

Planning Committee

Minutes of meeting held in Court Room at Eastbourne Town Hall, Grove Road, BN21 4UG on 27 August 2019 at 6.00 pm

Present:

Councillor Jim Murray (Chair)

Councillors Peter Diplock (Deputy-Chair), Jane Lamb, Robin Maxted, Paul Metcalfe, Md. Harun Miah, Barry Taylor and Candy Vaughan

Officers in attendance:

Helen Monaghan (Lawyer, Planning), Leigh Palmer (Interim Head of Planning), James Smith (Specialist Advisor for Planning) and Nick Peeters (Committee Officer)

32 Minutes of the meeting held on 23 July 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 July 2019 were submitted and approved as a correct record, and the Chair was authorised to sign them.

33 Apologies for absence and notification of substitute members

There were no apologies given and there were no notifications of substitute Members.

34 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) by members as required under Section 31 of the Localism Act and of other interests as required by the Code of Conduct.

Councillor Barry Taylor declared a Prejudicial Interest in minute 37, 282 Kings Drive as he was the owner of a care home. He withdrew from the room while the items were considered and did not vote.

35 Urgent items of business.

There were none.

36 Right to address the meeting/order of business.

The business of the meeting proceeded in accordance with the agenda.

37 282 Kings Drive. Application ID: 181178

Planning permission for the demolition of existing house and associated structures and provision of 85 Bed Care Home with Parking, Landscaping and Highway Access – **RATTON**

Having declared a prejudicial Interest, Councillor Barry Taylor was absent from the room during discussion and voting on this item.

Richard Thomas, local resident, representing Kings Drive Scrutiny Group, addressed the Committee in objection, raising concern regarding the size of the building, the effect on the local environment including trees and the dominating appearance in the local area.

Councillor Freebody, Ward Councillor, addressed the Committee (from the public gallery) in objection to the officer recommendations. He referred to the negative impact the proposals would have on the immediate environment, the loss of privacy for neighbouring properties and the insufficient parking.

Alison Knight, agent, spoke in response to the concerns raised, stating that the development was of high quality, the majority of residents in care homes came from within a three mile radius and that vehicle movement was reduced as the majority of residents did not drive and visits were less frequent.

The Committee discussed the application and recognised that there was a requirement for residential care with suitable facilities in the area; the elderly and vulnerable should be prioritised. Members expressed concern at the size of the development, the number of rooms and that it was in front of the existing building lines. Officers explained that there was not a policy that inhibited this.

Councillor Diplock felt the development was too large and that the developer and planning team be requested to look at the feasibility for a smaller scheme. For this reason, Councillor Diplock proposed a motion to defer the application. This was seconded by Councillor Maxted.

Resolved (by 4 votes to 3 against): that the application be deferred due to the size/over-massing of the proposed development and to allow the developer and Planning team to liaise on the viability of an alternative development.

38 14-29 Brassey Parade. Application ID: 180913

Planning permission for the construction of an additional storey and re-modelling of existing building to provide 22 additional residential units (to include sub-division of 1 existing flat into 2 units) together with the retention of 7 existing flats at first floor level thereby resulting in a combined total of 29 residential units. Configuration to comprise: 17 flats (9 x studio units and 8 x 1-bed units) at second floor level; 5 no. 1-bed flats on first floor together with retention of existing 7 x 2-bed flats – **HAMPDEN PARK**

This application was brought back to the Planning Committee following its previous consideration at the meeting on 11th December 2018, where Members resolved to approve the application subject to the completion of a S106 Agreement to secure provision of affordable housing. The applicant made the decision to amend the scheme by removing one floor of residential units as the original proposals were not sustainable. Members agreed that the scheme remained an improvement on what currently existed but expressed dissatisfaction at the design and in particular the loss of the 'Hansard' roof.

Resolved (6 votes in favour and 2 against): That permission be approved.

39 South Down National Park Authority Planning Applications (Verbal update)

There were none.

The meeting ended at 7.00 pm

Councillor Jim Murray (Chair)