

DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

1st OCTOBER, 2012

At a Meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 1st October, 2012:

PRESENT The Mayor (Councillor A.J. Canning) and Councillors V.J. Allan, K.E. Armitage, C.S. Biggs, R.M. Biggs, T.C.N. Harries, S.C. Hosford (in the Chair), R.B. Potter and M.E. Rennie.

APOLOGIES for absence were received from Councillors E.S. Jones, Trevor Jones, D.S. Roberts and D. Taylor.

28. **SCHOOL PLACES IN DORCHESTER**

The Committee welcomed Ms J. Groves from the Children's Services Directorate of Dorset County Council who was attending the Meeting to discuss with Members the adequacy of the provision of school places within the Dorchester pyramid following concerns expressed during the consideration of the new draft local plan which proposed the building of many more houses in Dorchester and Crossways.

Ms Groves informed the Committee that the Dorchester area lagged behind the rest of the country in the increase of population: however this area was now catching up as the birth rate had increased in recent years.

Both Damers and Manor Park First Schools had increased numbers this year for Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 pupils. In response to a question Ms Groves confirmed that St. Mary's School, Puddletown, which was within the Dorchester Pyramid, had capacity to expand.

Both Dorchester Middle School and Thomas Hardy School would have future capacity. The present practice of Thomas Hardy School accepting pupils from outside its natural catchment area would cease as those children normally resident within the catchment area for the Dorchester pyramid would always take precedence.

In response to a question Ms Groves informed the Committee that the situation regarding the current pupil provision at Damers First School was wholly inadequate and that the County Council had had many discussions with the Duchy of Cornwall regarding the proposed building of a new school within the Poundbury development. However, the discussions were still ongoing and the County Council was now reviewing the possible rebuilding of Damers School on its existing site; she reminded the Committee that Government money for school rebuilds was no longer available. She was hopeful that the County Council would reach a final decision by Christmas.

In response to a further question she informed the Committee that it was probable that the Hospital no longer wished to purchase the Damers Road School site.

The Chairman thank Ms. Groves for her attendance at the meeting.

29. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 3rd September, 2012, adopted by Council on 25th September, 2012, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

30. **TRAFFIC PANEL – 17th SEPTEMBER, 2012**

The Committee considered the Minutes of the Meeting of the Traffic Panel held on 17th September, 2012 (for Minutes see Appendix I).

It was

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Traffic Panel held on 17th September, 2012 be approved.

31. **DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL**

(a) **Review of Parking**

The Committee received and considered the proposed introduction of parking restrictions on the following roads as requested by this Council:

- No waiting at any time – Cromwell Road at the bend by the Railway Station;
- No waiting at any time – Alfred Road and Rothesay Road at its junction with Monmouth Road;
- No waiting at any time – Blagdon Road at its junction with Cambridge Road;
- No waiting at any time – Fourgates Road 23 metres north of its junction with Damers Road;
- No waiting at any time – Windsor Road at its junction with Damers Road;
- No waiting at any time – Mill Street at its junction with River Crescent;
- No waiting at any time – Mill Street at both junctions with Durnover Court;
- No waiting at any time – Wessex Road on the north-east side from the junction with Bridport Road for a distance of 77 metres;
- No waiting at any time – Wessex Road at its junction with Poundbury Crescent;
- No waiting at any time – South Court Avenue at its junction with Grosvenor Road;
- No waiting at any time – Somerleigh Road and Somerleigh Gate;
- No waiting between the hours of 8.00am to 9.00am and 3.00pm to 4.00pm, Monday to Friday – Rothesay Road at its junction with Barnes Way and Kingsbere Crescent;
- No Loading or Unloading between the hours of 9.00am to 6.00pm on a section of the eastern side of Trinity Street.

Following discussion it was

RESOLVED

That the parking restrictions as proposed by the Dorset County Council be supported.

During consideration of this item the Committee agreed to monitor the situation in Cromwell Road by the Railway Station as Members were strongly of the opinion that the prohibition on waiting at any time should be extended to outside 68/70 Cromwell Road.

The Committee was also of the opinion that the situation should be monitored in Mill Street, Fordington at its junctions with Durnover Court with the possible introduction of further parking restrictions outside flats 1/6 and 7/12.

(The Mayor declared an interest in the proposed introduction of restrictions on Alfred Road and Rothesay Road at their junctions with Monmouth Road as a resident of the area.)

(Councillor K. E. Armitage declared an interest in the proposed introduction of restrictions on Windsor Road at its junction with Damers Road as a resident of the area.)

(Councillor V.J. Allan declared an interest in the proposed introduction of restrictions in Somerleigh Road and Somerleigh Gate as a resident of the area.)

(b) Temporary Road Closure

The Committee noted that a part of Fordington High Street, north east of Fordington Green to Church Acre would be closed on Friday, 7th December for Carols on the Green.

