



MINUTES OF A PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

SALISBURY GARDENS

5PM

7 DECEMBER 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors: Jim Toogood (Chair) & Tony Marvin

ITEM SUBJECT

1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Brian Lucas & Ed Gouge.

2) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

3) PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

The meeting started at 5:00pm

4) MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting of 18 November 2015 were unanimously agreed as a correct record by those who were present at the meeting.

5) PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) P/01307/15: 33 PIER STREET

It was unanimously resolved:

that Ventnor Town Council supports this application and it is felt that this is a creative way to gain more living space in the property. The application appears to meet the requirements of Island Policy DM2 – Design Quality for New Development.

b) P/01252/15: CARFAX, UNDERCLIFF DRIVE, ST LAWRENCE

It was unanimously resolved:

that Ventnor Town Council stand by the previous comments of the Committee made at the Planning Committee Meeting on 18 November 2015.

c) P/01270/15: THE MILL BAY INN, ESPLANADE

It was unanimously resolved:

that Ventnor Town Council supports this application. The Committee welcome the development of an empty site along the Esplanade – a focal point for the Ventnor tourist offering - being developed for holiday accommodation of a high standard. The innovative design features are to be welcomed, such as the scored rendering, the raised reveal to the windows and doors and projecting windows to the side. The application appears to meet the requirements of Island Policies DM2 – Design Quality for New Development and DM11 – Historic & Build Environment.

d) P/01370/15: 43 MADEIRA ROAD

It was unanimously resolved:

that Ventnor Town Council supports this application. The Committee welcomes the existing external architecture being followed through to the new development. The application appears to meet the requirements of Island Policies DM2 – Design Quality for New Development and DM11 – Historic & Build Environment.

6) ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL'S SCRUTINY REVIEW OF PLANNING SERVICES

Ventnor Town Council's Planning Committee have answered the questions as below:-

- 1) *What do you consider to be the strengths of the Council's planning department and why?*
None that can be identified.
- 2) *What do you consider to be the weaknesses of the planning department and why?*
 - a) the IoWC planning department is not very consistent in how it makes decisions.
 - b) the IoWC planning department is understaffed leading to extended turnaround times.
- 3) *Do you feel planning services are offering you what you need and why/why not?*
A more prompt and efficient service is required.
- 4) *What are your views on the work of the Council's Planning Committee?*
The IoWC Planning Committee's work is acceptable.
- 5) *What are your views on the pre-application process/service provided by the planning department?*
For the process to be effective it has to be able to respond in 2-3 working days.
- 6) *What are your views on the level and requirement for pre-application fees?*
Payment required is acceptable but has to offer value for money.
- 7) *What are your views on planning enforcement service provision?*
We would like to see statistics showing follow-up on breaches of planning and its success rate including cases involving illegal development.
- 8) *What are your views on the Council's management of appeals?*
It is acceptable.
- 9) *Have you any views on how and where planning services could either save money or generate income whilst maintaining and/or improving service delivery?*
Nothing immediate and perhaps the Planning Department's hands are tied by National policy, but a consistency of service and a reduction in bureaucracy will usually result in a saving of time and money.
- 10) *Are there any other comments you would wish to make regarding planning that could assist service improvement?*
None.

7) PLANNING ENFORCEMENT PROPOSAL

The proposal from the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils (IWALC) for the employment of an additional Planning Enforcement Officer jointly funded by Town and Parish Councils was considered and the Committee agree to recommend to the full Town Council Meeting on Monday 14 December 2015 that it should not support the proposal.

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present

The Meeting closed at 6:15pm

SIGNED BY THE CHAIR:

DATE:
