

AT A MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND GENERAL WORKS COMMITTEE OF BRACKLEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE UPPER HALL, TOWN HALL, BRACKLEY ON MONDAY 12TH APRIL 2010 at 7.21 pm

Present: The Worshipful the Town Mayor (Councillor C S Billingham),
Councillors C J Blunden, C O Cartmell, K Dixon, D Dunham,
T D Hayward (Vice Chairman), and G Rhys, D Shaw, (Chairman - 7.28 pm)
and P M Titchener

Apologies: Councillors P J Broomfield and P Joyce

558. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

559. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

560. SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Councillor Blunden reported that a meeting had been held on 16th March between representatives from the County Council, the Town Council, Southfield School and three residents from Banbury Road. The residents put forward their objections to the Town Council's preferred option and listened to the arguments put forward for this particular scheme. Although it had not been indicated prior to this meeting, Mr Farquar from County Council said that there was a possibility that if a crossing was put in place, it could result in the loss of the school crossing patrol person (SCP). Councillor Blunden said this put a new slant on the situation and could have a bearing on the final site for the crossing, although it was still thought that outside the ex Police Station was the better site, both by the representatives of the Town Council and the School. A letter had also been received from Mr Hall, The Travel Choices Manager at County Council, and a copy of this was attached to the Agenda. It was also pointed out by County Council that this would be a 24 hour crossing and not just for the school. Long discussions had taken place with the Headteacher at Southfield School and the outcome of her discussions with the Governors and parents was awaited. Mr Hall commented that this matter must be discussed by the Town Council and its views, together with the views of the school and all Brackley residents should be taken into account before a decision was made.

The Town Mayor commented that if the children were not supervised crossing Banbury Road this would become totally gridlocked. If the loss of the SCP was a possibility she questioned whether the matter should be 'put on ice' for the time being. Councillor Cartmell advised that in order to qualify for a SCP there had to be a yearly audit and certain criteria must be met. Councillor Titchener agreed that Banbury Road was an extremely busy road and he agreed with the Town Mayor's comments about the mayhem which could happen if the area was not manned. Councillor Cartmell said there had been talk about a pelican crossing. After much discussion it was

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560. SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOLS Cont'd.....

RESOLVED:

To await the views from Southfield School and then arrange a meeting with County Councillors Grant and Sawbridge. To agree a recommendation for submission to a future meeting of the Planning and Works Committee.

The Chairman joined the Meeting at 7.28 pm and took over the Chair from the Vice Chairman.

561. PROPOSED HIGH SPEED RAIL LINK

Copies of emails from Mr P Sime and Turweston Parish Council concerning the above were attached to the Agenda. Members noted.

562. INTERIM RURAL HOUSING POLICY – COUNCILLOR C J BLUNDEN

Councillor Blunden said this had been a very interesting meeting and some slides relating to the meeting had been passed to the Town Clerk for forwarding to Members.

563. ROAD CLOSURE - 750TH BOROUGH CELEBRATIONS

Members were advised that Councillor Dixon was qualified to undertake the risk assessment on behalf of the Town Council for the celebrations. Members noted.

564. BRACKLEY BUZZER

Members were advised that there had been a number of complaints about the above service since the change in contractor. This is now being investigated and a site meeting is to take place in Brackley within the next two weeks. Further information should be available after this meeting.

565. MILL LANE - FLOODING

Information regarding the work due to be undertaken on the Mill Lane open space land was given in the Report. Amendments had been made to the original works and confirmation had been given to the contractors that this would be in order. It was

RESOLVED:

To agree the proposed works, as outlined in report, to the land at Mill Lane.

566. DIY POWER CREATORS

Further to Minute 517/10 an extract from a document concerning the above, prepared by South Northamptonshire, was contained in the Report. A copy of the whole document could be made available to Members if requested. Members noted.

567. BUS SERVICE TO BANBURY

Information had been received from Councillor Sawbridge about proposed changes to the Brackley to Banbury bus route and these were outlined in the report. Councillor Dunham felt that the points raised by Councillor Sawbridge were valid and these should be supported by the Town Council. Councillor Titchener said there was a need for public transport and if the service was cut this would discourage people from using it and the whole thing could collapse. Councillor Cartmell commented that the 500 service still ran every 30 minutes and this was a direct route.

