



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

WINTER GARDENS

7PM

7 JUNE 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors: Chris Welsford (Mayor), Debby Robinson, Chris Bonney, David George, Steve Stubbings

ITEM SUBJECT

PUBLIC FORUM

- a) The Town Clerk informed the meeting that recent changes in the Town Council meant that it was not feasible at this time to have a Planning Sub Committee and that, consequently, planning applications would be processed through the full Town Council meetings.
- b) The Mayor opened the Public Forum with an invitation to the 28 residents present to contribute to it.
- c) A member of the public commented on the Mill Bay Inn application saying that the information was inadequate, the spaces between buildings were too small and the proposed height too great to the point where it would interfere with the views of others. Other elements of the proposed design simply failed to fit with the overall character of the Esplanade using materials that were likely to become an eyesore in the medium term.
- d) She went on to say that the intrusion of the end curve across the building line of the Metropole would be an unwelcome deterioration of the scene. She hoped that a development more in keeping with the character of the Esplanade would be forthcoming.
- e) Concern was expressed about the shortage of the information made available to residents in the neighbourhood of the development.

The business of the meeting commenced at 7.15pm.

107/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

108/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Chris Bonney declared an interest in agenda item 3a).

109/10 PLANNING

- a) P/00706/10: Chris Welsford declared a personal interest as a County Councillor.

It was unanimously resolved that:

No objection be raised to the demolition of the Conservatory

- b) P/00700/10: The Mayor commented that the artist's impression was misleading before moving on to identify frequent and inaccurate references in the Design and Access Statement to the Ventnor Design Guide which doesn't exist. Her main objection, therefore, is to the very inaccurate visual and textual information contained in the planning application.
- c) Councillor Chris Welsford said that he welcomed any development that added to the attractiveness of the Esplanade but felt unable to support this particular application on grounds of both size and appearance as well as its out of character nature within the seaward view of the Esplanade.
- d) The Mayor added that the Esplanade needed more business and economic activity rather than new build private housing. She said that the Esplanade was a rare feature and valuable feature for a seaside tourist resort that needed to be protected.
- e) Councillor Steve Stubbings support that by saying that had he been on the Town Council

when the Metropole development was proposed he would not have supported that for the same reasons.

- f) Councillor David George said that he hoped the developer would now work with both the Town Council and the community in the production of proposals more sensitive to the remarkable character of the Esplanade.

It was unanimously resolved that:

Objections to the present proposals be registered accordingly with the Isle of Wight Council's Planning Service.

P/02364/02: In view of the fact that the Isle of Wight Council had not made the related documentation available this item was postponed to the next Town Council Meeting.

- g) P/00656/10: The Mayor reported that she could see no reason to object to the proposed development

It was unanimously resolved that:

No objection be made to this application.

110/10 BAY AREA CONSULTATION

- a) Councillor Chris Welsford introduced this item, explaining that the Isle of Wight Council was currently consulting on proposed boundaries for its Local Action Areas of which the three are Medina, Ryde and The Bay.
- b) The last of these stops short of Ventnor although Ventnor East Ward has one of the Lower Super Output Areas falling in the bottom XX% nationally on the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 and, on one of its measures, is the most deprived on the Island.
- c) He noted that in April last year Government Guidance included the requirement that Local Authorities take account of deprivation measures in their regeneration planning.
- d) He ended by proposing that the Town Council ask formally that Ventnor East Ward be included in The Bay area boundary on the grounds of its deprivation
- e) Councillor David George asked that to avoid divisiveness within the town, the request for inclusion be extended to the whole town of Ventnor

It was unanimously resolved that:

A consultation response be entered proposing that the whole of Ventnor be included within the Local Action Area currently identified as The Bay.

PUBLIC FORUM

- a) The Mayor re-opened the Public Forum.
- b) A member of the public asked exactly where the boundaries of Ventnor East Ward lay. Councillor Chris Welsford responded.
- c) On the subject of the La Veness appeal, a member of the public commented that the appeal was on a technical failure of the Isle of Wight Council and that it would be a great shame if the original proposal gained reinstatement through this route.
- d) There were no further questions.

The meeting closed at 6.50pm.

SIGNED BY THE MAYOR	DATE