(c) Resurfacing Works

The Committee noted that the County Council would be carrying out maintenance works on the following roads in December, 2012, when they would be closed between the hours of 8.00am and 5.00pm:

- Culliford Road North – 3rd and 4th December;
- Edward Road – 4th and 5th December;
- Whitfield Road – 5th and 6th December.

32. **ROUNABOUT SPONSORSHIP SIGNS**

Further to Minutes 19(b) and 24 the Committee noted that the Duchy of Cornwall had indicated that they would prefer the Fire Station Roundabout to be named Mey House Roundabout.

It was

RESOLVED

That suggestion of the Duchy of Cornwall be not supported and that the Committee confirms its previous decision.

33. **ACCESS ROAD TO THE LITTLE KEEP**

Further to Minute 24(c) the Committee gave further consideration to the possible naming of the access road to the Little Keep.

It was

RESOLVED

That the road should be named Barrack Road.

34. **DORSET PFI STREET LIGHTING – HIGH EAST AND HIGH WEST STREETS**

The Committee noted that SSE Contracting was currently arranging to carry out the PFI street lighting works to High West and High East Streets. The Clerk informed the Committee that the scheme remained as previously reported but that a new numbering system would be adopted.

35. **PEDESTRIAN SAFETY – POUNDBURY DEVELOPMENT**

The Committee received and considered correspondence from a resident expressing his concerns regarding pedestrian safety in Queen Mother Square and requesting a new pedestrian crossing on Bridport Road at its junction with Middlemarsh Street.

A Member informed the Committee that resurfacing texture works had commenced in Queen Mother Square and that the situation should be monitored for the time being.

The Committee considered the need for a pedestrian crossing on Bridport Road at its junction with Middlemarsh Street and noted that there was a pedestrian refuge at this location. A Member informed the Committee that in her opinion the Hastoe House signage blocked a pedestrian's view of traffic coming from the east.

Following discussion it was

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Committee further consider the issue of pedestrian safety in Queen Mother Square once the current resurfacing works have been completed.
- (2) That the Town Clerk be requested to write to the Hastoe Housing Association requesting the removal of the signage.
- (3) That the Dorset County Council be requested to carry a survey at the junction of Bridport Road and Middlemarsh Street to ascertain whether it fulfilled the criteria for the installation of a pedestrian crossing.

36. **WEST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL TREE WORKS – APPROVALS**

The Committee noted that the following tree works had been approved by the District Council:

- Fell 1 Conifer at Hangman's Cottage, Glyde Path Road;
- Remove branches from 1 Scots Pine at 5 Malta Close;
- Fell 1 Spruce and 1 Oak and crown lift 1 Norway Maple at the Friends Meeting House, Holloway Road.

During consideration of this item a Member reported that the roots from the trees in Weymouth Avenue close to the Cemetery were causing obstruction to pedestrians with baby buggies and users of mobility scooters using the pavement.

It was

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk be requested to write to the Dorset County Council asking them to deal with the problem of tree roots in Weymouth Avenue.

37. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- (a) PA 1/D/12/1060 – Fascia Sign and Projecting Sign to South Street. Fascia Sign to Trinity Street Shop front Elevation

The Committee noted that the above Application had been withdrawn from the Planning Register.

- (b) PA 1/D/12/1009 – Demolition of Existing Building and Erection of a 3 Storey Block of 9 Dwellings with a Rear Car Park for 8 Spaces and Landscaping at 29-31 Damers Road

The Committee received and noted a letter dated 20th September to the District Council's Planning Officer dealing with this Council's concerns regarding the above Planning Application.

- (c) Planning Applications – Generally

The Committee considered planning applications referred to this Council for comment by the Dorset County Council and the West Dorset District Council.

It was

RESOLVED

That the comments on the various planning applications as now agreed and set out at Appendix II be notified to the Dorset County Council and the West Dorset District Council.

Chairman

DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL

TRAFFIC PANEL

17th SEPTEMBER, 2012

At a Meeting of the Traffic Panel held on 17th September, 2012:

PRESENT Councillors T.C.N. Harries (Chairman) and Councillors E.S. Jones, R.B. Potter and D.S. Roberts.

In attendance:

Councillors D.J. Barrett, Trevor Jones and M.E. Rennie.

APOLOGIES for absence were received from The Mayor (Councillor A.J. Canning) and Councillor S.C. Hosford.

1. **PARKING IN QUEEN'S AVENUE**

The Panel received correspondence from residents of Queens Avenue expressing their concerns regarding vehicles parking in Queen's Avenue and suggesting the possible introduction of parking restrictions. A Member informed the Panel that the Dorset County Council had allocated its budget for 2012-13 so no works would be undertaken until 2013-14.

During consideration of this item the residents also expressed their concern regarding the amount of litter being generated from the schools in the area.

Following discussion it was

RECOMMENDED

- (1) That the Dorset County Council be requested to consider introducing parking restrictions in Queen's Avenue for either two or four hours maximum stay
- (2) That representations be made to Thomas Hardy School suggesting that staff from the school use the car parks within the grounds.
- (3) That the Planning and Environment Committee be asked to consider the problem of litter in the area.

