

Dorchester Town Council
Minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee
7 July 2025

Present: Councillors A. Canning (the Mayor ex-officio), R. Biggs, S. Biles, P. Farmer, L. Fry (Vice Chair), J. Hewitt, F. Hogwood, S. Jones, F. Kent-Ledger, D. Leaper, R. Potter, M. Rennie and R. Ricardo (Chair).

Apologies: Cllrs V. Lloyd-Jones and R. Major.

Also in attendance: Cllr Kate Reid

6. Declarations of Interest

Councillor L. Fry stated that as a member of Dorset Council's Northern Area Planning Committee, he would keep an open mind on the planning applications and consider all information available at each stage of the decision process. He would take part in the debate but not vote on planning applications at this meeting.

7. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 2 June 2025 were confirmed by the Committee and signed by the chairman.

8. Planning Applications for Comment

The Committee considered the planning applications referred by Dorset Council to the Council for comment.

Resolved

That the comments on the various planning applications, as set out in Appendix 1, be submitted to Dorset Council.

9. Minute Update Report

1. Parking in Dorchester (Minute 60 of the Planning and Environment Committee meeting held on 7 April 2025)

The Committee noted the update received from Dorset Council regarding the proposed parking review. Members expressed disappointment that limited feedback had been sought from Town and Parish Councils. They also considered both the short notice ahead of the consultation and the brief consultation period to be unacceptable. The Committee requested that the clerk write to Dorset Council to express the Committee's disappointment.

The Committee requested that the Clerk provide a list of historical parking requests to all members.

2. Highways Alteration, London Road Request (Minute 28 of the Planning and Environment Committee meeting held on 4 November 2024)

The Committee noted the update.

3. 44 High East Street, Dorchester (Minute 45 of the Planning and Environment Committee meeting held on 7 January 2025)

A Committee member informed the Committee that the building had since deteriorated further, with part of the structure collapsing. The Committee requested that the clerk contact the Dorset Council to report the further deterioration and request that the building be inspected as it was a safety risk to members of the public.

Resolved

- i. That the clerk to the committee write to Dorset Council to express the Committee's disappointment about the proposed timescale for the Dorset Council parking review.
- ii. That the clerk to the committee circulate of historical parking requests to all members.
- iii. That the clerk to the committee report the further deterioration to 44 High East Street to Dorset Council and request the building be inspected.

10. Planning Issues to Note

There were no planning issues to note.

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Planning Applications for Comment

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

E1. P/FUL/2025/03069 92 High Street Fordington Dorchester DT1 1LD

Change of use of building from Public House to Restaurant. Retain convert garage to kitchen, external alterations and redecorated of render.

No objection in principle.

The Committee welcomed the application and considered it a positive use of the building, provided that concerns regarding the extractor fan are addressed to prevent odours and noise from affecting neighbouring properties.

E2. P/HOU/2025/01667 6 Louds Piece Dorchester DT1 2FF

Erect single-storey rear extension.

No objection.

E3. P/FUL/2025/03463 Fordington Cemetery Kings Road Dorchester

Partial rebuild of the boundary/retaining wall to Fordington Cemetery.

As Dorchester Town Council is the applicant, no comment will be made on this application.

E4. P/VOC/2025/03628 21 Icen Way Dorchester DT1 1ER

Erect rear single storey extension (with variation of conditions 2 to amend approved plans of planning permission P/HOU/2024/07110)

No objection.

North Ward (Councillors S. Biles, A. Canning and V. Lloyd-Jones)

N1. P/ADV/2025/03071 62 High West Street Dorchester DT1 1UY

Display 1no. non-illuminated fascia sign.

No objection.

N2. P/FUL/2025/03070 62 High West Street Dorchester DT1 1UY

Installation of two external grilles

No objection.

N3. P/LBC/2025/03068 62 High West Street Dorchester DT1 1UY

Installation of air conditioning and erect new signage.

No objection.

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

W1. P/VOC/2025/02733 Dorset County Hospital Williams Avenue Dorchester DT1 2JY

New Hospitals Project including a new Emergency Department, a new 24 bed Critical Care Department and replacement helipad at roof level (with variation to Condition No. 1 of Reserved Matters Approval No. P/RES/2023/03565 to amend the approved plans).

No objection.

W2. P/HOU/2025/03582 4 Treves Road Dorchester DT1 2HD

Demolish existing single storey extension and conservatory. Erect two storey rear extension.

No objection.

W3. P/HOU/2025/03675 4 Apollo Close Dorchester DT1 2QP

Erect single storey infill extension to front elevation.

No objection.

South Ward (Councillors R. Potter and M. Rennie)

S1. P/FUL/2025/03138 Joseph Weld House Herringston Road Dorchester DT1 2SL

Erection of single storey extension to create out patient unit & alterations to the existing car park.

The principle of the development is supported; however, the current design is considered incongruous with the existing building.

The Committee welcomed the use of Broadmayne-style brick but would prefer a design more in keeping with the character of the original structure. Greater attention could be given to the roofline and style of windows to ensure it is aesthetically pleasing and sympathetic to its surroundings.

S2. P/HOU/2025/03543 5A Grosvenor Road Dorchester DT1 2BB

Erect single storey rear extension.

No objection.

Poundbury Ward (Councillors R. Biggs, F. Hogwood and D. Leaper)

No applications received to date.