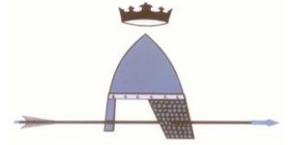


Battle Town Council



MINUTES of a PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING held on Wednesday, 10 April 2013 at The Almonry, High Street, Battle at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr R Jessop - Chairman
Cllrs: Mrs P Fisher, Mrs M Howell, Mrs M Kiloh, M Palmer
and Mrs S Pry.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr R Bye.
2. **Disclosure of Interest** – None.
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting** held on 27 March 2013. Cllr Mrs Pry proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr Mrs Howell. This was agreed and they were duly signed.

4. **Matters Arising from Previous Meetings**

Further to the brief report made to the previous meeting, Cllr Jessop expanded on the implications for housing humbers following the revocation of the South East Plan. The consequence is that this matter must now be guided by the Government's National Planning Police Framework which places a requirement to meet what are referred to "objectively assessed needs". The Government guidance on such needs is that they should be assessed based on trends identified on the office for national statistics forecasts. For Rother this would mean making provision for about 10,000 new homes up to 2028 rather than the 4,800 referred to in the South East Plan. The implications of this had been discussed at a RALC meeting at which it had been decided that, whilst the Government advice could not be ignored and a detailed review of all existing evidence and data should therefore be undertaken, the strong arguments already advanced against such an increase in development should continue to be deployed. These arguments, particularly the lack of supporting infrastructure and the need to protect the AONB, are particularly relevant in Battle and recorded in the Battle Town Study document prepared and used as evidence to inform the overall Core Strategy for Rother.

A recent communication from Rother's Planning Strategy manager appeared to invite Town and Parish Councils to comment back to the Inspector examining the Core Strategy. The Clerk was asked to take up this invitation and also advise the local MP of the concerns being expressed.

5. **Correspondence & Communications**

The **enforcement cases** list was noted.

The **latest list of decisions** was noted as attached.

An appeal against the refusal of permission to erect a boundary fence and brick pillars at Stonepit Wood, London Road (RR/2012/1897/P) has been dismissed. In reaching this decision the Inspector emphasised the harmful effect this development would have on the character and appearance of the adjoining landscape.

Cllr Jessop advised that the Highway Authority and English Heritage now appear to be close to an agreement regarding the installation of a path to bypass the steps adjoining the Battle Abbey Gatehouse.

Cllr Jessop asked to place on record the Government's confirmation of funding for the Bexhill

Battle Town Council

– Hastings link road, and an announcement by Network Rail that it has published a draft consultation paper regarding how the railway can develop strategic goals in order to then “.....support economic growth, reduce the transport sector’s environmental impact, improve the quality of life for communities and individuals and meet outputs in an affordable way”.

6. To Consider Planning Applications Received to Date

RR/2012/2399/P

RR/2012/2400/L

71 to 72 High Street – Co-op Welcome Store Ltd

Remove existing automatic entrance swing doors and replace with new automatic sliding door. Shopfront adapted to suit.

Comments: No objection to this.

RR/2013/503/P

Ambulance Station, High Street

Erection of a portacabin to provide a temporary response post next to the existing ambulance station.

Comments: The Committee noted that the proposal is to provide a portacabin for a temporary period and asked that, if permission is granted, it should be limited to a maximum of 3 years.

RR/2013/510/P

28 Virgins Lane

Proposed extensions and alterations with new roof over.

Comments: No objection to this.

RR/2013/569/P

10 Virgins Croft

Two storey rear extension and loft conversion.

Comments: No objection to this.

7. Matters for Information/Future Agenda Items – None.

8. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, 24 April 2013

The meeting closed at 8.12pm.

Cllr Jessop
Chairman

