

COWES TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held at Northwood House, Cowes on Thursday, 12th August, 2010 at 6.00p.m.

Present: Councillors Jones (Chairman)
Councillors Banks, Birch, Giffard, Matthews, Sanderson and Walters.

460 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors McGregor, Peacey-Wilcox, Thwaites, Wells and Wilcox.

461 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st July, 2010 be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

462 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Councillor Jones submitted details of the planning applications received and following the Committees consideration of each application it was:

RESOLVED

1). That the Town Council supports the following applications:

P/01051/10 *Householder Application* – Dormer window on south east elevation; extension to dormer window on northwest elevation, 2 Battery Road.

P/01054/10 Variation of condition 3 on P/00205/10 to allow amendments to approved plans, land between 95 and 101 Baring Road.

2). That the planning decisions, as circulated, be noted.

463 PLANNING APPEAL

The Town Clerk reported that an appeal against the I.W. Council decision to refuse outline planning permission in respect of application P/00871/09 for the demolition of existing bungalow and replacement with 5 units of one bedroom accommodation in a single terrace, 74 Place Road had been dismissed by the Planning Inspector.

464 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Town Clerk submitted a letter from the Planning Department which stated that local authorities were required to make significant budget savings; as a consequence the Planning Service was reviewing the method of consultation with Town and Parish Councils in respect of planning applications to ensure it was both efficient and cost-effective.

The current system was paper based and costly to the service; the Planning Department therefore proposed that in future all information to Town and Parish Councils would be exchanged and corresponded via the email system. The implementation of this new system would enable them to provide a more efficient service and secure considerable cost savings.

The Planning Department were seeking the views of Town and Parish Councils regarding this proposal; responses had to be submitted by 17th September.

Members were concerned by the possible cost implications for the Town Council and also that plans would only be printed by the Town Clerk in A4 size; however, they considered that the purchase of new IT equipment could provide an opportunity to improve the planning consultation process.

RESOLVED

- 1). That Councillors Birch, Jones and Matthews establish the precise IT requirements and costs that would enable planning applications to be downloaded and projected to a screen at Planning meetings and then report their findings to the next meeting of the Committee; and
- 2). That the Town Council seek a minimum three month delay in the implementation of the Planning Department proposal and request a contribution towards the costs to the Town Council of the necessary IT equipment.

(The proceedings terminated at 6.30p.m.)

CHAIRMAN