

**Midhurst Town Council**

**A Meeting of the Planning and Infrastructure Committee took place at**

**7.50pm on Monday 13th May 2024**

**in the Town Council offices, The Old Library, Knockhundred Row, Midhurst**

**MINUTES**

**Present**: Cllr D Coote (Chairman), Cllr D Fraser, Cllr A Lambert, Cllr G McAra, Cllr D Merritt,

Cllr Piper, Cllr J Travers and Cllr R Watts.

**In Attendance:** S Hurr (Town Clerk) MJ Haywood (Deputy Town Clerk)

**P/001/24 Chairman’s Announcements:** The Chairman welcomed Councillors.

**P/002/24- Apologies for Absence:** Apologies had been received from Cllrs C Gilson and M Facer.

**P/003/24- Declarations of Interest:** None.

**P/004/24- The minutes of meeting held on 22nd April 2024:** The minutes were proposed as an accurate record and agreed by all present.

**P/005/24- Matters Arising and Review of Actions from the Minutes of the Meeting held on**

**22nd April 2024:** None.

Meeting halted for Public Participation Session.

**P/006/24- Public Participation Session:** No questions received.

Meeting reconvened.

**P/007/24- Planning Applications – Midhurst:**

**P/007/24.1 SDNP/24/01217/HOUS**

Erection of a single storey rear extension.

Park Crescent, Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 9ED

**Decision:** The Town Council has no objection to this application.

**P/008/24 Tree Applications – Midhurst:**

**P/008/24.1 SDNP/24/01404/TPO**

[Reduce height by 3m and reduce all sectors by 1.5m on 5 no. Sycamore trees (quoted as T1-T5). Reduce height by 3m and south sector by 4m (overhanging garden) on 1 no. Beech tree (quoted as T6). All 6 no. trees within Group, G1 subject to MI/03/00707/TPO.](https://planningpublicaccess.southdowns.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=SBEQXUTUFLC00&prevPage=inTray)

Land North of 33A Elmleigh, Midhurst, West Sussex

**Decision:** The Town Council has no objection to this application.

**P/008/24.2 SDNP/24/01591/TCA**

[Notification of intention to crown reduce by up to 1.5m (all round) on 2 no. Acer negundo trees (1 and 2).](https://planningpublicaccess.southdowns.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=SC2TL0TUFXE00&prevPage=inTray)

Gate House, Cobden Road, Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 9JW

**Decision**: The Town Council has no objection to this application.

**P/009/24 Decisions - To review decisions of previous applications**:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Details** | **MTC Decision** | **SDNP Decision** |
| SDNP/24/00665/FUL | No objection | Approved |
| SDNP/24/00666/LIS | No objection | Approved |
| SDNP/24/00855/LIS | No objection | Approved |
| SDNP/24/00856/ADV | No objection | Approved |

**P/010/24 Curfew Garden**

Cllr Watts reported that two trees within Curfew Garden had been felled prior to obtaining planning consent, and therefore further to referring the matter to both South Downs National Park (SDNP), and Chichester District Council (CDC), the Clerk had been in contact with the CDC Tree Officer Henry Whitby, and agreed a plan of replanting two trees, species to be agreed by Mr Whitby.

**Action**: Cllr Coote to consider potential tree species and forward information to the Clerk for the attention of Mr Whitby.

Cllr Watts also confirmed that one or two decorative handmade hurdles would be installed to provide privacy to the neighbouring property and that the Deputy Clerk was in the process of arranging a site visit for the hurdle maker.

Cllr Fraser sought clarification regarding a number of matters in relation to Curfew Garden. Cllr Watts responded that plans were at a very early stage, although the primary focus of the garden would be to provide a community garden and consultation would be part of the overall process. With regards to the felling of the trees, Cllr Watts further responded that both the Clerk and he had dealt with the matter as effectively as possible and had ensured that both SDNP, and CDC were aware as previously explained. Cllr Watts added that all decisions regarding the garden would be agreed by the Finance, Asset, Community and Environment Committee.

**P/011/24 Fire Damaged Buildings, North Street.** Cllr Coote and Cllr Watts met with Interim Director of South Downs National Park Authority, Mike Hughes, who confirmed that discussions between insurance companies are ongoing. The previous proposal to suspend parking bays on the opposite side of the road and to temporarily tarmac over the existing cobbles, to create a contraflow for traffic and allow space for a pathway beside the fire damaged buildings was also discussed with Mr Hughes.

**Action**: The Clerk to write to West Sussex County Council to request a review of the potential to suspend parking bays and create a pathway around the scaffolding.

**P/012/24 Matters of Report:** Cllr McArareportedthat the main signage for Dundee House on Bepton Road had been removed, but others had been left in situ.

Cllr McAra proposed writing to J Sainsbury plc enquiring whether they would consider expanding the Sainbury’s White City Store on Bepton Road or relocating to a location which could accommodate a larger store to enable residents of Midhurst to benefit from a wide range of products, and large-store discounts.

**Action**: Item to be included on next agenda.

Cllr Fraser reported that the new café, Lions Den is due to open shortly on North Street and a French restaurant is to be opened in the Hays Travel building, on Rumbolds Hill.

**P/013/24 Date of Next Meeting –** 7:00pm, Tuesday 28th May 2024.

The Meeting ended at 8.35pm

Signed: ...................................................... Date: ...........................

Chairman