

PLANNING COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Planning Committee held by Video Conferencing on Wednesday, 17 March 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Bailie Denis Agnew and Councillors Karen Conaghan, Ian Dickson, Diane Docherty, Jim Finn, Daniel Lennie, Marie McNair and Lawrence O'Neill.

Attending: Pamela Clifford, Planning, Building Standards and Environmental Health Manager; Peter Hessel, Chief Officer – Regulatory and Regeneration; Erin Goldie, Team Leader – Development Management; Raymond Walsh, Network Management Coordinator, Roads and Transportation; John Walker, Assistant Engineering Officer, Roads & Transportation; Ross Lee, Lead Planning Officer; Nigel Ettles, Section Head – Litigation (Legal Officer) and Craig Stewart, Committee Officer.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Gail Casey and Douglas McAllister.

Councillor Jim Finn in the Chair

CHAIR'S REMARKS

Councillor Finn, Chair, welcomed everyone to the March meeting of the Planning Committee which was being held remotely, in terms of Section 43 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003.

Accordingly, the Chair advised that a process/procedure had been developed for the meeting (a copy of which had previously been circulated to Members). Thereafter, the Committee agreed to note the procedure in place for the conduct of the meeting and the meeting then continued by video conferencing.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were no declarations of interest in any of the items of business on the agenda.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meetings of the Planning Committee held on (a) 26 January 2021 (Special); and (b) 10 February 2021 (Ordinary) were submitted and approved as correct records.

NOTE OF VISITATION

A Note of Visitation carried out on 8 February 2021, a copy of which forms Appendix 1 hereto, was submitted and noted.

OPEN FORUM

The Committee noted that no open forum questions had been submitted by members of the public.

PLANNING APPLICATION

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer – Regulatory and Regeneration in respect of the following planning application:-

DC20/232 – Formation of car park and associated landscaping and footpaths at land adjacent to Dalreoch Railway Station, West Bridgend, Dumbarton by West Dunbartonshire Council.

Reference was made to a site visit which had been undertaken in respect of the above application. The Planning, Building Standards and Environmental Health Manager was then heard in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions.

Councillor Finn, Chair, invited Councillor David McBride, who was speaking in relation to constituents' objections and Mr Jim Fraser, objector, to address the Committee. Both were heard in respect of their representations.

The Chair then invited Ms Nikki McAuley and Mr Robert Davidson of Ironside Farrer, agent, to address the Committee and both were heard in answer to Members' questions.

After consideration and having heard the Planning, Building Standards and Environmental Health Manager and relevant officers in clarification of certain matters and in answer to Members' questions, Councillor Lennie, seconded by Councillor McNair, moved:-

That the application be refused on the grounds that more evidence and justification was required of increased footfall and current car park capacity levels before considering any additional spaces.

As an amendment, Councillor Conaghan, seconded by Bailie Agnew, moved:-

That the Committee grant the application with a further condition that there should be a study commissioned which would detail the demand and usage of the existing car park before proceeding with any works.

After hearing the Planning, Building Standards and Environmental Health Manager in response to potential difficulties with regard to the purpose of the additional condition, Councillor Conaghan, with the consent of the Committee, agreed to withdraw her amendment.

Thereafter, as an amendment, Bailie Agnew, seconded by Councillor Finn, moved:-

That the application be continued to a future meeting of the Committee to allow for additional information to be obtained, including usage of the existing car parking spaces at this location.

On a vote being taken, 4 Members voted for the amendment and 4 Members voted for the motion. There being an equality of votes, Councillor Finn, Chair, exercised his casting vote in favour of the amendment which was accordingly declared carried.

Note: Bailie Agnew left the meeting at this point in the proceedings.

PLANNING PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK 2019-20

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer – Regulatory and Regeneration informing of the recent comments received from the Scottish Government regarding the Planning Performance Framework submitted by the Council for 2019-20.

After discussion and having heard the Planning, Building Standards and Environmental Health Manager in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the contents of the report and the comments received from the Scottish Government.

The meeting closed at 11:48 a.m.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

NOTE OF VISITATION – 8 FEBRUARY 2021

Present: Bailie Denis Agnew and Councillors Ian Dickson, Diane Docherty, Marie McNair and Lawrence O'Neill.

Attending: Erin Goldie, Team Leader – Development Management.

SITE VISIT

A site visit was undertaken in connection with the undernoted planning application-

DC20/241 – Proposed residential development comprising 76 dwellings with associated car parking and landscaping at former Council offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton by Miller Homes.