

CALDICOT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Planning and Resources Committee held at 6.30pm on Tuesday, 11th February 2014 at Caldicot Town Council

Present: Cllrs: A Lloyd, Deputy Mayor F J Harvey
 D Ashwin J Haskey
 W Conniff R J Higginson
 A Easson P Watts
 D Evans S Webb [6.55pm]

[In attendance: A Sandiford]

In the absence of the Mayor, Cllr A Lloyd, Deputy Mayor took the chair.

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs A Davies, P Maycock-Jones, M Stevens, P Stevens, R Stewart and G McIntyre, Clerk

2 Declarations of Interest - To be identified under the relevant item/Forms to be completed

Cllrs D Evans and P Watts declared an interest in planning matters

Cllr A Easson declared an interest in Plan DC/2014/00092

Further Declarations of Interest to be identified under the relevant item.

3 Planning Applications Received [Displayed]

It was resolved to consider DC/2014/00092 prior to DC/2013/01053 and DC/2014/00061

DC/2014/00092: Outline plot for one house – 30 Longcroft Road, Caldicot **TC Approved**

Cllr A Easson declared an interest in DC/2014/00092 and left the room

DC/2013/01053: Retention and repositioning of existing fence; proposed stone wall and planting – Brooklands Barn, Pill Row, Caldicot **TC Observations***

*** Wall and fence above Mon CC required height – too high fronting road**

DC/2014/00061: Change of Use (from shop/office to canine grooming parlour) – 12B Newport Road, Caldicot **TC Approved**

4 Mon CC Planning Information [Displayed]

i) Approval of Planning Permissions

DC/2012/00321: Outline planning for building plot – land at 2 Churchfield Avenue, Caldicot **TC App 11.12.12**

DC/2013/00084: Outline planning for one house on plot of land – land adjacent 19 The Avenue, Caldicot **TC App 12.3.14**

DC/2013/00868: Residential development comprising of two one bedroom flats – 1 Greenfield, Caldicot **TC App 14.1.14**

DC/2013/00888: Detached bungalow with access – reserved matters seeking consent: site layout, internal layout and external appearance – 2 Taff Road, Caldicot **TC App 14.1.14**

DC/2013/01046: Conversion of compound building to meeting zone complete with small extension for toilets. External canopy over play area – compound at King George V Playing Fields, Caldicot **TC No Observations 14.1.14**

Town Council noted the above Planning Information from Mon CC

5 Correspondence from Maison Design re: DC/2013/01046 [Circ] – Conditionally Approved

Town Council received the Conditional Planning Approval and Conditional Approval from Building Regulations from Mon CC via Maison Design and accepted the conditions of approval therein.

6 Mon CC - Section 14 Road Traffic Regulation Act: Green Lane, Caldicot – Temporary Road Closure Order 24.2.14 – 23.3.14 - Response by 14.2.14[Displayed]

Town Council considered the above Temporary Road Closure Order for Green Lane, Caldicot in order to facilitate the installation of speed cushions.

A discussion ensued and Members were unhappy with the lack of consultation in this matter.

Members were opposed to the installation of additional speed bumps along Green Lane, particularly speed cushions, as they had a negative impact for disabled persons and considered there was an “overkill” of speed calming in the area. Members also expressed concerns for bus users alighting from buses at The Haywain.

Members also expressed concerns in relation to the disruption and inconvenience that will be caused to public transport users and requested what alternative arrangements would be put in place during the closure of the road.

It was stated that “whilst Town Council supports safety on roads in Caldicot and has a valuable contribution to make in terms of road calming in the area, it considers it should have been consulted in this matter and on this occasion, questions the need for the proposed works; considering it an unnecessary spend”.

It was resolved to relay the above statement and Town Council’s concerns to Mon CC and invite Mr Roger Hoggins to urgently address Town Council to explain Mon CC’s Policy and regulations in relation to traffic calming and the consultation process.

7 To Note Casual Vacancy Dewstow Ward

i) To nominate representative on Health & Safety Committee

A Member proposed to defer this item as a result of another Member advising of an apparent change in the process whereby if apologies were given for Members’ absence it was deemed the same as if they were present. This caused a lot of confusion with other Members who understood that if a Member was absent for more than 6 months, without special circumstances being accepted by the Council, they would be automatically disqualified 6 months following their last attendance.

A lengthy discussion ensued and it was stated that this item was on the agenda for information only.

The Chairman read out correspondence between the Electoral Officer and the Clerk in relation to apologies received and requesting if the council had accepted any reason for the absence prior to the six months expiry.

Members requested legal clarification in this matter for further consideration at its next meeting in light of a Member stating they had been advised by the Electoral Officer that the absent councillor, if they so wished, could contest the disqualification and take the matter to court resulting in financial implications for Town Council.

The date the councillor had last attended a meeting and what, if any, were their reasons for their absence accepted by Town Council was requested.

The Admin Assistant advised that the Member in question had not been notified of this meeting as a result of their non-compliance.

It was resolved:

- i) to defer this item to TC 26.2.14 pending legal clarification from Mon CC and confirmation of the dates of the last meeting attended and apologies offered**
- ii) to circulate the correspondence read out to Members with the agenda for TC 26.2.14**

8 To Consider nomination to Standards Committee – Community Committee Member [Circ]

Town Council resolved to put forward Cllr W Conniff as a nomination for Community Committee Member to the Standards Committee.

Cllr D Ashwin advised Town Council that he had already applied for this position.

9 King George V Playing Fields– Caldicot AFC Correspondence/Request for Additional Fixtures[Circ]

Town Council considered additional fixtures for East Gwent Cup Finals 11th/18th/25th April 2014 and 2nd/9th May 2014 with teams to be confirmed.

It was resolved to permit Caldicot AFC use of the main pitch for the additional East Gwent Cup Final fixtures.

Cllr A Easson declared an interest in this item.

The meeting closed at 7.25pm

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Mayor/Deputy Mayor