



Midhurst Town Council

A Meeting of the Planning and Infrastructure Committee took place on
Monday 28th February 2022 at 7.00pm at The Old Library, Knockhundred Row, Midhurst.

MINUTES

Present: Cllr D. Coote, Cllr R. Watts, Cllr G. Upjohn, Cllr J. Sutton and Cllr D. Fraser

Officer: Julian Quail, Assistant Town Clerk

Also: Sharon Hurr, Clerk and RFO

P/034/21 – Apologies for Absence – Apologies were received from Cllr McAra and Cllr C. Lintott.

P/035/21 - Declarations of Interest

None

P/036/21 - To approve Minutes of Meeting Held on 14th February 2022

These were agreed as a true record of the meeting held on 24th February 2022.

Proposed Cllr Fraser, seconded Cllr Watts, all agreed.

P/037/21 - Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 14th February 2022

None.

Meeting halted for Public Participation Session

P/038/21 - Public Participation Session

No members of the public were present.

Meeting reconvened.

P/039/21 - Planning Applications

39.1 SDNP/22/00593/LDP

Proposed lawful development - erection of a rear single storey extension and 3 no. porches.

Holly Cottage Sandy Lane Midhurst West Sussex GU29 9RH

Decision: MTC has no objection to this application.

39.2 SDNP/22/00096/HOUS

Conversion of 1 no. flat roofed garage into a pitched roof garage/storage space.

21 Gaillard's Oak Midhurst West Sussex GU29 9JZ

Decision: MTC has no objection to this application.

P/040/21 – Tree Applications

40.1 SDNP/22/00644/TPO

Re-pollard back to previous points (removing up to 3.5m off overall canopy) on 1 no. Lime tree (T1) subject to MID/92/00693/TPO.

Parkview Carron Lane Midhurst West Sussex GU29 9LF

Decision: MTC has no objection to this application.

P/041/21 – Decisions

These were noted.

P/042/21 – Actions

The actions were provided to the committee before the meeting. All outstanding actions were closed.

P/043/21 – Southern Water

A response from Gillian Keegan MP regarding MTC's concerns over the River Rother and a response from the CEO of Southern Water to Ms Keegan were circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that Southern Water were spending £22.5M by 2025 to target those beaches where they can make further improvements to water quality. The committee felt that the response from Ms Keegan was a little vague. The information on her website talks about working closely with fellow MPs, agencies and organisations to improve coastal water quality but does not mention any specific work being undertaken. This does not, however, provide any direct response to the committee's concerns about the River Rother. In addition, Southern Water have not responded to our hastening letter to their initial response. Before responding to Ms Keegan's response, it was agreed that Cllr Fraser would do more research on her website to ascertain what information relates directly to the River Rother.

Action: Cllr Fraser to provide research on Gillian Keegan's website re the River Rother and report at the next Planning meeting on 14th March 2022.

P/044/21 – Midhurst Greenway

The committee discussed the proposal to share an off-road path for wheelchair and mobility scooter users, walkers and people on bikes and specifically, the response from Andy Howard, CDC's Operations Manager for CDC's Contract Services, to the Assistant Clerk. Mr Howard explained that he and his colleague, Ian Baker, had met with WSCC recently. WSCC recognised that their initial solution is over-engineered and have conceded that they need to return to the drawing board. CDC said that they would support a scheme incorporating a 2m wide path, constructed using self-binding aggregate (similar to the path south of the pond) and that the path should remain south of the pond with no bridge replacement or works on the north side.

WSCC felt this was achievable and are going to look at options, particularly in relation to the connection with Chichester Road. In discussion CDC commented that there are numerous ways to improve safety at this point. For example, a 20mph limit has been suggested as a necessary part of ensuring the viability and safety of the cycle route. The committee also think this should be extended from Knockhundred Row to the A286. It was agreed that a letter be sent to WSCC Highways regarding this and asking how the Town Council could help in facilitating the speedy progression of this project. Reference was made to the possibility of the placing of Traffic Data Loops across the road to record the average speed of cars in this area. A reduction in the speed would require a TRO. Cllr Coote will contact Cllr Yeo who is leading on such issues.

Action: Cllr Coote to draft a letter to WSCC Highways regarding the possibility of reducing the speed limit on Knockhundred Row, Church Hill and South Street.

P/045/21 - Matters of Report

Cllr Coote referred to yet more cars being parked on the Petersfield Road grass verge and Cllr Upjohn noted that cars and vans were regularly being parked on the pavement, close to the junction with Rumbold's Hill and Bepton Road.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.30pm.

Signed: Date:.....

Chairman