



Battle Town Council



**MINUTES of the PLANNING AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE meeting
held on Wednesday, 11 February 2015 at The Almonry, High Street, Battle at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllrs D Furness, J Gyngell, M Howell, R Jessop, and S Pry.
In attendance: 2 Members of the public

1. Apologies for absence – received from Cllrs M Kiloh, M Palmer and A Ratcliffe

2. Disclosure of interest – none

3. To consider planning application

RR/2015/137/P 1 Upper Lake, Battle, TN33 0AN

Change of use from solicitors' office to single dwellinghouse (C3).

As members of the public were present to comment on this application, Cllr Jessop gained agreement from Members to bring this application forward on the agenda.

Cllr Jessop outlined the application details for Members, and reminded them of the relevant RDC policies. The members of the public were invited to speak and both pointed out the fact that Heringtons was very much part of Battle, had an established history in the town and provided important services to local residents. There were no other convenient locations in town, and if forced to move from their existing premises, there were genuine concerns for the jobs of the 20 staff currently employed.

Comment: Members object to the proposal as they feel it is contrary to RDC policy EC3 (i) as there is no evidence to suggest that the existing employment use will not be continued or that doing so would cause serious harm to local amenities.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 28 January 2015 – these were approved and signed by Cllr Jessop.

5. Matters arising from previous meetings – none

6. Correspondence and communications

- Updated enforcement list as at 26 January 2015
The Town Clerk provided Members with the list, which RDC had updated to show that a number of older cases had now been completed. The list would be kept up to date now, and reported at each meeting.
- Invitation to meet with Network Rail to discuss works to level crossing and traffic diversions
Cllr Jessop informed Members that a meeting had been arranged with Network Rail on Monday 16th February to discuss the proposed works and diversions. Members were provided with a copy of the proposed works and asked to forward any comments or questions to the Town Clerk prior to the meeting.
- Decisions received:
 - **RR/2014/2758/P 1&2 Lamberts Cottages, Land rear of Battle Hill, Battle**
Erection of detached dwelling within disused garden area. **REFUSED**
 - **RR/2014/2759/P Old Post Office Cottages, Netherfield, Battle**
Erection of detached garage. **GRANTED**
 - **RR/2014/2977/L Warwick House (formerly Catslide Cottage), Caldbeck Hill, Battle**
Proposed improvements, renovation, installation of conservation roof light and insertion of two flues in rear roof slope (partially retrospective). **GRANTED**
 - **RR/2014/3024/P 9 Mountjoy, Battle**
Proposed extension and improved car parking (wide access). **REFUSED**
 - **RR/2014/3071/P Mill Farm, Whatlington Road, Battle**

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Erection of single storey extension with balcony over. First floor windows replaced with doors to provide access. **GRANTED**

- **RR/2014/3072/P Daykin House, Caldbec Hill, Battle**
Two storey side and rear extensions and alterations. Erection of decking, porch and detached garage. **GRANTED**
- **RR/2014/3099/O Normanhurst Lodge, Laurel Gardens, Battle**
The building of a 11 metres by 4 metres in ground swimming pool to the rear of the property (to the right as you face the front of the house), with underground machine/plant room (located to the right of the property). **REFUSED**
- **APP/U1430/A/14/2222659 The Chalet, Beeches Brook, Telham Lane, Battle**
Siting of a mobile home and associated facility structures **APPEAL ALLOWED**

Members noted the decisions and expressed their concern at the outcome of the appeal decision. A later agenda item was set to discuss this further.

7. To consider planning applications received to date.

RR/2015/64/P 74 North Trade Road, Combe House, Battle, TN33 0HW

Construction of a single inward side (east) facing dormer addition to the existing rear 1st floor level roof verge, together with insertion of 2 no. velux windows (obscure glazed) to west elevation.

Comment: No objection to this, although Members recommend the velux windows are fixed closed to appease neighbour concerns.

RR/2015/94/P 29 Frederick Thatcher Place, North Trade Road, Battle

Variation of condition 10 imposed on RR/98/2409/P to enable the removal of existing timber window and door frames and replacement with new PVCu frames.

Comment: No objection to this.

RR/2015/143/P 1 Meadow Bank, Marley Lane, Battle, TN33 0DG

Removal of existing conservatory. Proposed extension and decking.

Comment: No objection to this.

8. Rother District Council Core Strategy Policies

Cllr Jessop had produced a paper containing just the policies of the Core Strategy for Members information. It is suggested that this represented an easier document to refer to when assessing planning applications.

9. Proposal to encourage Rother District Council to complete Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS)

Cllr Jessop restated his concern at the outcome of the appeal for The Chalet, Beeches Brook, Telham Lane. The Inspector's decision places emphasis on the lack of a policy in respect of suitable locations to deal with traveller sites, which if in place would have affected the decision. Members agreed that failure to provide a clear policy was unacceptable, and agreed for Cllr Jessop and the Town Clerk to prepare a letter to send to RDC outlining these concerns and calling for prompt action.

10. Neighbourhood Planning

Cllr Jessop advised Members that RDC had been notified of the intention to include the whole of Battle Town Council's area within the neighbourhood plan. Cllr Pry agreed to work with Cllr Jessop to produce a 'Request for Help' form seeking volunteers to form a working group for the Neighbourhood Plan which could be sent to the local newspaper.

11. Proposed Planning & Transport Committee strategic aims

Cllr Jessop had circulated some strategic aims for the committee and invited comments and suggestions from Members. Minor additions to the existing points were added. Members also

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discussed the proliferation of 'A' boards on the High Street. As ESCC Highways do not have the funds to provide Traffic Regulation Orders, Cllr Jessop offered to draft a traffic order for consideration which could be passed to Highways Officers for adoption.

12. Matters for information / future agenda items

John Harmer to attend the next meeting to update Members on footpath matters and thereafter on a three monthly cycle unless specific issues need to be addressed urgently.

Feedback to be provided to Members on progress with the Neighbourhood Plan.

13. Date of next meeting: Wednesday, 25 February 2015

Meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Cllr R Jessop
Chairman