

MINUTES OF

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL'S

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON TUESDAY 24TH MAY, 2011,

AT 6.30. P.M. AT THE METHODIST CHURCH HALL,

HIGH STREET, SIDMOUTH, DEVON.

Members present:-	Councillor	D.S. Barratt
	“	S.J. Brokenshire
	“	J.G.T. Dyson
	“	J.W.Hollick
	“	S. Hughes
	“	Mrs A.E. Liverton
	“	G.K. Liverton
	“	Ms. D Manley
	“	I.J. McKenzie-Edwards
	“	S.P. Pollentine
	“	J. Turner
	“	C.H. Wale

Also in attendance:-	“	Mrs F.I. Newth
	“	P. Sullivan

11:05/P8 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

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

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

11:05/P9 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

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

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

11:05/P10 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs Jolly.

11:05/P11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Interest were received as follows:-

11:05/P14	11/0904/FUL	Councillor Sullivan	<i>Prejudicial – EDDC role on Development Control Committee Member.</i>
11:05/P14	11/0904/FUL	Councillor Mrs Newth	<i>Prejudicial – EDDC role on Development Control Committee Member.</i>
11:05/P14	11/0953/FUL	Councillor Sullivan	<i>Prejudicial – EDDC role on Development Control Committee Member.</i>
11:05/P14	11/0953/FUL	Councillor Mrs Newth	<i>Prejudicial – EDDC role on Development Control Committee Member.</i>

11:05/P12 **MINUTES**

The Chairman signed as a true and accurate record the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 30th March, 13th and 27th April and 11th May, 2011.

11:05/P13 **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.

11:05/P14 **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.

11/0904/FUL MR P GRIEW & OTHERS BASE OF CLIFF TO EAST OF PENNINGTON POINT, SIDMOUTH.
Construction of 240m long rock revetment to provide coastal protection.

Support

- Inaction is no longer an option.
- Whilst the Town Council is not an expert on the most effective way to protect the eastern town we acknowledge that action needs to be taken to address the potential dangers to Sidmouth.
- Access by footpath is crucial to Sidmouth and this must be protected.

(8 letters of comment were read by the Town Clerk)

(Councillor Mrs Newth and Councillor Sullivan declared an interest)

11/0953/MFUL MR K SLOWE – ZERO C FORTFIELD HOTEL, FORTFIELD PLACE, SIDMOUTH.
Construction of two attached apartment buildings comprising 31 units, basement car park and associated landscaping.

Unable to Support

- 1) The Town Council appreciate the developers attempt to develop this site in a manner sensitive to the area and appreciate the care taken with design, however, it does nothing to alter the Town Council's opinion that this development cannot be supported.
- 2) It has not been proven that the Fortfield Hotel was not viable, or that a hotel on this site would not be successful.
- 3) This is within an area designated as a Principal Holiday Accommodation Area (Policy TO2) and if the policy is breached an unacceptable precedent will be set to the detriment of Sidmouth.

- 4) If this site must be developed, then perhaps flats of a self-catering or serviced accommodation nature should be considered.
- 5) Tourism is Sidmouth's primary industry and together with other businesses rely on visitors to remain viable.
- 6) Any loss of hotel in our beautiful town changes the very nature of that which is so wonderful about this special Regency seaside resort and, therefore, must be refused.

NOTE : If the District Council should approve this application and receive a large sum of money it is essential that this is used to promote tourism in Sidmouth and no other area.

(13 letters of objection/comment were read by the Town Clerk)

(Councillor Mrs Newth and Councillor Sullivan declared an interest)

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CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE