



P5.

Before the Meeting commenced, the Chairman reminded everybody that their microphones must remain muted unless they are invited to speak, and members of the public are not permitted to participate in the Meeting.

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL (PLANNING) MEETING 8 SEPTEMBER 2020

PRESENT

Councillor (Miss) J Murphy (In the Chair)

Councillors: (Mrs) K Barber
(Mrs) J H Bishop
A Bishop
G Evans
N Gardiner
P Newton-Smith
(Mrs) M Penny
K Smith
K Saunders
R Williams
S Wolfensohn

IN ATTENDANCE

Seven Members of the Public and one Member of the Press

APOLOGIES

12. Councillors S Weisinger, G Olley and (Mrs) L Vardy



Highworth is a Fair Trade Town



Twinned with Wassenberg



Twinned with Pontorson

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

13. None.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

14. E Mail from Mrs P Webster asking if anything is being done about the signage appearing in the High Street without Planning Permission? The Town Clerk is to write to Swindon Borough Council (SBC) Planning Department for advice.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS

15. **RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL (PLANNING) MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 4 AUGUST 2020 BE ADOPTED AND SIGNED.** (The Minutes are to be duly signed).

PLANNING PERMISSIONS AND REFUSALS

PLANNING PERMISSIONS

16. a. S/HOU/20/0767PEKO. Erection of a front and rear single storey extensions. 58 The Willows, Highworth. (Councillors recommended acceptance).

PLANNING REFUSALS

17. None.

ALLOCATION OF HOUSES FOR HIGHWORTH

18. SBC are required to build 20450 houses within Swindon up to the year 2036. Of this figure Highworth's allocation has been set at 516 houses. These figures may differ following the Consultation on the White Paper.

REPORT FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING PARTY (NPWP)

19. Councillor (Mrs) M Penny has stepped down from the NPWP and as Chairman due to pressures of work and an ever-increasing portfolio in her role as Borough Councillor and Cabinet Member. She felt she would no longer be able to do the position justice. Councillor (Miss) J Murphy was elected as Chairman of the NPWP and Councillor K Smith was elected as Deputy Chair of the NPWP.

The Committee agreed at the NPWP Meeting that all Meeting Minutes will be distributed to Councillors following NPWP Meetings along with a report to Full Council Planning when applicable to ensure Councillors are kept informed.

The Committee wrote as a group to SBC highlighting concerns with the lack of planned infrastructure for Highworth, especially considering the proposed large developments within the Town. David Dewart attended the NPWP Meeting, held earlier today, to discuss the deficiencies in infrastructure within the Town and confirmed Highworth is being assessed independently of Swindon. It is anticipated that a report will be available at the end of September 2020.

GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER CONSULTATION (PLANNING)

20. A 384-page document has been published by the Government which looks at revising the Planning Process and includes fundamental changes. This will include Communities having the opportunity to shape future developments by design code. Councillor (Mrs) M Penny will pass to the Town Clerk a 2-page summary of the White Paper to be circulated to all Councillors.

The Consultation on the White Paper runs for 12 weeks closing on 29 October 2020. Councillors are to send comments to the Town Clerk no later than 2 October 2020 and a response will be an Agenda item at the NPWP, scheduled for the 6 October 2020, the response will be formalised at the Full Council Planning Meeting later in the evening of the 6 October 2020.

HIGHWORTH INFRASTRUCTURE

21. Councillor K Saunders has received numerous complaints regarding the infrastructure within Highworth, mainly relating to the flooding that occurred recently. The drains and sewers are not able to cope with peak events of high volume of rainwater which results in houses and gardens being flooded with water and sewage. This has been reported to Thames Water and is included within the infrastructure being studied by the NPWP. One aspect is the gullies being blocked causing flooding issues. Councillor (Mrs) M Penny confirmed SBC has been out several times and cleared the gullies that they know to be blocked, if there are further areas this needs to be reported directly to SBC. This can be done via the SBC system JADU or reported to the HTC office. Councillor A Bishop confirmed he has received a letter from Thames Water recently advising the drainage issues are being investigated.

APPOINTMENT TO NPWP

22. Councillor (Mrs) K Barber is appointed to the NPWP Committee as Deputy Chair of Planning.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

23. a. [S/HOU/20/0886](#) EMMI – Erection of two storey side extensions, single storey rear extension and porch to front. 12 Grove Orchard, Highworth, SN6 7LB. **Councillors recommend defer to officers.**
- b. [S/HOU/20/0899](#) EMMI – Erection of a single storey front extension. 29 Lismore Road, Highworth, SN6 7HU. **Councillors recommend approval.**
- c. [S/HOU/20/0904](#) PEKO – Erection of a single storey rear extension and detached garage. 33 Grove Hill, Highworth, SN6 7JL. **Councillors recommend approval to the alterations to the main building but request that officers investigate the neighbours' complaints in relation to the additional windows and height of the garage.**
- d. [S/20/1087](#) SASM – Outline application for the erection of Class B1, B2 and B8 employment uses plus new vehicular and pedestrian access – Access not reserved – variation of conditions 2, 3, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15 from Outline Planning Permission S/OUT/17/1772. Land North of Blackworth Industrial Estate, Highworth. **Councillors have concerns over the actual conditions being requested and would like more information on the likely outcome, if this were to be agreed. Councillors' main concern is that if this were to be agreed will it lead to a piecemeal development with a partially completed site.**

MEMBERS' BUSINESS

24. Councillor (Miss) J Murphy: Reported that changes to Planning Law are effective from the end of August 2020 beginning of September 2020. There are also changes to the rules.
- a. Changes around demolition.
 - b. It is now possible without going through the full Planning Process to increase the height of a dwelling. This would be by prior approval with SBC and HTC would not be consulted if SBC gave approval.
 - c. In order to stimulate the economy there are new rules around changing the use of the class use of buildings.

Meeting closed 7:45 pm

Action Points: -

Planning recommendations to be sent to Swindon Borough Council Planning.

Summary of White Paper to be circulated to all councillors.

The Town Clerk is to write to SBC Planning Department regarding the signage on the High Street.

'White Paper Consultation response' is to be an agenda item on the Planning Meeting 6 October 2020.