

Morpeth Town Council
Minutes of the Planning and Transport Committee
Wednesday 8th September 2021 at 6:30pm in the Corn
Exchange of the Town Hall, Morpeth

Present:

Councillors:

A Byard - Chair
B Bawn
D Bawn
J Clayton
J Crawford
M Greveson
H Hall
E Miles
J Wearmouth

Clerks:

Mrs J Wilson - Deputy Clerk
Miss K Carter - Democratic Services Assistant

Absent Councillors:

J Richardson - Personal

7 members of public were also in attendance.

The meeting commenced at 6:35pm.

72/21 Open Session

Mr Peter Birchall, representative from Morpeth North Residents Action Group (MNRAG), addressed Councillors regarding concerns about the development on land west of Lancaster Park. He raised several concerns:

- The loss of the Innovation Centre, which has been replaced with 7 industrial units, providing an estimate of 40 jobs, compared to the Innovation Centre, which would have provided 149 jobs.
- Relocation of the hotel and the loss of the restaurant and pub.
- Fast-food outlets, which may lead to an increase in litter.
- Noise levels, which will exceed the safe level agreed by the World Health Organisation (WHO).
- Mechanical ventilation will need to be provided to properties as there will be no natural air flow.
- No details have been provided regarding emergency access.

Mr Birchall asked if the Town Council could commission a judicial review of the decision to grant this application planning permission.

Members agreed to bring forward Item 8(iii) – 16/00078/OUT – Land West of Lancaster Park, Pinewood Drive, Lancaster Park, Morpeth.

Members were provided with a copy of a letter issued to the Mayor from MNRAG regarding the above application, along with a briefing note to all members.

Cllr D Bawn thanked Mr Birchall for his clear and concise argument and advised that he agreed with all of the points made, however, the town Council were not financially in the right position to commission a judicial review, however, would fully support the objections made.

Cllr Greveson suggested that the Town Council support items 1 and 3 from the briefing note provided.

Cllr Byard proposed that herself, Cllr D Bawn and a representative of MNRAG organise a meeting to produce a united objection which could be taken to NCC Strategic Planning committee.

A vote was taken: 9 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstention

RESOLVED

- a) Information duly noted.
- b) Cllrs Byard and D Bawn to organise a meeting with MNRAG.

7 members of the public left the meeting at 6:55pm.

73/21 Committee Chairman's Announcements

- Members were advised of the usual rules about the recording of meetings.
- Members were reminded that mobile phones should be turned on to silent and should not be used during the meeting.

74/21 Mayoral Announcements

- The Mayor's Ball will take place on Saturday 4th December 2021.
- A Prosecco on the Square event will take place on Saturday 11th September 2021 to raise money for the Mayor's charity.
- The wine tasting event, Vino on the Veranda, will take place on Thursday 23rd September 2021 at the Pavilion Café. Tickets are £22 each.
- The Mayor has commissioned some ties in Morpeth Town colours, including the Town Crest, in aid of his chosen charity, contact Mental Health. These are available for purchase at £30 each. Scarfs will become available shortly.

75/21 Declarations of Interest

The Chairman received no declarations of interest on this occasion.

76/21 Minutes of the Planning and Transport Committee held on 14th July 2021

The minutes of the above meeting were approved as a true record.

RESOLVED

- a) That the minutes of 14th July 2021, a copy of which had been previously circulated to each Member, be approved, and signed as a correct record by the Chair.

77/21 Matters Arising

See Appendix B.

78/21 Licenses

There were no licence applications to consider on this occasion.

RESOLVED

- a) Information duly noted.

79/21 Town and Country Planning Act 1990

- (i) Members were asked to consider the planning list for w/c 30th August 2021, see Appendix C.

Cllr Byard advised members that application 19/01008/FUL, Land to the North of Fairmoor Centre, would be making a s106 contribution to Chantry Middle School and Kind Edward VI High School. However, the application did not include any play areas or green spaces.

Cllr Byard proposed that she draft a response to the planning application.

RESOLVED

- a) Information duly noted.
- b) Cllr Byard to draft a response to planning application 19/01008/FUL.

Cllr D Bawn left the meeting at 7:08pm, returning at 7:11pm.

- (ii) Members noted the comments submitted to applications on planning lists from w/c 12th July, w/c 19th July, w/c 26th July, w/c 2nd August, w/c 9th August, w/c 16th August and w/c 23rd August 2021.

Cllr Greveson requested that on planning list w/c 2nd August 2021, planning application 21/02931/REM - Land North of Fernleigh, the Town Council's comment be amended to read bothy instead of folly.

RESOLVED

- a) Information duly noted.
- b) The Deputy Clerk to enquire if this change can be made.

(iii) 16/00078/OUT – Land West of Lancaster Park, Pinewood Drive, Lancaster Park, Morpeth

See Min 72/21.

80/21 Local Transport Plan Programme 2022/23

Members were asked to consider the above and were provided for consideration with a list submitted prior to this meeting from both Town and County Councillors.

Members agreed upon the priorities for North and Kirkhill wards:

- Continuing the footpath renewal on Lancaster Park.
- An improved lights/zebra crossing of the A197 between the roundabout to County Hall and Co-op Collingwood Manor.

Cllr Byard suggested that she would like to liaise with County Cllr John Beynon to agree what the priority for Stobhill should be.

