

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A PLANNING & FINANCE MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 31 JULY 2014

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

Town Clerk: David Tucker

Action

5975 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence received from Councillors Bixby and Cross.

5976 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Perkins declared a non pecuniary interest in planning application 14 5290 and 14 5447.

5977 PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

- (a) 14 5290
Proposed extensions and alterations.
51 Seaview Avenue, West Mersea - Mr D Philpott

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application with a proviso that the extension remain ancillary to the main building.

- (b) 14 5388
Replacement dwelling.
100 Coast Road, West Mersea - Mr Graham Rampling

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend REFUSAL for the following reasons:

- (i) Out of keeping with the street scene.
- (ii) Overlarge property with little merit in the design particularly considering its situation in a Conservation Area.
- (iii) Existing property has historical significance evidenced by the letter sent to Bradley Heffer from Susan Allen Kline.

- (c) 14 5402
First floor side extension and general alterations and improvements to the existing dwelling.
6 Brierley Avenue, West Mersea - Mr T Harvey

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

- (d) 14 5424
Proposed front single storey extension and alterations.
96 Oakwood Avenue, West Mersea - Mr & Mrs B Cooke

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application but we suggest the addition of side baffles to protect the amenity of neighbouring properties.

- (e) **14 5385**
Construction of porch to front elevation.
28 Strood Close, West Mersea - Mr Jason Whiting

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

- (f) **14 5447**
Proposed extensions to form new bedrooms, enlarge existing living room, new dining room, new porch and enlarge existing garage.
31 Melrose Road, West Mersea - Mr & Mrs A Songer

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

- (g) **14 5457** (Resubmission 14 4597).
Proposed conversion of bungalow into 1 half storey dwelling.
58 St Peters Road, West Mersea - Mr & Mrs Jarvis

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

- (h) **14 5453**
Proposed extension and alterations.
66 Empress Avenue, West Mersea - Mrs Anne Hillary

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

- (i) **14 5325**
New shopfront.
Essex Air Ambulance Charity Shop, 36b Barfield Road, West Mersea - Mr S Laver

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

- (j) **14 4997**
Construction of deck to extend seating area at beach side cafe.
Two Sugars Cafe, 30 Victoria Esplanade, West Mersea - Ms Lindsey Schultes

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

5978 NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS RECEIVED

Applications Passed

- (a) **14 4848**
Application to amend the details of planning approval 12 1838. Amended design of the approved dwelling house alterations and extensions (to improve disabled person access and use). Adapted parking arrangements and new garage remain as approved.
10 Beach Road, West Mersea - Mr & Mrs Rose
- (b) **14 4998**
Erection of front porch extension and creation of first floor balcony.
3 Carriers Close, West Mersea - Ms Linda Russell
- (c) **14 5026**
Alterations to the windows to the first floor rear elevation.
6 Kingsland Beach, West Mersea - Mrs Clare Moore

Prior Approval Required (Approved)**(a) 14 5073**

Prior notification of proposed development by telecommunications system operators for the replacement of the existing Vodafone 15m mast (17.5m total height) with a dual operator 17.5 mast. Associated with this mast upgrade is the installation of 2 Lancast.

Base Station, Unit 6 Rushmere Close, West Mersea - Telefonica UK Ltd

5979 TO NOTE THE CURRENT FINANCIAL POSITION

The Clerk presented the Income and Expenditure Account as at 30 June 2014. Normal operating costs were at budgeted level, although both Burials and Car Parking income were only at half the budgeted level (a total shortfall of £10,804). The main increase in expenditure was due to the additional costs of repairs to mowing equipment.

Total budgeted expenditure for the 4 months was £71,228, as compared to actual costs of £79,583.

Despite the shortfall and additional costs the cash situation remained in a satisfactory and manageable position.

There was still no response from Colchester Borough Council to our request for £20k S.106 monies to cover the additional costs of the Skatepark. A further £10k S.106 requested was unlikely to be forthcoming, but confirmation was being sought.

5980 TO CONSIDER A REQUEST BY FOOTBALL CLUB FOR A MUGA NORTH SIDE OF TENNIS COURTS

The request to construct a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) on the Glebe was considered and discussed at length. It was agreed more details were required before any decision could be reached, and a meeting of all affected parties would be held in September to discuss the issue.

5981 TO NOTE THE NEED FOR A NEW BUS SHELTER, KINGSLAND ROAD

The bus shelter is in need of renovation and following discussion it was agreed that renovation rather than replacement would be considered as a first step.

5982 TO CONSIDER ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BMX BIKE LOAN SCHEME

The proposed BMX scheme was considered and discussed and it was agreed to go ahead with the scheme as presented.

If repair costs etc. exceeded the funding available (circa £800), the scheme would be reviewed. It was also agreed to look into the possibility of installing cycle stands at the MICA to help with management of the project.

5983 TO APPROVE THE HERITAGE BOOKLET PRINTING

Following discussion the quote of £2,000 for a print run of 1,000 was agreed (Proposed Councillor Perkins, Seconded Councillor Wargent). It was also agreed to sell the booklets at a price of £2.50.

5984 TO AGREE TOTAL COSTS OF WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL WEBSITE

The proposal by Councillor Perkins to commit an additional £500 to the setting up of the website was considered and agreed. (Proposed Councillor Perkins, Seconded Councillor Straughan).

It was noted that a date for training in the use of the website would be set when the website was completed.

5985 TO CONSIDER EXPENDITURE FOR 'MERSEA LIGHTS UP' 2014

Following discussion it was agreed (Proposed Councillor Perkins, Seconded Councillor Urquhart) to set aside £1,000 for the 2014 'Mersea Lights Up', to cover the Santa's Sleigh, MICA lights, and Christmas Tree and lights for the Lime Tree as required.

It was also agreed to apply to Essex County Council for permission to install lights in the High Street. The Mayor thanked Councillor Straughan on behalf of West Mersea Town Council for all his efforts and commitment both to the 'Mersea Lights Up' and Barfield Road Cemetery renovation work.

5986 ANY OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

Nothing to report.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.15 pm.