

**MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING** held in Committee Room No. 3, St. John's Hall, Penzance on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2009 at 7.00 pm.

**PRESENT**

Councillor P.C.H. Rendle (Chairman)

Councillors     R. Lewarne  
                  R.A. Mann  
                  K.L.W. Perry  
                  J. Ruhrmund  
                  T.E. Williams

**ALSO PRESENT**

Councillor J. Moreland

70. **APOLOGIES**

Councillors J. Parkin and C.A. Dennis.

Absent without apologies: Councillors D.J. Axford and F. Granger.

71. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors J. Ruhrmund and R. Lewarne in commenting on the planning applications, made it clear that their comments were based on the information currently available and did not commit them to taking the same position when the matter was discussed at the District Planning Committee.

In respect of application number 08-1692-AD, CVC Solicitors, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Branwells Mill, Penzance – display of non-illuminated fascia sign – Councillor T.E. Williams declared a personal interest as she knows a member of staff in the practice.

In respect of application number 09-0036-P, Penwith Housing Association – construction of single storey extension on rear elevation – 3 Colinsey Place, Penzance – Councillor Mann declared a personal interest as a Board member of PHA.

In respect of application number 08-1504-P, Sian Limited – construction of dwelling and associated works at Hawkins Road, Penzance – Councillors Mann and Ruhrmund declared prejudicial interests as they know a neighbour who lives adjacent to the site and Councillor Rendle declared a prejudicial interest because of discussions already held with a member of another political party in respect of this application.

With the meeting becoming inquorate, the Town Clerk would establish whether or not the application would still be 'in time' to be considered at the full Town Council Meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2009.

72. REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

(a) Penzance Conservation Area Appraisal

The chairman had reminded the committee that all members of the council had been invited to attend and take part in discussion on the Penzance Conservation Area Appraisal and a number of points were raised by members and it was noted that the Civic Society would also be discussing the document in detail on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2009.

With this in mind, it was

**RESOLVED:** that the chairman, Councillor Ruhrmund and Councillor Moreland would meet in due course to link Town Council comments with those to be made by the Civic Society in order that a comprehensive response could be made to the document.

This response would be forwarded to all members in due course and would sit for record purposes as Appendix "A" to the minutes of this meeting.

(b) Response from Penwith District Council to Recommendation arising from Disabled Access Street Audit

Penwith District Council had replied to the query regarding the action which would follow in relation to the audit and had been advised that Councillor Mario Fonk of the District Council had obtained funding from Penwith to carry out the audit through Mr. Verran's department.

Issues that were street related had been passed to the Highway Authority for action where appropriate and changes to Listed Buildings, etc. would depend on "what's reasonable" and Disability Cornwall's view in that regard.

The Town Clerk then contacted Mr. Mike Peters, the newly designated Highways Manager for the area, who had advised that he would be taking recommendations from the audit through to Mr. Peter Moore, as head of Transportation and Estates, in an attempt to gain funding for the required works, such funding possibly being available through the local Transport Plan two and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the position be noted.

(c) Correspondence from Cornwall County Council re. Street Closures:-

- (i) B3315 Sheffield to Chywoone Hill, Penzance – originally 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> January 2009 (24 hours) now 14<sup>th</sup> January 2009 – highway patching works;
- (ii) Bread Street, Penzance – 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2009 (24 hours) – public safety during building/redevelopment works;
- (iii) Union Street, Penzance – 13<sup>th</sup> January (0730 – 1800 hours) and 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2009 (0730 – 1800 hours) – public safety during scaffolding works

and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the information be noted.

(d) The Integrated Coastal Zone Management Strategy for England

The Town Clerk advised that the council had been made aware of the above document by e-mail, and it had been downloaded, but that he had yet to study the document.

For those people who have access to the internet, the website address for this document is <http://www.defra.gov.uk/marine/environment/iczm.htm> and, in the meantime, the Town Clerk would endeavour to provide a summary report of the document for a future meeting and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the position be noted.

(e) Offer of Support from the Council for the Protection of Rural England

The letter from the CPRE had been copied to all members for information and provided details of the support that could be provided to organisations such as Town and Parish Councils when dealing with planning applications, particularly those that may be sensitive in areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty etc.

Councillor Lewarne would make contact with the local representative of CPRE and, in the meantime, the Town Clerk would respond on behalf of the committee to advise that support, where required, on an application by application basis would be welcome and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the position be noted.

(f) Information from the Environment Agency to Encourage Early Preparation for Flooding

The Environment Agency had sent correspondence regarding its attempts to raise awareness to be prepared for flooding and had included a calendar which showed the unfortunate affects of flooding at a number of locations throughout the country and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that receipt be noted.

(g) Re-organisation of Highway Service – Correspondence from Cornwall County Council

The County Council had written to advise that the Highway Service was being revamped from four divisions into three areas.

The areas would be headed by a Regional Engineer (Andy James) and there would be three Area Highway Managers with the Manager for the western area being Mr. Mike Peters and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the position be noted.

**73. FINANCIAL POSITION**

The committee considered its finances to the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008 and it was

**RESOLVED:** to note the position.

The committee also considered payments made in the months of October, November and December 2008 and it was

**RESOLVED:** to approve such payments (see Appendix “B” for both financial position and payments made).

**74. SITE VIEWING PANEL MEETINGS**

In the absence of the need for formal site meetings, the District Council had written to advise that there would be informal visits on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2009, ahead of formal applications in respect of Ponsandane Care Home, and a visit would also be made to the former Gas Works site to look at the proposals for the demolition of existing buildings and the construction of mixed used development comprising 3 retail units, restaurant, café and 53 self-contained residential units and associated access works and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the position be noted.

**75. PLANNING DECISIONS**

The Clerk advised of 7 decisions which were at variance with the view of the Planning Committee and it was

**RESOLVED:** to note the position.

**76. NEW AND AMENDED PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The committee considered 9 new and amended planning applications and their comments are as recorded in the Planning Register.

9.10 pm

Chairman  
12<sup>th</sup> February 2009