

MINUTES OF

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL'S

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON

WEDNESDAY, 12TH MAY, 2010.

AT 6.30. P.M.

WOOLCOMBE HOUSE, WOOLCOMBE LANE,

SIDMOUTH, DEVON.

Members present:-	Councillor	I.J. McKenzie-Edwards (Chairman)
	“	J.W.Hollick (Vice-Chairman)
	“	S.J. Brokenshire
	“	Mrs S. Carr
	“	J.G.T. Dyson
	“	Dr D.S. Fung
	“	Mrs M. Jolly
	“	G.K. Liverton
	“	A.W.J. Reed
	“	P. Sullivan
	“	C.H. Wale

10:05/P1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor Reed and seconded by Councillor Wale that Councillor McKenzie-Edwards be elected as Chairman of the Planning Committee for the forthcoming year.

There being no other nominations, it was agreed that Councillor McKenzie-Edwards be elected as Chairman of the Planning Committee for the forthcoming year.

10:05/P2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Carr and seconded by Councillor G.K. Liverton that Councillor Hollick be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee for the forthcoming year.

There being no other nominations, it was agreed that Councillor Hollick be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee for the forthcoming year.

10:05/P3 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S.P. Pollentine and J. Turner.

Councillor S. Hughes was absent from the meeting.

10:05/P4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Interest were received as follows:-

10:05/P7 10/0861/FUL Cllr A.W.J. Reed *Personal – Member of Management Committee*

10:05/P5 MINUTES

The Chairman signed as a true and accurate record the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 31st March, 14th and 28th April, 2010.

10:05/P6 **DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBERS**

It was formally noted that the participation of those Councillors who are also members of the East Devon District Council in both the debate and subsequent vote was on the basis that the views expressed were preliminary views taking account of the information presently made available to the Town/Parish Council. The District Councillors reserved their final views on the application until they were in full possession of all the relevant arguments for and against.

10:05/P7 **APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

Resolved That in respect of the Planning Applications set out below and attached, representations to the manner in which they should be determined, be made known to the East Devon District Council in accordance with schedule 16 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Town and Parish Councils are Statutory Consultees to the Local Planning Authority and as such do not make decisions apart from applications for advertising consents and trees. The Town Council's Planning Committee is required to make known its willingness to support, or not, planning applications based on local knowledge and current planning policies in order that these views can be taken into account when the decision is made by the District Council as Planning Authority.

10/0818/LBC MR J KENT ROSE COTTAGE,
COBURG ROAD,
SIDMOUTH.
Construction of boundary wall.

Support.
It was recommended that the height is reduced to match existing.

10/0842/FUL MR T WHEELDON WESTERLY,
COTTINGTON MEAD,
SIDMOUTH.
Single storey extensions and loft conversion including dormer window on front elevation.

Support

10/0859/FUL MR E DANIELS 1 ROSEMOUNT,
STATION ROAD,
SIDMOUTH.
Conservatory.

Support

10/0861/FUL NORMAN LOCKYER NORMAN LOCKYER
OBSERVATORY OBSERVATORY,
SALCOMBE HILL ROAD,
SIDMOUTH.
Replacement of 4 aluminium aerial poles with 4 x 13m wooden utility poles.

Support

(Councillor Reed declared an interest)

10/0874/FUL MR & MRS N RICHARDS 2 PRIMLEY GARDENS,
SIDMOUTH.
Proposed two storey side extension and
single storey side extension.
Support

10/0906/FUL MR & MRS R ELEY LAND REAR OF
98 – 100 HIGH STREET,
SIDMOUTH.
Erection of 2 semi-detached dwellings.
Support

10/0765/TCA DR SYMES VIOLET HOUSE,
SALCOMBE ROAD,
SIDMOUTH.
1 Mimosa : 15% Crown reduction via
thinning, prune back low laterals growing
over adjacent property by 2 metres.

Approve subject to the comments made in the Arboricultural Officer's Report.

10/0808/TCA MR JELLYMAN LITTLEBROOK,
BICKWELL VALLEY,
SIDMOUTH.
1 Eucalyptus : Remove two lowest first
order branches from eastern aspect,
crown clean.
1 Eucalyptus : Reduce eastern crown
aspect by 3 metres.

Approve subject to the comments made in the Arboricultural Officer's Report.

10:05/P8 COURTLANDS, LYMPSTONE ACTION GROUP.

An email had been received from the Chairman of Lympstone Parish Council asking for the Town Council's support in respect of a matter set out below :-

“East Devon villagers say a planned 154 home development threatens the beauty and tranquility of a long distance and well used footpath and tourist attraction.

A developer has submitted plans for the homes together with business units, a 50-bed care home and other community facilities on land on the edge of Lympstone alongside Courtlands Lane, which is part of the route of the East Devon Way footpath.

An action group has been formed to fight the proposals and one of their objections is that the plan falls right on top of the East Devon Way route as it passes through the Lympstone parish.

Devon County Council describes the path, which was launched by the district council in 1991, as stretching for 38 miles between Exmouth and Lyme Regis forming a parallel alternative to the South West Coast Path over this length; the route is comprehensively waymarked.

Pete Youngman, Project Officer for the East Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, says about the East Devon Way: "The route allows you to experience heathland, high ridges, valleys, and the gentle babbling of streams, along with the wealth of wildlife dependent on these habitats".

As well as Exmouth and Lyme Regis, some smaller settlements are also passed through, such as Newton Poppleford, Sidbury, Colyton and Uplyme.

A wide variety of landscapes; estuary, high open commons, woodlands and quiet river valleys. Walking is generally not difficult but the route does include some quite sharp climbs.

Rob Longhurst, chairman of CLAG, the Courtlands, Lymstone Action Group, says: "The tranquility of the footpath will be threatened by such a large development.

"Building a housing estate on the EDW defiles the landscape and is like graffiti on a Constable painting. It takes away a piece of our heritage forever - and forever is a very long time."

The Council is concerned that it should not become involved in other areas, however, will maintain a keen observation on any development in the future.

10:05/P9 UNSUPPORTED DECISIONS

No unsupported decisions were received.

10:05/P10 ENFORCEMENT LETTERS

No enforcement letters were received.

10:05/P11 MATTERS OF REPORT

Planning Application Advert Fee Rebate

At a recent meeting of the Planning Committee it was reported that East Devon District Council had given this Council a payment of £45.50 as a 5% rebate on 'Advert' planning applications dealt with by Sidmouth Town Council for the last financial year. The total amount of fees received by East Devon District Council amounted to £910.

At that meeting it was recommended that the Town Council contact East Devon District Council asking for a higher percentage fee as it was considered that 5% did not reflect the amount of work undertaken, especially now that the Town Council has been notified that it will be responsible for any future appeals. It was suggested that East Devon District Council give a breakdown of the 95% of administration work they undertake.

Following further correspondence with East Devon District Council in respect of the matter the Clerk reported that the percentage had increased to 25%. Members considered that this matter should be raised again with East Devon District Council and suggested the annual meeting with Parish and Town Councils or the quarterly meetings between Town Clerks and East Devon District Council's Chief Executive.

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CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE