

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

PLANNING AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING – 2012/04/02 – 32

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING held in the Council Chamber, Claremont House, Lydney on Monday 2 April 2012 at 5.58 pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs J Bartle (Chairman), D Cooksley, D Edwards, C Harris, V Hobman, W Osborne (late arrival) and A Stapleton

Mrs J Smailes – Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Miss C Wheeler – Executive Officer (EO)

Cllr C Matthews

Two members of the Public

1. **APOLOGIES**

None.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 12 March 2012 were confirmed and signed as a true record. **Proposed by Cllr Edwards, seconded by Cllr Harris.**

4. **TWO RIVERS HOUSING**

Cllr Bartle informed Members that unfortunately representatives from Two Rivers Housing had not been able to attend the meeting, but they had provided a summary document which was tabled before Members for their perusal. Councillors were informed that Two Rivers Housing had offered to attend the May Full Council if Members wished. It was **proposed by Cllr Harris, seconded by Cllr Hobman**, that an invitation would be extended to Two Rivers Housing to attend a future Full Council meeting. Unanimous.

Cllr Stapleton arrived at this point.

5. **OPEN FORUM**

Mr Owen, 3 Augustus Way, Lydney – referring to agenda item 5 of the previous minutes, Mr Owen advised that he was in possession of a large amount of correspondence regarding neighbourhood plans, which he offered to leave with the CEO. Furthermore, Mr Owen felt that the new legislation may result in the cancellation of the largest planning application for the Town and play an important part in discussions with Pegasus.

6. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

P0368/12/LD2 – Mr J Marshall, Little Copse, Highfield Lane, Lydney

Certificate of Lawfulness for the erection of a domestic polytunnel

Council does not object to the application, subject to neighbour notification, provided it remains for domestic use only

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P0387/12/DEM – Network Rail, Lydney Level Crossing Keepers Box, Harbour Road, Lydney

Demolition of Lydney Level Crossing Keepers Box

Council object to the application on grounds that the signal box is of historical importance to Lydney. Accordingly, it is investigating the possibility of conveying Listed status on to the Signal Box and this may be furthered following consultation with Dean Forest Railway.

P0370/12/FUL – Mr P Hale, 53 Naas Lane, Lydney

Erection of a rear extension

No objection subject to neighbour notification

P0026/12/DISCON – Robert Hitchins Ltd, Land between Lydney Bypass and Highfield Road, Highfield Road, Lydney

Discharge of condition of planning permission P1097/08/OUT, allowed at appeal, (05) – phasing of development

Noted

P0407/12/FUL – Mr A Cole, 47 Highfield Road, Lydney

Erection of a two storey and a single storey extension. (Part retrospective).

Council recalls that similar buildings locally were required to comply with stringent planning conditions regarding local development within this given area.

Furthermore, it feels that the building is of historic importance for the town.

Accordingly, Council would request a site inspection be conducted in order to preserve the integrity of the building and the area (Lydney Town Council representative to attend FODDC site meeting)

To note planning decisions received from FODDC

P0142/12/FUL – High View, Driffield Road, Lydney

Full permission – Erection of a two storey side and rear extension and erection of a detached garage.

P0137/12/FUL – 20 Faller Fields, Lydney

Full permission – Erection of a single storey rear conservatory.

P0116/12/FUL – 26 Lancaster Drive, Lydney

Full permission – Erection of a detached garage

7. HIGHWAY ISSUES

Network Rail

Members noted that Cllrs Edwards and Bartle were waiting to receive confirmation of the date of the visit to Swindon.



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Signage

It was noted that this matter would also be discussed at the following Full Council meeting. Cllr Bartle expressed concern that members of the public were walking to the docks via the roadway, as signage did not exist to direct them towards the footpath. Cllr Bartle informed Councillors that a meeting had taken place between himself, Mr D Biddle Lydney Area in Partnership, and Ms Kate Wyatt, Forest of Dean District Council, to discuss possible funding for signage in various locations in the town. Members noted that if such funding were identified it had been recommended that the Council would need to agree a corporate standard style for street furniture to ensure uniformity.

