

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 28 November 2013 at 4.30 pm

Present:

Councillor A F Knight Chairman
 Councillor I Melhuish Vice Chairman

Councillor G S Dowding
 Councillor B Heywood
 Councillor S J Pugsley
 Councillor L W Smith
 Councillor A H Trollope-Bellew

Councillor A P Hadley
 Councillor K M Mills
 Councillor D D Ross
 Councillor M A Smith
 Councillor K H Turner

Also in the Chamber

Councillor P H Murphy

Officers in Attendance:

Planning Manager - Andrew Goodchild
 Principal Planning Officer - Elizabeth Peeks
 Committee Administrator - Linda Bulpin
 Legal Advisor – Martin Evans - Mendip DC

P061 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Councillor E May and Councillor C Morgan.

P062 Minutes

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 31 October 2013 - circulated with the Agenda be confirmed as a correct record following an additional declaration of lobbying by Councillor D D Ross to record that he had been lobbied by supporters on application 3/21/13/084. Proposed by Councillor K Turner and seconded by Councillor B Heywood and all present voted in favour.

P063 Declarations of Lobbying

No declarations of lobbying were declared by Councillors.

P064 Declarations of Interest

Name	Min No	Ref No.	Personal or Prejudicial	Action Taken
Cllr A F Knight	P066	3/37/13/032 3/37/13/033	Could be perceived as having a Pre-Determined view as he had held a fundraising event for the proposed project.	Left the Chamber
Cllr A Trollope-Bellew	P066	3/37/13/032	Personal – Had made a donation to the proposed project.	Spoke and voted

P065 Public Participation

Min No.	Reference No.	Application	Name	Position	Stance
P066	3/37/13/032	Land at Somerset County Council Library, 11 The Esplanade, Watchet	Linda Hart	Member of Watchet Remembrance Project	Supporting
P066	3/37/13/032	Land at Somerset County Council Library, 11 The Esplanade, Watchet	Jenny Hill	Local Resident	Supporting

P066	3/37/13/032	Land at Somerset County Council Library, 11 The Esplanade, Watchet	Major R McDonald	Member of Watchet Remembrance Project	Supporting
P066	3/37/13/032	Land at Somerset County Council Library, 11 The Esplanade, Watchet	Cllr P H Murphy	A Ward Member for Watchet	Commenting

P066 Appointment of Vice-Chairman

Councillor A F Knight left the Chamber and Councillor I Melhuish took the Chair. It was RESOLVED that Councillor A P Hadley be appointed as Vice-Chairman for the determination of planning applications 3/37/13/032 and 3/37/13/033.

P067 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and Other Matters

Report Seven of the Planning Team dated 20 November 2013 (circulated with the Agenda). The Committee considered the reports, prepared by the Planning Team, relating to plans deposited in accordance with the planning legislation and, where appropriate, Members were advised of correspondence received and subsequent amendments since the agenda had been prepared.

(Copies of all letters reported may be inspected in the planning application files that constitute part of the background papers for each item).

RESOLVED that the recommendations contained in Section 1 of the Report be approved (in so far as they relate to the above), including, where appropriate, the conditions imposed and the reasons for refusal, subject to any amendments detailed below:

Reference Location, Proposal, Debate and Decision

3/37/13/032 Land at Somerset County Council Library, 11 The Esplanade, Watchet
Erection of War Memorial, Notice Board and Planters

Objections raised by the speakers included:

There were no objections raised by the speakers.

Supporting comments raised by the speakers included:

- The desire to have a Memorial in Watchet to the fallen servicemen of the town.
- Repairs and improvements have been carried out to the area of the proposed memorial to improve its visual aspect and to protect the mosaic.
- The site is an ideal location as this area was probably the Watchet servicemen's last view of Watchet.
- The desire for the various groups to work together to bring this project to fruition and for its future viability.

The Members debate centred on the following issues:

- The possibility of visual clutter in the area and the reduction in the number of proposed planters.
- The ongoing maintenance of the planters.
- The repairs to the mosaic and the replacement of the railings around the site.
- The Esplanade as a possible site for the memorial.
- Possible highway safety issues on remembrance days.
- The mosaic as a possible tripping hazard in the area.

Councillor S Pugsley proposed and Cllr A Trollope-Bellew seconded that the application be **APPROVED** in accordance with the officers recommendation.

The VOTE was carried on a majority show of hands.

3/37/13/032 Land at Somerset County Council Library, 11 The Esplanade, Watchet
Advertisement Consent For The Erection Of a Display Board

The Members debate centred on the following issues:

- The use of glass or polycarbonate on the notice board.
- The design of the notice board by a local craftsman

Cllr D Ross proposed that a decision of approval be delegated to the Planning Manager. This was seconded by Cllr S Pugsley

All present **VOTED IN FAVOUR.**

P068 Exmoor National Park Matters

Cllr S Pugsley gave a report on matters relating to West Somerset considered at the last meeting of the Exmoor National Park Planning Committee. It was noted that the Atlantic Array windfarm development had been withdrawn.

P069 Delegated Decision List

The Planning Manager answered questions arising from the report.

P070 Appeals Lodged

Appellant	Proposal and Site	Appeal Type
TGC Renewables Limited	Land at Aller Farm, East of Woodford and North Of Monksilver Erection of a solar PV development and associated works to include the installation of ground based racking systems and mounted solar panels (max 3m high), power inverter stations, transformer stations, sub station and comms building, fencing and associated access gates, and CCTV security cameras mounted on free standing support poles.	Written Representations

P071 Appeals Decided

Appellant	Proposal and Site	Decision
Mr R H Vincent	Land between Beverley Drive and Goviers Lane, Watchet Erection of one two storey, three bedroom house	Dismissed 13/11/2013

The meeting closed at 5.55 pm