



Town Clerk: Miss Joy Norris MSc ACIS

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Minutes of a meeting of the Planning and Licensing Committee held remotely on 23 July 2020 at 17:30

Chair: Councillor K Haslett

Councillors: L Knight, J Johns, G Guest*, M Smith*

Others present: Steve Reardon (Meeting Administrator)

*for part of the meeting only.

PL17. Apologies For Absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from:

- Councillor M Rowe has submitted personal apologies for the meeting.
- Councillor E Andrews is currently experiencing technical difficulties and may join the meeting later.

PL18. Declarations of Interests

To receive any Declarations of Interest from Councillors and Officers in respect of matters to be considered at this meeting, together with an appropriate statement regarding the nature of the interest.

Councillors and Officers are reminded of the requirement to declare any interest, including the type of interest, and reason for that interest, either at this stage of the meeting or as soon as they become aware of that interest.

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary or other interests made.

PL19. Minutes

To confirm the minutes of the meetings of the Planning and Licensing Committee held on 11 June 2020 and 30 June 2020.

Resolved that the minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee held on 11 June 2020 were adopted as a true and correct record of the meeting and signed as such.

Resolved that the minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee held on 30 June 2020 were adopted as a true and correct record of the meeting and signed as such.

PL20. Public Participation

To allow members of the public present at the meeting to raise matters which are relevant to the work of the Committee. Up to 3 minutes will be allowed for each person.

There were no members of the public present.

PL21. Planning Applications

The Committee is asked to consider the applications listed below, which have been received for Cullompton, and agree their comments and recommendations to be forwarded to Mid Devon District Council: full details are available to view at the Mid Devon District Council [Planning Portal](#):

- a. 17 Honiton Road, Cullompton ([20/00908/OUT](#)). Erection of two storey extension.

Resolved that this application is **SUPPORTED**.

- b. The Old Pound House, Bradninch ([20/00383/FULL](#)). Conversion of buildings/barn to dwelling (NGR 300050 102331).

Resolved that this application is **SUPPORTED**.

Councillor G Guest joined the meeting.

- c. 10 Court Drive, Cullompton ([20/01064/HOUSE](#)). Erection of single storey extension, two storey side extension and extension to front of garage with pitch roof extended over porch.

Resolved that this application is **SUPPORTED**.

Councillor G Guest assumed the Chair of the meeting.

Councillor M Smith joined the meeting.

PL22. Update Reports:

To receive oral update reports as follows:

a. Neighbourhood Plan.

- The Examiner's report following inspection of the Neighbourhood Plan has been received and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group have accepted it.
- MDDC made many comments but recommended few substantive changes to the Neighbourhood Plan and the Referendum version of the NHP is ready.
- The referendum required to make the Neighbourhood Plan a legally binding document is unlikely to be held before May 2021 although legislation exists to give the plan, provided that a statement has been issued by the Planning Authority stating their intention to put the Neighbourhood Plan to a referendum, significant additional weight when making planning determinations.

b. Garden Village Initiative.

- The railway station was discussed and is considered to be a "when" project rather than an "if" project; train timetables have been proved workable and funding is now the only barrier. MDDC have suggested that continued financial support for the ongoing feasibility for the project would prove continued support by the council for the project that will enhance the prospect of delivery. There were to be some public workshops but COVID19 has prevented these though some have happened in Kentisbeare Parish; they will come forward again but may be held in a virtual form. The Greater Exeter Strategic Plan has been issued (although has yet to be adopted) and has far greater ambitions for the Culm Garden Village than has been allocated by MDDC in their Local Plan.
- There may be some post-COVID19 recovery funding available to at least partially fund the development of railway stations at both Cullompton and Wellington.
- Councillor M Smith reported that Kentisbeare Parish do not consider the barrier between the proposed Garden Village and Kentisbeare to be sufficiently large.

Agenda No 8, Date and Time of the Meetings of the Planning and Licensing Committee.

RECOMMENDED that meetings of the Planning and Licensing Committee commence at 17:30 on the first and third Thursday of each month for the duration of the application of Statutory Instrument 2020 No 392 (The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 whilst conducting meetings via remote attendance procedures.

Background

1. When the Planning and Licensing Committee was initially established, it was resolved that the meeting would take place on the same day as the meeting of the Full Council and commencing an hour before the meeting of the Full Council. This was to enable members to attend meetings of the Planning and Licensing Committee and that of the Full Council without having to attend the Town Hall on two separate days.

Current Situation

2. It became apparent at the first meeting of the Planning and Licensing Committee remotely under the terms of Statutory Instrument 2020 No 392 (The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 that, whilst conducting meetings via Zoom platform, the Planning and Licensing Committee would have insufficient time to conduct its business in an appropriate manner in good time to allow members to join the separate Zoom meeting scheduled for the Full Council.
3. Under the terms of the Zoom license purchased by the council, it is only possible to have one meeting open at any one time.
4. Following this meeting, the Town Clerk took the decision to move the start of the meeting to 17:30 instead of 18:00 to allow more time for business to be conducted in an appropriate manner without having to rush in order to finish in time for the meeting of the Full Council.

Options

The Committee is requested to consider arrangements for the future date / time of meetings, options include:

- a) To adopt, during the era of remote meetings, a 17:30 start time in order that there is sufficient time to properly conduct the business before the Committee.
- b) That the time of the meeting is moved to the morning or afternoon.
- c) That the day of the meeting is changed. It should be noted that the majority of Tuesdays and Thursdays are already taken and that Wednesday is not convenient to the Meeting Administrator as he has another, long standing, commitment.
- d) To retain the 18:00 meeting start time and run the risk of regularly running out of time and having business deferred.