

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Planning & Townscape Committee
held at the Town Hall, Rye on Monday 8 November 2010**

PRESENT Councillors John Breeds (Mayor), Jonathan Breeds, Bernardine Fiddimore, Lorna Hall (Deputy Mayor), Jo Kirkham, Paul Osborne, Frank Palmer (**Committee Chairman**), Shaun Rogers

IN ATTENDANCE Richard Farhall - Town Clerk; Cllrs Sonia Holmes, Ian Potter, David Russell, Mary Smith and Sam Souster; Andy Hemsley – *Rye Observer*, 10 members of the public

The meeting commenced at 6.33pm

74 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence – and the reason lodged with the Clerk – were accepted from Cllr David Wright (**Committee Vice Chairman**).

75 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Cllr John Breeds	<i>personal</i>	RR/2010/2536/P RR/2010/2423/L	Acquainted with applicant
Cllr Jonathan Breeds	<i>personal</i>	RR/2010/2536/P RR/2010/2423/L	Close friend of applicant
	<i>personal</i>	RR/2010/2481/T	Employed previously by applicant
Cllr Shaun Rogers	<i>personal</i>	RR/2010/2536/P RR/2010/2423/L	Home is approx five properties from applicant

The Committee Chairman adjourned the meeting for questions from members of the public.

FE Centre Andy Stuart observed that, in 2004, Sussex Coast College Hastings (then Hastings College) applied for planning permission to develop the site. This was granted in January 2005, subject to a s106 Agreement being signed to preserve the front section of the FE Centre for 'community use'. SCCH did not sign the Agreement until 3 weeks ago; however, the main concern currently is that it is refusing to accept bookings for the Centre for dates after 31 January 2011. Last Friday the Principal wrote to the WEA confirming this – meaning that the WEA and other groups were now having to find alternative accommodation. It is apparent that the Principal is working towards selling the whole site 'unencumbered' – having no regard to the 106 Agreement it had signed. ESCC and RDC had yet to sign the Agreement. Mr Stuart was aware that RDC's Planning Committee would be considering this matter on 18 November and asked the Town Council to ensure Rother

Planning Committee Members and Planning Officers were made aware of the situation and that it makes strong representations. He asked also that the Town Council requests that RDC inserts a clause in the 106 Agreement requiring the FE Centre to be operational both prior to, and at the point of any sale of the site – and that the purchaser be required to be a signatory to the Agreement before being allowed to commence development elsewhere on the site.

Members were generally in agreement with these suggestions and asked the Town Clerk to pursue them on the Council's behalf. **Clerk**

Cllr Fiddimore suggested that Members also might like to make representations to the Planning Committee.

The meeting reconvened.

76 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Planning and Townscape meeting of 15 October 2010 (PT12) were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

77 MATTERS ARISING

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PQT - Landgate Tower The Clerk advised that since the last meeting he had received comments from RDCT. HotCats' views had been promised – as had the Chamber's. His site meeting with John Bragge and Brian Banks had been arranged for 17 November.

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47 Matters Arising, 12 River Tillingham – adjacent planting (requesting that the area be returned to grass) This had been discussed at the RDC-RTC Liaison meeting held on 27.10.10. The planting project had been a joint one with the Environment Agency and both it and RDC wished to re-plant the trees. The Head of Amenities, Madeleine Gorman would like to discuss the matter with Cllr Hall.

61 Town Hall Cottage – installation of mini satellite dish (seeking informal advice from the Planning Authority – having firstly obtained photographs of the property) Outstanding.

62 Special Protection Area & New Ramsar site (Cllrs Fiddimore and Palmer reviewing the documentation) Awaiting Cllr Fiddimore's comments.

78 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

RR/2010/2362/P 22 Cinque Ports Street, former Post Office, Rye
(Del) Use of premises for A2 purposes as a licensed betting office.
Applicant: William Hill Organisation, Greenside House, 50 Station Road, Wood Green, London
SUPPORT APPROVAL

Cllrs John Breeds, Jonathan Breeds and Rogers re-stated their personal interests in the application following:

RR/2010/2536/P Willow Tree House, 113 Winchelsea Road, Rye
RR/2010/2423/L The retention of an existing close-board timber fence in
(Del) lieu of a new 9" brick wall required by condition on
RR/2009/3144/L and RR/2009/3143/P.
Applicant: Simon Crumpler, Willow Tree House, 113 Winchelsea Road, Rye
SUPPORT APPROVAL

RR/2010/2425/L 5 Mermaid Street, Rye
(Del) Demolition of existing ground floor store/sauna and first floor bathroom. Erection of a new first floor en-suite bathroom to the master bedroom and a ground floor utility and cloakroom. Erection of a new conservatory to the existing ground floor courtyard area.
Applicant: Mrs Angelique Van Der Meijden, Tanhouse, Tanhouse Lane, Peasmarsh.
SUPPORT APPROVAL

Cllrs Rogers re-stated his personal interest in the application following:

RR/2010/2481/T 46 Church Square, Rye
(Del) Crown reduction of 1.5m of one sycamore tree.
Applicant: Mrs V Proctor, 46 Church Square, Rye
SUPPORT APPROVAL

79 JUNCTION OF THE MINT: THE STRAND

Members were invited to consider a request put by Fiona Neilson during a Councillors' surgery that the Council arranges for the signs and road markings at the junction of The Mint, Mermaid Street, The Strand, The Deals and Wish Ward to be reviewed because they currently do not ensure the safety of highway users.

The Clerk advised that ESCC Transport & Environment had drafted a 'traffic calming' scheme for the area as part of the 2003 Rye Local Area Transport Strategy. A form of 'shared space' had been proposed – ie the carriageway and footway being at the same level and differentiated only by different colour blocks/textures. The scheme had not proceeded because it had not

been considered a priority. The Mayor advised that the junction had been discussed at the last LDF Core Strategy Working Group meeting.

It was considered generally that traffic speeds at – and around – the area tend to be low because the somewhat complex nature of the junction creates uncertainty. Cllr Palmer had observed that drivers leaving Wish Ward often do not give way. It was concluded generally that there was little that could be done to improve the junction.

RESOLVED To ask The Highways Authority to consider re-freshing the road markings. Clerk

The meeting ended at 7.02pm.

Date.....

Chairman.....