

Tuesday 29 September 2009
at 6.00pm



Planning Committee

MEMBERS: Councillor Mrs MADELL (Chairman) Councillors BLOOM, Mrs GOODALL, Mrs HEAPS, SALSBURY and TAYLOR.

(Apologies for absence were reported from Councillors Harris and Miah).

22 Minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2009 were submitted and approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them as a correct record.

23 Declaration of Interests.

Councillor Mrs Madell declared a prejudicial interest in item 3, The Kiosk, Foyle Way, Upper Dukes Drive and withdrew from the room whilst the application was considered.

24 Nomination of Deputy Chairman.

It was proposed by Councillor Heaps and seconded by Councillor Bloom:-

“That Councillor Taylor be appointed Deputy Chairman for the duration of the discussion of item 3; The Kiosk, Foyle Way, Upper Dukes Drive; in the absence of Councillor Madell who had advised that she had a prejudicial interest in the item and would be withdrawing from the room whilst this item was considered, and in the absence of Councillor Harris who had notified the committee that he would be unable to attend the meeting”.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Taylor be appointed Deputy Chairman for the duration the discussion of 3; The Kiosk, Foyle Way, Upper Dukes Drive

25 Report of Head of Planning on Applications.

1) EB/2009/0491(LB) 2) EB/2009/0492(ADV) - CONGRESS THEATRE, CARLISLE ROAD, EASTBOURNE - 1) and 2): Display of LED sign to front of building, replacing existing lit Congress Theatre sign, to advertise shows. (Listed Building & Advertisement applications) - Meads

The Council's Consultant Historic Buildings Advisor had stated that the proposed advertisement was considered to be a fitting rather than a fixture

which did not adversely affect the architectural or historic interest of the building itself.

A motion to approve the application was lost on the Chairman's casting vote (For: Bloom, Goodall and Heaps. Against: Madell, (casting vote) Salsbury and Taylor).

RESOLVED: (By 3 votes to 2 with 1 abstention) That the application be deferred pending further discussions with the applicants regarding the design and size of the signage.

3) EB/2009/0543(FP) - THE KIOSK, FOYLE WAY, UPPER DUKES DRIVE, EASTBOURNE - Erection of a new structure to the front of the existing kiosk building, to provide shelter to existing seating area – Meads. One letter of objection had been received. One additional letter of objection from The Eastbourne Society was reported. The Society noted that reluctantly they considered that the proposed structure should only be considered for temporary permission.

The relevant planning history for the site was detailed within the report.

The observations of the South Downs Joint Committee and the Historic Buildings Advisor were detailed within the report.

The committee raised concerns about the proposed materials and the weathering of the proposed structure. With this in mind the committee agreed that a temporary permission of three years should be granted. It was hoped that a more suitable proposal, more in keeping with the existing building could be developed at a later date to coincide with the expiry of the temporary permission.

NB: Councillor Madell withdrew from the room whilst this item was considered, Councillor Taylor Chair this item (see minute 24 above).

RESOLVED: (Unanimous) That temporary permission be granted for three years subject to the following conditions: 1) Development to commence within 3 years 2) Details of the materials.

26 Appeals Received and Appeals Decisions.

The Committee received a report detailing some of the appeals that had been received by the Council. Further information would be provided once the appeals had been decided.

- 1) **EB/2008/0784. 3-5 Neville Avenue.** The appeal was allowed by the Inspector.

Copies of appeal decisions can be found on the Council's website at:

<http://www.eastbourne.gov.uk/environment/planning/appeals>

27 'Your Right to Speak' planning leaflet – Changes following amendments to the Scheme of Delegation.

The committee considered the report of the Building and Development Control Manager and Scrutiny Co-ordinator advising members of the amendments to the 'Your Right to Speak' leaflet, following amendments to the Scheme of Delegation.

The report detailed the changes to the Scheme of Delegation and highlighted the suggested amendment to ensure that ensure Council's procedures were clear and consistent; following the Planning department's review their standard letters and advice following the changes to the Scheme of Delegation.

Members were reminded that in order to comply with paragraph 4.1a, they would need to notify the Planning Department with **21 days** of the publication of the weekly lists (the lists were published on the Council's website and emailed to all Members).

Some concern was expressed regarding the wording contained within the leaflet. Members were advised that the only change from the previous leaflet was the clarification of the timescales for objecting to applications. The remaining parts of the leaflet had not been amended and reflected information contained within the Council's Constitution.

RESOLVED: That the amendment to the 'Your Right to Speak' leaflet in relation to the clarification of timescales for objections, be approved.

28 Provisions relating to extending time limits for existing planning permissions, non materials changes to planning permissions and minor material amendments.

The committee were advised that on 22nd September 2009 the Government announced that new provisions relating to the power to extend the time limits for existing planning permissions and to make non-material amendments to existing planning permissions would come into force on 1st October 2009. New application forms would be provided and a fee would be chargeable. The forms would be available on the due date but confirmation of the fees would be delayed – probably until early December. A Guidance Note would be produced but again not until after 1st October. Clarification was also provided on the procedure to enable minor material changes to existing permissions although further changes were expected to this category of applications.

The aim of the changes was to provide greater flexibility and certainty in the planning system and to provide a proportionate and graded approach to making changes to existing planning permissions. The changes were being made in recognition of the dramatic reduction in the number of approved major schemes being implemented. If the permissions for these and other smaller developments lapse it could cause delay to economic recovery. There was also a concern that developers would be subject to delay and additional costs, and that local authorities would have to deal with a significant upsurge in applications as the economy moved out of recession.

Members were advised that they would be provided with further information once the guidance was available. Further information would also be provided for members at their next Planning training seminar in November 2009.

NOTED.

The meeting closed at 7.15p.m.

**Councillor Mrs Madell
(Chairman)**