



Midhurst Town Council

A Meeting of the Planning and Infrastructure Committee took place on Monday 23rd May 2022 at 7.00pm at The Old Library, Knockhundred Row, Midhurst.

MINUTES

Present: Cllr David Coote (Chair), Cllr R. Watts, Cllr G. McAra, Glyn Upjohn and Cllr D. Fraser

Officer: Julian Quail, Assistant Town Clerk

Also: Sharon Hurr, Clerk and RFO

Member of the Public: Jane Hensey

P/105/22 – Election of Chairman of Planning and Infrastructure 2022 – 2023

Resolution: Cllr David Coote was elected as Chairman of the Planning and Infrastructure committee for the Civic Year 2022 -2023. Proposed Cllr McAra, seconded Cllr Upjohn, unanimously agreed.

Cllr Coote accepted office and took the chair.

P/106/22 - Election of Vice-Chairman of Planning and Infrastructure 2022 – 2023

Resolution: Cllr Richard Watts was appointed as Vice-chairman of the Planning and Infrastructure committee for the Civic year 2022-2023. Proposed Cllr McAra, seconded Cllr Smallman, unanimously agreed. Cllr Watts accepted the position.

P/107/22 - Chairman's Announcements

Cllr Coote thanked his colleagues for showing their confidence in him.

P/108/22 - Apologies for Absence

Cllr C. Lintott

P/109/22 - Declarations of Interest

None

P/110/22 - To approve Minutes of Meeting Held on 9th May 2022

These were agreed as a true record of the meeting held on 9th May 2022.

Proposed Cllr Fraser, seconded Cllr McAra, all agreed.

P/111/22 - Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 9th May 2022

None

Meeting halted for Public Participation Session

P/112/22 - Public Participation Session

One member of the public was present.

Meeting reconvened.

P/113/22 - Planning Applications

113.1 SDNP/22/02043/HOUS

Demolition of existing single storey extension and erection of a part single, part 2 storey side and rear extension.

Holly Cottage, Sandy Lane, Midhurst, GU29 9RH

Decision: MTC has no objection to this application providing all parties take account of what the Environmental Officer states.

113.2 SDNP/22/01877/FUL

Change of use of back office to flat

Old Surgery, Rumbolds Hill, Midhurst, GU29 9BY

Decision: MTC rejects this application on the grounds that it is a listed building and the proposal is inadequate for the development. In addition, it is a loss of two offices within the town.

P/114/22 - Tree Applications

None

P/115/22 - Further update information from Montpelier Estates

As requested, Montpelier Estates provide the Town Clerk with their revised plans for the Grange Development. The committee noted that this was an improvement and were grateful that Montpelier's architect had listened to the committee's concerns.

P/116/22 - River Rother Pollution - Cllrs Sutton, Fraser and Watts visited the South Ambersham Water Treatment Plant to learn about the circumstances that lead to the release of untreated sewage into the River Rother. Southern Water explained what happens when the amount of sewage and rainwater exceeds the handling capacity of the plant, with excess waste being transferred to a holding tank, which allows solids to settle and when full overflows into the river. Short of building additional tanks to cope with the overflow, which is scheduled in the next few years, there is little that can be done at the moment. Short of having separate systems for rainfall and sewage, the only immediate solution is to reduce the amount that goes into the system by our maximising the use of water butts and soakaways.

Although Councillors were informed that "little if any raw sewage" from the South Ambersham plant is dispatched into the boundary adjacent River Rother, the Council and customers of Southern Water have no way of verifying this. A Despatch Certificate from the appropriate regulatory authority the UK Government's Environment Agency was last issued in 2018. Visiting Midhurst Town Councillors came away from this visit in the most part reassured that the South Ambersham WWTW is working as intended with a conscientious, knowledgeable and very approachable staff.

It was agreed that this would be added to agenda of the next planning meeting for further discussion.

Action: To discuss further at the next Planning meeting.

Action: Cllr Watts and Cllr Fraser to provide a written synopsis of the visit to South Ambersham water treatment plant to the Assistant Clerk.

P/117/22 – Decisions

None.

P/118/22 – Actions

All actions are complete.

P/119/22- Matters of Report

It was noted that a new shop, Candy Moon Studio, on Red Lion Street had painted their shop sign pink. It was also noted by the committee that the design was similar to others and the lettering was hand painted as is required in the conservation area.

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

Signed: Date:.....
Chairman