2. **PARKING IN CROMWELL ROAD**

The Panel received and considered correspondence from residents of Cromwell Road expressing their concerns regarding parked vehicles in Cromwell Road and suggesting parking restriction on the bends and perhaps the introduction of a residents parking scheme.

Following discussion it was

RECOMMENDED

- (1) That the Dorset County Council be asked to consider the possible introduction of parking restrictions on the bend by the railway station.
- (2) That consideration be given to the possible introduction of diagonal parking and a one-way system.
- (3) That the Police be asked to visit the area and deal with any inconsiderate parking.
- (4) That Dorset Fire and Rescue be asked to visit the area to ascertain whether access could be obtained in the case of an emergency.

3. **PARKING IN FORDINGTON**

A Member reported that the number of parked vehicles in the Fordington area of the Town was creating difficulties for residents and that the issue needed to be addressed by Dorset County Council.

4. **ROAD MARKINGS IN THE TOWN**

The Panel expressed its concern that many of the road markings in the Town had completely faded and needed repainting as a matter of urgency, in particular the mini roundabouts at King's Road and Queen's Avenue and the traffic calming humps in Coburg Road.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED

Planning Applications considered on 1st October, 2012:

1 11040

Demolish existing buildings and erect 10No 3 bed houses with associated parking at 12 & 14 Came View Road. 1/D/12/1242

Recommend Refusal. The Council are strongly of the opinion that this proposal is unsympathetic to this iconic 1950's development, the proposed density is far too high for this semi-suburban area. Concern was also expressed that this proposal could impact on the national cyclework and the green corridor. The Council also had concerns regarding the impact on the neighbour. The Council had concerns that this proposal could also impact on Mount Pleasant Hedge, which is a scheduled ancient monument.

2 11041

Two storey and single storey rear extensions at 5 St. Helens Road. 1/D/12/1242 (CA)

No objection.

3 11042

Remove 1m high brick wall and black wrought iron gates. Erect new 1200mm high brick wall between 1.8m piers. Install black wrought iron gates and railings at 53 Coburg Road. 1/D/12/1200

No objection.

4 11043

Advertisement consent for 2No internal illuminated 'Odeon' letters. 3No digital display monitors at 3 Dray Horse Yard. 1/D/12/1267 (CA) (Affects the setting of a LB)

Recommend Refusal. The Council object to the internal illumination within the Conservation Area and the impact on the Listed Building.

5 11044

Replace first floor window with door and construct new external timber stairs at 1 River View. 1/D/12/1292

No objection.

6 11045

Change of use of first floor area over garage to self-contained dwelling (retrospective) at 4a Wadebridge Square. 1/D/12/1312

Recommend Refusal. The Council is of the opinion that this proposal is over development, not in keeping with the original design brief and the lack of amenity space.

7 11046

Change of use of first floor area over garage to self-contained dwelling (retrospective) at 17a Billingsmoor Lane. 1/D/12/1313

Recommend Refusal. The Council is of the opinion that this proposal is over development, not in keeping with the design brief and the lack of amenity space.

8 11047

Change of use of first floor area over garage to self-contained dwelling (retrospective) at 9a Billingsmoor Lane 1/D/12/1314

Recommend Refusal. The Council is of the opinion that this proposal is over development, not in keeping with the original brief and the lack of amenity space.

9 11048

Formation of ramped access to ground floor properties at Whetstones. 1/D/12/1320

No objection.

10 11049

Listed Building consent to erect two radio antenna to the roof of out gatehouse at HM Prison. 1/D/12/1167 (CA & Grade II LB)

No objection.

11 11050

To erect two radio antenna to the roof of out gatehouse at HM Prison. 1/D/12/1166 (CA & Grade II LB)

No objection.

12 11051

Change of use of first floor area over garage to self-contained dwelling (retrospective) at 11 Wadebridge Square. 1/D/12/1318

Recommend Refusal. The Council is of the opinion that this proposal is over development, not in keeping with the original design brief and the lack of amenity space.

13 11052

Retention of double temporary classroom (previous retention ref. 1/D/07/1236) at Damers School. 1/D/12/1311

No objection.

14 11053

Timber conservatory on side elevation at 1 Lower Blakemere Road. 1/D/12/1337

No objection.

15 11054

Change of use to allow storage, distribution and sale of hard wall and floor covering and associated products and/or Class B2 use and/or Class B8 use and elevation changes at 31-33 London Road. 1/D/12/1245

No objection.

16 11055

Raise roof to create new second floor at 4 Grosvenor Road. 1/D/12/1147

No objection.

17 11056

Incorporation of 3 No. existing rooflights into one larger one with new glazed roof structure (retrospective). in Tudor Arcade. 1/D/12/1328 (CA)

No objection.