



Battle Town Council



MINUTES of a PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING held on Wednesday, 5 June 2013 at The Almonry, High Street, Battle at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr R Jessop - Chairman
Cllrs R Bye, Mrs J Gyngell and Mrs S Pry.

- 1. Apologies for Absence** – Cllrs Mrs M Howell & Mrs M Kiloh. Cllrs D Furness & M. Palmer were absent
- 2. Disclosure of Interest** – None
- 3. Minutes of the previous meeting** held on 8 May 2013. Cllr Mrs Pry proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr Mrs Gyngell. This was agreed & they were duly signed.
- 4. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings** - None

5. Correspondence & Communications

The **enforcement cases** list was noted. Regarding the fence at Stonepit Wood, London Road the situation is becoming complicated in that a formal enforcement notice has now been issued following the refusal of the retrospective planning application and the dismissal of an appeal by the Inspector. At the same time a revised planning application has been submitted (see item 6).

The latest list of decisions was noted as attached.

Cllr Jessop reported on a further meeting with Rother planners following up the work of the Battle Town Study group. The need for the meeting essentially arose out of the issues reported to the Committee on 10 April, in particular, the requirement for Rother to find an increasing number of development sites. The meeting with Rother planners had therefore revisited a number of the sites included in the SHLAA exercise & agreed some additional sites worthy of consideration. The emphasis remains, however, on small, infill developments rather than any single, large one.

A request had been received from Southern Water for a response to their consultation on a long term Water Resources Management Plan. Cllr Jessop will review the document & report back.

6. To Consider Planning Applications Received to Date

RR/2013/915/P

Stonepit Wood, London Road

Erection of boundary fence and brick pillars with electric close boarded gates to be screened by soft planting.

Comments: Although having initially raised no objection to a fence at this location, Committee members were mindful of the comments made by the Inspector in dismissing an appeal against refusal of a previous application. She had been very clear about the impact of the fence, & gates, on the character & appearance of the landscape & countryside commenting that they would introduce a harsh, alien & suburbanising feature. The new application seeks to address this by moving the fence further into the site with hedging planted between it and the road. The Committee were not persuaded that this screening arrangement would adequately mitigate the impact of the fence. Cllr Jessop added that, in any event, the necessary visibility splays would not be achieved. It was therefore agreed to

Battle Town Council

oppose this application

RR/2013/948/P

Beeches Brook – The Chalet, Telham Lane

Retention of mobile home on a permanent basis, together with provision of replacement utility structure. (Retrospective)

Comments: Notwithstanding the recent history, the Committee could see no reason to depart from the original opinion that this is an inappropriate development in the countryside & remains inconsistent with policies intended to protect the AONB. Although some screening had begun to take affect, development which would otherwise be contrary to those policies should not be allowed simply because such screening might reduce its visibility. In terms of timing, the proposal to seek to retain the mobile home on a permanent basis is also premature pending the conclusion of the District Council's review of options for Gypsy & Traveller site provision. The application should therefore be opposed.

RR/2013/956/P

RR/2013/957/L

Telham High Farm, Telham Lane

Refurbish attic including new bathrooms to attic and first floor and altered north elevation

Comments: No objection

RR/2013/982/P

Kane Hythe Road – land west of, Netherfield

Use of land for a 15 pitch eco-campsite between 1st April and 31st October together with associated parking, mobile warden accommodation, store, shower & WC facilities

Comments: No objection

RR/2013/3157/CC

Battle & Langton School, Market Road

Formation of fenced Multi Use Games Area

Comments: No objection. The Committee welcomed this as the first element in a major project to improve the accommodation at the school including the replacement of the mobile classrooms with permanent building & a new hall. **There will be a public consultation event on 2 July in the school hall.**

7. Matters for Information/Future Agenda Items - None

8. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, 19 June 2013

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Cllr Jessop
Chairman

