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Planning Applications Committee

Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1UE, on 9 August 2023 at 5:00pm

Present:

Councillor Lucy Agace (Chair);
Councillors Paul Keene (Deputy-Chair), Ian Alexander, Graham Amy, Becky Francomb, Christoph von Kurthy, James Meek, Isobel Sharkey and Stella Spiteri

Officers in attendance:

Marc Dorfman (Senior Planning Specialist), Robin Hirschfeld (Planning Officer), Sarah Lawrence (Committee Team Manager, Democratic Services), Jennifer Norman (Committee Officer, Democratic Services), Leigh Palmer (Head of Planning First), Elaine Roberts (Committee Officer, Democratic Services), James Smith (Principal Planner) and Joanne Stone (Principal Planning Solicitor)

25 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on the 12 July 2023 were submitted and approved and the Chair was authorised to sign them as a correct record.

26 Apologies for absence/Declaration of substitute members

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Sean MacLeod.

27 Declarations of interest

There were none.

28 Urgent items

There were none.

29 Petitions

There were none.

30 Written questions from councillors

There were none.

31 Officer update

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

32 LW/22/0517 - Hurst Farm, Hurstwood Lane, Haywards Heath

Michael Wood (Agent) spoke for the proposal.

Resolved:

That outline planning application LW/22/0517 with all matters reserved except for access for the erection of up-to 375 new homes, a two-form entry primary school, burial ground, allotments, open space with associated infrastructure, landscaping, and parking areas be approved, subject to the conditions set out in the report and:

- 1) An additional archaeological condition;
- 2) That an appropriate percentage of the allotments be reserved for Lewes District residents, to be agreed within the S106 agreement; and
- 3) An additional condition set out in the supplementary report that the Head of Planning be delegated to refuse the application if the S106 agreement is not completed by the 10 November 2023.

33 LW/23/0090 - Land North of High Street, Barcombe, East Sussex

Robin St Clair Jones (Local Resident), Isabelle Linington (Local Resident) and Alex Lahood (Near Neighbour) spoke against the proposal. Peter Rainier (Agent) spoke for the proposal. Councillor Mark Slater spoke in his capacity as the Lewes District Ward Councillor.

Resolved:

That planning application LW/23/0090 for approval of a reserved matters application for details of appearance, landscaping, layout, and scale relating to outline approval LW/21/0530, for the erection of 26 dwellings be approved, subject to the conditions set out in the report and:

- 1) An additional condition relating to hard and soft landscaping as set out in the supplementary report;
- 2) That Officers be delegated to deal with some discrepancies in the conditions between the outline permission and proposed conditions on the reserved matters approval; and
- 3) That the discharge of the drainage conditions be referred back to the Committee for determination.

34 SDNP/23/01760/FUL - Former Bus Station, Eastgate Street, Lewes

Councillor Wendy Maples read out a statement on behalf of Lewes Town Councillor Adrian Ross. Craig Kenny (Local Resident), Peter Earl (Local Resident) and Dr Jennifer Chibnall (Local Resident) spoke against the proposal. Councillor Dr Janet Baah spoke in her capacity as the Lewes District Ward Councillor.

Before going to the vote, Councillor Meek requested a recorded vote, and this was supported by more than five other Members, meeting the threshold for this request as set out in the Council's Constitution.

The proposal was put to a recorded vote and declared carried as follows:

For: Councillors Agace, Alexander, Amy, von Kurthy, Sharkey and Spiteri (6).

Against: Councillors Francomb, Keene and Meek (3).

Abstentions: None.

Resolved (by 6 votes to 3):

That Section 73a retrospective application SDNP/23/01760/FUL for the erection of temporary site hoardings and gates be approved, with temporary planning permission given subject to the temporary nature being six months from the date of permission.

The Committee added two informatives, that any further applications to be received the Committee to include the provision of artwork and murals, and the requirement for appropriate maintenance of the hoardings.

35 Exclusion of the public and press**Resolved:**

That, in accordance with Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of Item 12 on the agenda as there was likely to be disclosures of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 6a and 6b of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

36 Works under section 77 (8) of the Building Act

The Committee considered the Officer's report which detailed a proposed course of action to be taken by the Council in relation to a dangerous structure within Lewes District.

Resolved:

- 1) That the Director of Planning and Regeneration be authorised to pursue the appropriate legal authority to enable the Council to pursue direct

action to remove the dangerous structure under S77 (8) of the Building Act 1984; and

- 2) That Officers be authorised to secure the necessary funding to cover the cost of the works.

37 Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Planning Applications Committee was scheduled to be held on Wednesday, 6 September 2023, in the Council Chamber, County Hall, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1UE, commencing at 5:00pm.

The meeting ended at 7:26pm.

Councillor Lucy Agace (Chair)