

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A PLANNING & FINANCE MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 4 DECEMBER 2014

PRESENT: Councillors: Peter Clements (Mayor)
John May
Eric Straughan
Noelle Urquhart
Sylvia Wargent

Town Clerk: David Tucker

Action

6043 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence received from Councillors Bixby, Cross, Mogridge and Perkins.

6044 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor May declared a non pecuniary interest in planning application 14 6367.

6045 PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

- (a) **14 6305**
Refurbishment, new garage and alterations to the external appearance of existing bungalow.
29 The Lane, West Mersea - Mr Neil Moye

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

- (b) **14 6283**
Proposed extensions and alterations.
30 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea - Mr Graham Farley

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

- (c) **14 6315**
Demolition of existing detached garage with the construction of new detached garage with front dormers and roof lights.
2 Blackwater Drive, West Mersea - Mr Alan Cowper

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

- (d) **14 6367**
Addition of a second storey over existing single storey element, the erection of a one and a half storey rear extension and associated works.
4 Meadow Lane, West Mersea - Mr A Knott

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

- (e) **14 6368**
Replacement swimming pool building and re-contouring terraced garden. Amendment to planning permission 14 5622. Position and size as approved. Roof and fenestration amended. Terracing amended.
West Hold, 2 High Street, West Mersea - Mr & Mrs P & J Smith

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application, on condition that it always remains a garage and does not convert to a dwelling.

6046 NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS RECEIVED

Applications Passed

- (a) **14 5068**
Variation of condition 02 of planning permission 13 0296.
Akhurst Court, Melrose Road, West Mersea - Mersea Island Trust
- (b) **14 5962**
Forming new opening in boundary wall with gated access to New Orleans flats.
St Peter & St Paul Church, High Street, West Mersea - Ms Carol Binmore
- (c) **14 5701** *
Demolish 1 building, build 3 new dwellings.
21 Prince Albert Road, West Mersea - Mr S Downes

WMTC Recommendation:

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend REFUSAL on the following grounds:

- Overdevelopment of the site.
- Potential vehicular access problems.

- (d) **14 6019**
Retention of an ATM installed through the shop front elevation as a through brickwork installation. ATM fascia with black bezel surround and white illuminated lettering Free Cash withdrawals out of black background. Blue LED halo illumination to ATM surround.
Old Forge Filling Station, 41 Kingsland Road, West Mersea - Mr Roy Lanning
- (e) **14 6020**
Integral illumination and screen to the ATM fascia. Internally illuminated Free Cash withdrawals lettering to black surround, above the ATM fascia. Blue LED halo illumination to ATM surround.
Old Forge Filling Station, 41 Kingsland Road, West Mersea - Mr Roy Lanning
- (f) **14 6057**
Demolition of part of utility room, construction of shower and utility room and construction of bedroom over with ensuite. Proposed extensions and alterations.
24 Elmwood Drive, West Mersea - Mr Colin Ockwell

* **WMTC recommended opposite**

6047 TO NOTE THE CURRENT FINANCIAL POSITION

The Clerk presented the Income and Expenditure accounts as at 31 October 2014, showing current reserves of £58k. It was agreed that £25k S.106 monies should be requested to pay for a new surface for the hard tennis courts (currently unusable).

6048 ANY OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

Closure of Toilets - The letter from Councillor Tina Bourne was considered and discussed, together with the letter sent to her by the Clerk, and a further letter to her regarding her failure to respond to the Clerk (all attached), plus an email from Councillor Bourne advising that a response would be emailed to the Clerk by 5th December.

It was noted that the issue would be brought to the full Council for discussion and consideration of what action to take.

PCSO's - Following discussion it was agreed that a decision whether to fund a PCSO would be deferred pending preparation of the 2015/16 budget.

Street Lights - It was noted that Essex County Council Highway Department had advised that four of the proposed lamp columns could not be used for Christmas lighting (posts at Melrose Road, MICA, War Memorial and the Parish Church).

Following discussion it was agreed the six lights to be installed should be lit from 4pm to midnight.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.