The Town Mayor agreed with the comments made by Councillors Dunham and Titchener and also said that the service brought people from the villages into Brackley. It was therefore

RESOLVED:

That a letter of support to retain the service be sent to Councillor Sawbridge.

568. NEW SHOPS IN BURGESS SQUARE

Members were advised that complaints had been received about the opening of the new shops in Burgess Square and a copy of an email from a Mr Bridger was contained in the report.

The Town Mayor questioned whether the writer had ever been to Brackley as some of the comments in the email were incorrect. Councillor Dunham pointed out that the Town Council did not have any jurisdiction over which businesses came into the town and there may be some people who are not happy with any competition. Councillor Blunden asked which was preferable, full or empty shops? Comment was made that a number of motorbikes parked on the pedestrian area in Burgess Square and a request was made as to whether signs could be erected to stop this. It was also mentioned that there had been a lot of support on facebook for the proposed new Subway shop. It was

RESOLVED:

That a 'brief' reply be sent to Mr Bridger outlining the above points.

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569. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

APPN. NO.		
S10 0191 FUL	4 Draymans Walk	Change of use from A1 (retail) to B1/A2 (office/business) Decision: No observations
S10 0207FUL	2a College Place	Installation of new shop front. Decision: No observations on work. However, comment is again made that this development is now known as Burgess Square
S10 0221FUL	Tesco, Oxford Road	New wind lobby & sliding doors to existing entrance. New pedestrian access and relocate ATM. Decision: No observations
S10 0233ADV	Tesco, Oxford Road	Alterations to existing signage to reflect re-branding. Decision: No observations
S10 0290EXT S10 0291EXT	Town Farm, High Street	Conversion of dwelling to two dwellings. Conversion of barns/outbuildings to four dwellings. Seven additional dwellings. Associated garaging (Renewal of planning permission S04 1668P) Decision: Considerations made at the time of the original application are still believed to be relevant and are 'OBJECTION on the grounds of the access being close to the Hill Street junction. This area is an old burial ground and the Council opposes any encroachment and any use during the construction period. The amount of traffic generated from the development will exacerbate an already congested Manor Road and the site is an overdevelopment of the potential it affords in terms of housing'
S10 0313FUL	11 Ellesmere Court	Replacement front extension. Decision: No observations
S10 0332MAO	Brackley Sawmills, Northampton Road	Residential development of 130 dwellings (Outline) Decision: No observations
S10 0341FUL	Somerset, Turweston Road	Proposed removal of cattery and erection of 1 ½ storey dwellings with garage (existing access). Decision: No observations
S10 0345FUL	Unit 2B (office A rear first floor) Oxford Road	Change of use from general office to taxi office use. Decision: No observations
WITHDRAWN		
S09 0897CAC	Halls Lane	Demolition of former municipal toilets and storage buildings
PLANNING APPEAL		
	Land off Hinton Road	Close boarded fencing (retrospective).

570. INFORMATION REPORT

- a) Brackley Fire Station
- b) Northamptonshire Household Waste Recycling
- c) Reduce

571. FENCING

Councillor Dunham reported a fence which had been erected on Humphries Drive and questioned on whose land this had been sited.

572. CANDLEFORD CLOSE

The Town Mayor reported that she had had a letter from a resident of Candleford Close advising that residents were having problems with skateboards who were creating lots of noise outside the sheltered accommodation. The matter has been reported to the Police, who suggested that if signs were erected in the area, they would be able to remove the offenders from the area. Councillor Cartmell agreed this was a major problem and asked whether anything could be done to encourage South Northamptonshire Council or County Council to install some signs. Councillor Hayward said it was hoped that there would be more regular visits by the mobile skateboard unit and this may help to alleviate the problem.

On a more positive note Councillor Dunham said he had been pleased to see a lot of youngsters playing on the site at the bottom of Humphries Drive, Swift Way play area and on the playing fields adjacent to the Leisure Centre.

573. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded from this Meeting during discussion on matters relating to District Council as publicity would be prejudicial to the public by nature of the business to be transacted.

574. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF SOUTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Jean Morgan, Chief Executive of South Northamptonshire Council, updated Members on the discussions which were taking place regarding HS2. Various maps and a copy of the letter to Lord Adonis were handed out. Contact would be made with other bodies affected by the scheme as soon as possible and she said she would be happy to visit a future meeting of this Council when there are further developments.

Meeting closed at 9.03 pm

Chairman