Cllr Clayton suggested that temporary traffic lights could be installed at the Sun Inn junction to manage traffic flow.

Cllr D Bawn advised that a professional study would need to take place to see if this would be viable.

Cllr J Wearmouth suggested to bring this request to Cllr R Wearmouth's attention as he may be able to use his Small Schemes fund to commission the study.

RESOLVED

- a) Information duly noted.
- b) Cllr Byard to liaise with Cllr John Beynon to agree upon a Stobhill priority.
- c) To bring the matter of traffic lights at the Sun Inn to Cllr R Wearmouth's attention.

81/21 Road Closures

Members are advised of the following road closures:

1. U6067–Coopies Lane, Morpeth

RESOLVED

- a) Information duly noted.

82/21 Local Council Issues

Cllr Byard proposed that she take the Town Council's query regarding s106 negotiations to the next Local Area Council meeting.

RESOLVED

- a) Information duly noted.
- b) Cllr Byard to attend the next Local Area Council meeting to enquire about s106 negotiations.

There was no other business to discuss and the meeting concluded at 7:37pm with Councillors A Byard, B Bawn, D Bawn, J Clayton, J Crawford, M Greveson, H Hall, E Miles and J Wearmouth present.

77/21 – Appendix B – Matters Arising from Previous Committee Meetings

Minute Number	Item	Current Position	Action from meeting
46/21 (26/21) (199/20) (176/20) (149/20) (143/20) (121/20) (89/20) (73/20) (60/20) (32/20) (272/19) (240/19) (231/19)	Strategic County Councillor Updates –s106	Members were advised that the Deputy Clerk has emailed Northumberland County Council (NCC) to enquire who handles the s106 negotiations. She has not yet received a response.	Information duly noted. The Deputy Clerk and Cllr D Bawn to chase a response from Rob Murfin.
46/21 (28/21)	19/00904/FUL -Land South of Bluebell Court, East Cottingwood, Morpeth	Members were advised that no further response has been received from NCC’s Interim Exec Director for Place and Regeneration to concerns raised regarding the proposed signalised junction on Dark Lane. The Deputy Clerk advised members that she has chased this up but has not received a response yet.	Information duly noted. The Deputy Clerk to continue to chase a response.
49/21	Passenger Rail Services in Northumberland from May 2022	Members were advised that Cllrs Byard and J Wearmouth had drafted and submitted a response to the proposal. Responses had been received from Power + Energy Associates Limited, Department for Transport, LNER, and Northern Railway. Cllr Byard advised members that the changes in service will not be going ahead until at least 2023. SENRUG will keep the Town Council informed.	Information duly noted.

79/21 – Appendix C – PLANNING APPLICATIONS W/C 30th August 2021

PLANNING REF	NAME & LOCATION	PROPOSAL	MTC RESPONSE	MIN NO	NCC DECISION
19/01008/FUL	Requested to be brought to committee by Cllr Byard from planning list w/c 9th August 2021. Extension granted to 10th September 2021. Chan Commercial Ltd Land To North Of Fairmoor Centre, A192 District Boundary To Northgate Roundabout, Morpeth	Construction of 59no. dwellings with associated landscaping, access and infrastructure works.	This land was originally intended for employment purposes and Morpeth Town Council regret this planning application for more houses which are not needed and which will put additional strain on our infrastructure. We are pleased to note that a number are smaller houses. We welcome the contribution which has been made to the provision of education. However, we are disappointed that there is no consideration for a children's play area or any associated green space within the development.		
21/03240/FUL	Tinson 6 Merley Gate, Loansdean, Morpeth, NE61 2EP	Conservatory to rear.	Morpeth Town Council has no comment to this application.		
21/01614/FUL	Mr and Mrs David Nicholson High End, 22 Thorp Avenue, Morpeth, NE61 1JR	Construction of 5 residential apartments with undercroft parking and associated landscaping (amended plans received 02/09/21 - design changes).	Morpeth Town Council's previous objections still stand.		
21/03337/LBC	Mr and Mrs Stan and Glynis Tindale Kirkville, Cottingwood Lane, Morpeth, NE61 1EB	Listed Building Consent: Conversion of the loft into extra living accommodation incorporating the insertion of roof lights and alterations to the internal layout on the first floor.	Morpeth Town Council will support the Conservation Officer's comments to this application.		
19/01471/DISCON	Samuel Kenny Land West Of Lancaster Park, Pinewood Drive, Lancaster Park, Morpeth	Discharge of Conditions 4 (boundary treatment), 6 (car parking area), 8 (pedestrian and cyclist links), 12 (street maintenance), 13 (engineering details), 14 (cycle parking), 15 (surface water drainage), 16 (framework travel plan), 18 (construction method statement), 19	Morpeth Town Council object to the way in which this application is progressing. MTC originally objected to the outline application, and whilst the objection still stands we would request that the original application is respected and as such the order and timings of each element remain unchanged.		

PLANNING REF	NAME & LOCATION	PROPOSAL	MTC RESPONSE	MIN NO	NCC DECISION
		(refuse storage), 23 (mitigation measures), 25 (tree protection), 27 (landscaping), 31 (flood risk assessment) and 37 (acoustic design scheme) in relation to 16/00078/OUT			