

Dorchester Town Council
Minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee
2 August 2021

Present: The Mayor, Councillor G. Jones and Councillors R Biggs, A. Canning, T. Harries, J. Hewitt, S. Hosford, D. Leaper, R. Major, R. Potter (Chairman) and R. Ricardo.

Apologies: Councillors L. Fry, E.S. Jones, F. Kent- Ledger and M.E. Rennie.

Also in attendance: Councillor F. Hogwood and Dorset Councillor, Councillor Roland Tarr.

12. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

13. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 5 July 2021 and adopted by Council on the 26 July 2021 were confirmed and approved to be signed by the Chairman.

14. Urgent Item – Update on Works to A35

Dorset Councillor, Councillor Roland Tarr informed the Committee that works would begin on 3 August 2021 on the Dorchester Bypass, starting at the Monkey's Jump Roundabout, to alleviate the flooding issues. The works would be carried out overnight and road closures would be put in place between the hours of 8pm and 8am.

The Committee heard that Highways England would be setting up a depot on the Northern side of the road by McDonalds.

The Committee were also told that funding had been approved to complete the Portishead to Portland Cycle Route (26) from Maiden Newton. This would also include improvements to the cycle way at the Stadium Roundabout.

The Committee welcomed this and a member proposed a motion to support in principle the installation of a toucan crossing at the Stadium Round about. The motion was approved by the Committee. It was agreed that the Clerk to the Committee should write to Highways England to inform them of the Committee's support in principle.

Resolved

That the Clerk to the Committee write to Highways England to inform them that Dorchester Town Council support in principle the installation of a

toucan crossing at the Stadium roundabout.

15. Climate Emergency Action Plan

The Committee noted the Climate Emergency Action Plan report written by the Town Clerk and the draft Audit of Dorchester Town Council Performance against a detailed Town Council Climate Action Plan. The Committee agreed that a more robust plan with definitive targets was required.

The Committee agreed that a Task and Finish Group should be formed to work with the Environmental Assistant to continue the Climate Emergency Action Plan. The Committee agreed that membership of the Task and Finish Group should be open to all members of the Council. The Committee agreed that the Task and Finish Group should be formed at the next Meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee.

The Chairman of the Committee and the Chairman of the Policy Committee clarified that Paragraph 3 of the report attached to the agenda for the meeting highlighted that the Council agreed funding for a new post trainee graduate post (Environmental Assistant, as mentioned) when it set £90,000 aside in a Development Support Reserve. The detail for the post was subsequently approved by Policy Committee in March.

Recommended

That a Task and Finish Group should be formed to work with the Environmental Assistant to continue the Climate Emergency Action Plan at the next Planning and Environment Committee meeting.

16. Town Centre Master Plan

The Committee considered and approved the proposed timetable for the Town Centre Master Plan.

Members of the Committee were reminded to email their comments on the key questions document that had been sent to them to either the Chairman / Vice Chairman. Town Clerk or Clerk to the Committee before 23 August 2021.

Resolved

1. That the proposed timetable for the formulation of the Town Centre Master Plan be adopted.

17. South Western Railway December 2022 Timetable Consultation

The Committee noted the consultation and were pleased to hear that the trains serving Dorchester on the London Waterloo – Weymouth line would return to two trains per hour.

The Committee requested that a letter to South Western Railway should still be sent as there was still a need for additional provision on the trains for wheelchairs, bicycles and pushchairs.

Resolved

That a letter be sent to South Western Trains requesting additional provision for wheelchairs, bicycles and pushchairs.

18. Dropped Kerb Request

The Committee considered the request for two new dropped kerbs in Windsor Road.

A Member of the Committee questioned if the Ward Members for the area had been consulted. The Committee heard that on this occasion they had not, but would be in the future. The Committee heard that on this occasion, the request had been submitted as the result of a walking audit that had been completed. The Committee recognised the importance of the walking audits that were being carried out and heard that the Clerk to the Committee had contacted the Dorset Council to ask if they would like to work with Dorchester Town Council to create a video to train more people to conduct the walking audit.

A Member also asked if there were any outstanding dropped kerb requests and heard that there was not.

The Committee approved the request for two dropped kerbs in Windsor Road.

Resolved

That the Dorset Council be notified that Dorchester Town Council support the request for two dropped kerbs in Windsor Road.

19. Planning Applications for Comment

The Committee considered the planning applications referred to the Council for comment by Dorset Council (Appendix 1).

20. Minute Update Report

- i. **Minute 36, Minute Update Report, 5 October 2020**
WD/D/18/000622 - 1 Alexandra Road, Dorchester, DT1 2LZ
The Committee heard that the decking had been removed.

21. Planning Issues to Note

There were no planning issues to note.

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Planning Applications

East Ward (Councillors T. Harries, S. Jones, F. Kent-Ledger and R. Major)

No applications received.

North Ward (Councillor A. Canning)

- N1.** [P/FUL/2021/01459 Unit D1 Marabout Industrial Estate Dorchester Dorset DT1 1YA](#)
Removal and replacement of the existing HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning) systems serving the BAE Systems ground and first floor office spaces. Install 2no. air conditioning condensers external to the building on concrete pad with access path, and ventilation louvres installed in the wall elevations.

No objection.

- N2.** [P/FUL/2021/00652 14 South Street Dorchester Dorset DT1 1BS](#)
Removal of internal staircase & change of use from flat to void

Objection.

The Planning and Environment Committee strongly oppose the loss of a residential dwelling.

- N3.** [P/PAOD/2021/02481 South Walks House South Walks Road Dorchester DT1 1UZ](#)

This is not a Planning Application, it is a request for a legal determination as to whether or not Prior Approval is required for the proposal.

Change of use from offices (Class B1(a)) to 41 no. 1-bed, 2-bed and 3-bed apartments (Class C3).

The Committee would like the opportunity to comment on the actual planning proposal and will await the legal determination as to whether prior approval is required.

West Ward (Councillors L. Fry, J. Hewitt and R. Ricardo)

- W1.** [P/HOU/2021/01466 26 Brutus Close Dorchester DT1 2TJ](#)
Erect replacement porch.

No objection.

- W2.** [P/HOU/2021/01478 34 Bridport Road Dorchester Dorset DT1 1RS](#)
Erect replacement lean-to extension.

No objection.

W3. [P/HOU/2021/01647 11 Clarence Road Dorchester DT1 2HF](#)

Erect Garage.

No objection.

W4. [P/FUL/2021/02294 Former Gibbs & Dandy Site Builder Center Great Western Road Dorchester Dorset DT1 1RZ](#)

Demolition/conversion of buildings to provide 16no. apartments and commercial floorspace (use class E) with associated parking & landscaping.

No objection.

South Ward (Councillors G. Jones, R. Potter and M. Rennie)

S1. [P/HOU/2021/01494 4 Mellstock Avenue Dorchester Dorset DT1 2BE](#)

Erect first floor front and side extensions, two storey rear extension, and add new lean-to roof to porch.

No objection.

Poundbury Ward (Councillors R. Biggs, S. Hosford and D. Leaper)

No applications received.