



Working in Partnership



## **Planning Applications Committee**

**Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1UE on 15 March 2023 at 5:00pm**

### **Present:**

Councillors Laurence O'Connor (Vice-Chair, in the Chair), Graham Amy, Liz Boorman (Substitute), Christoph von Kurthy, Jim Lord, Sylvia Lord, Imogen Makepeace, Milly Manley, Nicola Papanicolaou, Steve Saunders and Richard Turner

### **Officers in attendance:**

Marc Dorfman (Senior Specialist Advisor, Planning First), Emily Horne (Committee Officer, Democratic Services), Jennifer Norman (Committee Officer, Democratic Services), Leigh Palmer (Head of Planning First), Elaine Roberts (Committee Officer, Democratic Services), Joanne Stone (Principal Planning Solicitor) and Claire Tester (Principal Planning Officer, SDNPA)

### **98 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 15 February 2023 were submitted and approved and the Chair was authorised to sign them as a correct record.

### **99 Appointments**

It was noted and formally confirmed that Councillor Jim Lord had been appointed under delegated authority to replace Councillor Tom Jones as a member of the Planning Applications Committee from the 7 December 2022 meeting for the remainder of the 2022/23 municipal year.

### **100 Apologies for absence/Declaration of substitute members**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Sharon Davy (Chair) and it was declared that Councillor Liz Boorman would be acting as Substitute for Councillor Davy for the duration of the meeting. In the absence of the Chair, the meeting was chaired by Councillor Laurence O'Connor (Vice Chair).

### **101 Declarations of interest**

For the purposes of transparency, Councillor Richard Turner declared a non-prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 10 (planning application LW/22/0840), as he was a member of Ringmer Parish Council, and that in addition, he knew the Applicant but did not have a personal or prejudicial interest in the Item. For Agenda Item 11 (planning application SDNP/22/05011/CND), Councillor

Richard Turner stated that his cousin was the farmer of the land adjacent to the application site but that he did not have a personal or prejudicial interest in the item.

#### **102 Urgent items**

There were none.

#### **103 Petitions**

There were none.

#### **104 Written questions from councillors**

There were none.

#### **105 Officer update**

A supplementary report was circulated to the Committee prior to the start of the meeting, updating the main reports on the agenda with any late information (a copy of which was published on the Council's website).

#### **106 LW/21/1000 - Land west of Oxbottom Lane, Newick, East Sussex**

Councillor Cathy Wickens (Vice-Chair) spoke on behalf of Newick Parish Council. Andrew Smith (Immediate Neighbour), Robin Penfold (Local resident of Chailey) and Andrew Smith, who read a statement on behalf of David Walmsley (Near Neighbour), spoke against the proposal. Andrew Munton (Reside Developments), Fay Goodson (Reside Developments) and Rob Wilson (Paul Basham Associates) spoke for the proposal. Councillor Isabelle Linington spoke in her capacity as the Lewes District Ward Councillor.

The Principal Planning Solicitor (PPS) clarified that the application was brought back to Committee in response to a complaint received by Lewes District's Monitoring Officer that the Committee was not properly constituted at its previous meeting. As the complaint had now been remedied and for the avoidance of doubt over the potential legality of the decision made by the Committee at its previous meeting, Members were being asked to consider the item wholly afresh.

The PPS summarised the reasonable expectations regarding decision making and what Members were being asked to consider.

The Head of Planning First (HPF) brought the Committee's attention to the last paragraph on Page 1 of the supplementary report, highlighting that an update had been received from the Secretary of State confirming that they no longer wished to call in the application.

The HPF clarified that any decision by the Committee regarding the application would no longer include a referral to the Secretary of State.

**Resolved:**

That planning application LW/21/1000 for redevelopment of the site to provide 21 residential dwellings along with parking, open space, and all necessary infrastructure be deferred until the outstanding issues related to drainage on the application site are fully explored and concluded prior to being brought back for determination to a future meeting of the Committee.

**107 LW/22/0840 - Bridge Farm, Barcombe Mills Road, Barcombe**

Councillor Andy Holman (Chair) spoke on behalf of Barcombe Parish Council. Mark Young (Near Neighbour) and Alison Johnson (Near Neighbour) spoke against the proposal. David Campion (Agent) and Tristan Hosken (Applicant) spoke for the proposal.

**Resolved:**

That planning application LW/22/0840 for the erection of one workshop comprising 4 modular units with associated car parking on the established rural employment site be delegated to the Head of Planning First to approve, subject to the conditions set out in the report and supplementary report, an amended condition regarding the use of automatic blinds in respect of light pollution, and no adverse comments being received from East Sussex County Council Highways, including the requirement of a footpath diversion order.

The Committee also added an informative in relation to native and rich biodiversity planting along the footpath.

**108 SDNP/22/05011/CND - The Macs Farm, Dumbrells Court Road, Ditchling, East Sussex, BN6 8GT**

Tim Townend (Near Neighbour), a resident of North End and Ed Clarke of Clarke Saunders Acoustics (on behalf of local residents) spoke against the proposal. Susannah Macmillan (Applicant), Kelly Stoner who read a speech on behalf of Craig Mayhew (Immediate Neighbour) and Chris Wood (Anderson Acoustics) spoke for the proposal.

**Resolved:**

That planning application SDNP/22/05011/CND for the variation of condition 2 (use ancillary to campsite between May and September) related to Prior Notification SDNP/21/00865/PA3R be approved, subject to the conditions set out in the report and supplementary report.

**109 Date of next meeting**

That it be noted that the next meeting of the Planning Applications Committee was scheduled to be held on Wednesday, 19 April 2023, in the Council Chamber, County Hall, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1UE, commencing at 5:00pm.

The meeting ended at 7:47pm.

Councillor Laurence O'Connor (Chair)