Footpath

Councillors were reminded that the issue of the temporary footpath from the Oakdale development was raised once again at the March Full Council meeting by Cllr Bonser. Members were once again provided with a copy of the response which the CEO had obtained from Gloucestershire County Council's Footpath Officer and noted that the contents of the e-mail would also be brought to Full Council's attention under the CEO's Report.

Cllr Bartle informed members that the footpath was open and he noted that a metal barrier had been erected to prevent motorcycles from using the path, however, he felt that members of the public had sufficient room to access the barrier but accepted that pushchairs, etc would need to pass beneath the barrier. Cllr Harris explained the difficulties which she had experienced when attempting to pass her bicycle beneath the barrier and Cllr Bartle agreed to revisit the site with Cllr Harris. Cllrs Bartle and Harris also agreed to approach representatives at the Oakdale Show Home to discuss the matter. Cllr Bartle requested that his fellow Councillors bring any further problems to his attention.

Action by – Cllrs Harris and Bartle

8. COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Bartle informed members that as a result of his attendance at a Lydney Area Action Plan meeting he had learnt that the Swan Road link road had been removed from Gloucestershire County Council's highway plan. Members noted that Cllr Matthews and Cllr Cooksley (in his capacity of County Councillor) had also attended the meeting. Cllr Bartle then spoke passionately on the town's need for the road and he called for all District Councillors and the County Councillor to support the Council's efforts to ensure that the funding for the road was re-instated. Councillor Cooksley informed Councillors that the Government had placed on hold any future road developments unless funding had been previously secured. He agreed that it was important to get the matter back on Gloucestershire County Council's agenda and he stressed the need for the Town and District Council's to back the need for the road, in order that it would remain on the County Council's plans. Cllr Hobman called on Cllr Cooksley to ensure that the Town Council's dissatisfaction was relayed to the County Council and Cllr Harris felt that it would be advantageous to establish the names of the relevant County Councillors in order that they could be lobbied for their support. Cllr Cooksley once again explained that all new road development had been postponed due to funding cuts, but highlighted that funding had been provided for road repair and agreed that the Swan Road link should



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remain in the County's highway plans, irrespective of funding. Cllr Bartle felt that the Council's priority would be to ensure the reinstatement of the Swan Road link which would enable members to vigorously lobby the County Council.

Action – County Councillor Cooksley to register the Council's dissatisfaction with Gloucestershire County Council and request that the Swan Road Link be included in the County Highway plans, regardless of a lack of funding and that notification to this effect was required by Lydney Town Council

Cllr Bartle stated that he had been informed that S106 funding for the development of 47 homes at Highfield Hill had been reduced by 2/3^{rds} and he voiced his intention to raise the matter with District Councillor Glastonbury at the following Full Council meeting in order to ascertain why such a decision had been approved.

Members were provided with details of a meeting organised by Gloucestershire Rural Community Council regarding Community approaches to reducing traffic speed. Unfortunately Councillors were not able to attend the event.

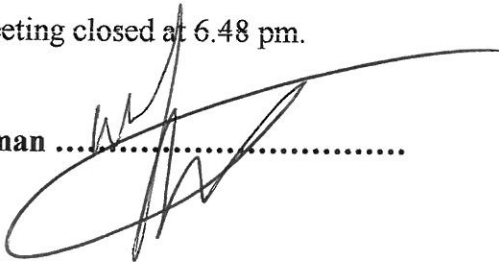
9. MEETING DATES

During discussion it was unanimously agreed that the Planning and Highway Committee would not meet in May due to the Annual Council Meeting that same evening. It was proposed by Cllr Bartle and unanimously agreed that delegated powers would be granted to the CEO and two Councillors to submit comments on planning applications during this period and address any other urgent planning business.

In view of the above Councillors noted that the next meeting of the Planning Committee would take place on Monday 11 June 2012 at 6.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 6.48 pm.

Chairman



Date 11th June 2012