schedule of late correspondence circulated at the meeting.

**RESOLVED:**

- (I) that the above application be **REFUSED** for the following reason

- I. The premises is considered to contribute to the social and economic life of the Village of Bulford and there is insufficient evidence to demonstrate that the use as a business premises is unviable, contrary to policy PS3, G1 (ii) and S9 of the Adopted Salisbury District Local Plan.
2. The proposed residential development is considered by the Local Planning Authority to be contrary to Policy R2 of the adopted Salisbury District Local Plan because appropriate provision towards public recreational open space has not been made.

- (2) That the applicant be informed of the following:
  1. R2 Reason for refusal - the applicant has signed and returned a standard unilateral undertaking but has not submitted the required financial payment. It should be noted that the reason given above relating to Policy R2 of the adopted Local Plan could be overcome if the required financial payment is submitted.
  2. That this decision has been taken in accordance with the following policies of the Salisbury District Local Plan; G1 Principles of sustainable development, G2 General, H16 Housing Policy Boundary, PS3 community facilities, S9 Local Shops.

**345 S/2005/457 – FULL APPLICATION - CONVERSION OF SHOP TO TWO SINGLE BEDROOMED FLATS WITH CAR PARKING: MEADOW STORES MEADOW ROAD, BULFORD SALISBURY SP4 9DN FOR MISS M LOUGHLIN**

The Committee considered the previously circulated report of the Head of Development Services, together with the schedule of late correspondence circulated at the meeting.

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) that the above application be **REFUSED** for the following reason
  1. The premises is considered to contribute to the social and economic life of the Village of Bulford and there is insufficient evidence to demonstrate that the use as a business premises is unviable, contrary to policy PS3, G1 (ii) and S9 of the Adopted Salisbury District Local Plan.
  2. The proposed residential development is considered by the Local Planning Authority to be contrary to Policy R2 of the adopted Salisbury District Local Plan because appropriate provision towards public recreational open space has not been made.
- (2) That the applicant be informed of the following:
  1. R2 reason for refusal -The applicant has signed and returned a standard unilateral undertaking but has not submitted the required financial payment. It should be noted that the reason given above relating to Policy R2 of the adopted Local Plan could be overcome if the required financial payment is submitted.
  2. This decision has been taken in accordance with the following policies of the Local plan: G1 Principles of sustainable development, G2 General H16 Housing Policy Boundary, PS3 Community facilities, S9 Local Shops R2 Open Space Provision

Note: Members expressed their dissatisfaction at the level of noise emanating from the room above the meeting and requested that the Northern Area Co-ordinator raise this issue with the manager of Antrobus House.

Meeting closed at 1905  
Members of the public present 5