

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Planning & Townscape Committee
held at the Town Hall, Rye on Monday 20 July 2009**

PRESENT Councillors John Breeds (Deputy Mayor), Jonathan Breeds, Bernardine Fiddimore, Jo Kirkham, Paul Osborne, Frank Palmer (**Committee Chairman**), David Wright (**Committee Vice Chairman**)

IN ATTENDANCE Richard Farhall – Town Clerk; Cllrs Brian Elliott, Sonia Holmes, Mary Smith; Richard Gladstone – *Hastings Observer*, 4 members of the public

The meeting commenced at 6.31pm

27 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence – and the reasons logged with the Clerk – were accepted from Cllr Shaun Rogers and Sam Souster (Mayor).

28 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Cllr John Breeds | <i>personal</i> | RR/2009/1535/P | Shareholder in company nearby |
| | <i>prejudicial</i> | RR/2009/1551/P | Shareholder in company running similar business |
| | <i>prejudicial</i> | item 35 | Live adjacent to site |
| Cllr Jonathan Breeds | <i>personal</i> | RR/2009/1535/P | Reside nearby |
| | <i>prejudicial</i> | RR/2009/1551/P | Shareholder in company running similar business |
| Cllr Paul Osborne | <i>personal</i> | item 34 | RDC Member |

The Committee Chairman adjourned the meeting for public questions. There was none.

The meeting reconvened.

29 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Planning and Townscape meeting of 6 July 2009 (PT04) were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

30 MATTERS ARISING

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23 Planning applications – RR/2009/1269/P (22a Winchelsea Road) Cllr Osborne confirmed that this would be considered by RDC's Planning Committee in August.

31 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED That the comments following be submitted to the Planning Authority:

Cllrs John and Jonathan Breeds re-stated their personal interest in the application following.

RR/2009/1535/P The Mint House, The Mint, Rye
(Del) Replacement of garage with garden room above, alteration to entrance, new pedestrian access and blocking up of one access road.
Applicant: Mr & Mrs Wilkinson, The Mint House, Rye
SUPPORT APPROVAL

RR/2009/1542/T 10 Watchbell Street, Rye
(Del) Reduce crown by approx 50% of two holly trees.
Applicant: Tree Hedge & Garden Services, The Dutch Barn, Crockers Lane, Northiam
SUPPORT APPROVAL

Cllrs John and Jonathan Breeds re-stated their prejudicial interest in the application following and left the Chamber.

RR/2009/1551/P River Café, St Margaret's Terrace, Rye
(Del) Variation of conditions 1 and 8 of planning permission RR/2003/3446/P to allow continued use of premises as café and extend opening hours.
Applicant: Miss A Riches, Leasam Farm Oast, Leasam Lane, Playden
SUPPORT REFUSAL Insufficient information – especially regarding proposed opening times

Cllrs John and Jonathan Breeds returned to the Chamber.

RR/2009/1630/TN Southern Water Services, Rye Harbour Water
(Del) Treatment Works
for information only Installation of 3 no. T-Mobile (UK) antennas on the existing 12.5m high steel monopole tower, together with 1 no. flexi BTS cabinet at ground level and development ancillary thereto.
Applicant: T-Mobile, Hatfield Business Park, Hatfield
NOTED

32 8-26 FISHMARKET ROAD

RESOLVED To endorse the letter drafted by the Mayor to RDC's Chief Executive. Clerk

33 COACH PARKING

Members considered an email, copied to the Town Council, on the subject of coaches parking on bus stands/waiting areas and the absence of signage directing coach drivers to alternative parking in Harbour Road.

The discussion following included the comments following: some coach drivers park in Harbour Road anyway – albeit anywhere they can avoid paying for parking; Brian Banks (ESCC Highways could be asked to consider signage as part of his review of signage in relation to HGVs attempting to access the town via the Landgate Tower; the problem of coaches parking on bus stands was, essentially, a Police enforcement issue.

RESOLVED To ask the Police to enforce any breach of traffic regulations by coach drivers and ask Brian Banks to consider the provision of 'alternative coach parking' signage. Clerk

34 FIRE DAMAGED CHAPEL

Members were invited to consider Cllr Rogers' suggestion that RTC asks RDC to explore working with a developer to reinstate the chapel as a habitable dwelling.

The Clerk advised that the work to create a 'feature ruin' had been postponed for a few weeks to allow a litter of feral kittens on the site to become stronger – prior to an attempt to trap and home them.

Speaking from the Public Gallery, Cllr Ramus pointed out that the damaged chapel actually lay within Rye Foreign and in May 2008, following local consultation, its Parish Council had decided to support the feature ruin proposal - and had suggested the fixing of a plaque explaining what had taken place there. At that stage there had been no suggestion that the chapel's original footprint would accommodate parking.

The discussion following included the points following: RTC's resolved position was to support a feature ruin; there had been no suggestion originally that so much stone would be removed and that additional parking would be provided; it would be more appropriate to make provision for public seeking and designate it as a 'quiet area'; there had been many expressions of concern about the fate of the chapel from Rye residents.

RECOMMENDATION To suggest to RDC that it considers reinstating the Chapel, but as a habitable dwelling. Clerk

Cllr John Breeds re-stated his prejudicial interest in the item following and left the Chamber.

35 LAND NORTH OF UDIMORE ROAD

The Clerk advised that the developer, AronCorp had offered to fund the replacement/repair/provision of the existing Rye Gateway sign - and also the Maritime Cinque Ports sign - at the locations following: New Road, Rye Hill, Military Road, Udimore Road, New Winchelsea Road.

A number of members expressed concern that by accepting this offer on behalf of the town, it could be viewed by some that RTC was, effectively, appearing to endorse a development proposal it opposed totally.

It was noted that ESCC and RDC would be extracting considerable sums in the form of 'developer contributions' for infrastructure improvements.

RESOLVED To refer the matter to Full Council.

The meeting ended at 7.14pm

Date.....

Chairman.....