

Minutes of a meeting of the **PLANNING & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE** held on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2009** in Telscombe Civic Centre at 7.30 pm.

**PRESENT**

Councillors: Mr J Livings (**Chairman**)  
Mr T Banning (**Vice-Chairman**)  
Mr T Armour, Ms L Hallett  
Mr J Harris, Mr P Howson  
Mrs B Sawyers

**APOLOGIES**

Councillors: Mr J Page Mr R Maskell

The reasons for absence were noted and accepted by the Committee.

*The meeting was adjourned at 7.30 pm to take questions from members of the public.*

*A local resident outlined objections in respect of planning application LW/09/0518 2 Walesbeech Road, East Saltdean. The speaker considered the proposals were a total overdevelopment of the site and requested the Committee's support in opposing the application. The Chairman advised that the Town Council only had a consultative role in respect of planning matters and would take residents' comments into account when considering applications. The Chairman emphasised the importance of making representation to the District Council's planning department and attending committee meetings when specific applications were being considered.*

*The meeting was subsequently reconvened.*

742. **MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF PREJUDICIAL AND PERSONAL INTERESTS**

There were none.

743. **TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> MAY 2009**

The minutes of the above meeting were approved by the Committee and signed as correct by the Chairman.

744. **MATTERS ARISING**

No matters arising were raised.

745. **UPDATE ON COMMUNITY BUS BY CTLA**

Mr Norman Bennett from the charity Community Transport for the Lewes Area (CTLA) updated the committee on developments with the three towns partnership community bus service. Mr Bennett outlined the scheme that allowed Telscombe and Peacehaven to share the service for three days per week and advised the meeting that the scheme had 62 residents registered from Newhaven, 5 from Saltdean, 30 from Peacehaven and 10 from Telscombe. The meeting was advised that the scheme was slow to start but was gathering momentum. A key confusion of the scheme was that the local Taxi Rider service accepted free bus passes

and the Community bus did not. The CTLA are in negotiations with the ESCC “Down your Way Committee” to establish if match funding was available for the community bus. If match funding was granted the scheme could be funded on a non-charge basis for a year.

CTLA have also contacted Lewes District Council who fund the concessionary fare schemes on behalf of government. The meeting was advised that disappointingly Lewes DC had refused the request for a meeting to discuss the matter. The meeting proposed that all Lewes DC Councillors should be informed about the position and try to persuade officers to enter into a dialogue with the CTLA. Cllrs Hallett and Howson **agreed** to take the issue up with Lewes DC Director of Finance. It was emphasised by Mr Bennett that Lewes DC administered the scheme on behalf of the government and claimed the money back.

In response to a query, Mr Bennett advised that the single journey fare was £1.50 and that the service required a minimum of thirty fares per day to break even. The current level was six fares per day. The charging structure was emphasised as the main disincentive and the Chairman highlighted the importance of obtaining concessionary fare status for the service. Methods to promote the service were considered and it was noted that in addition to civic newspapers, posters and flyers, that the local housing associations were now promoting the service on their notice boards. The CTLA were also considering a brochure delivery to the 400 or 500 properties on the Collingwood and Trafalgar estates. The reaction of the local Taxi drivers to the new service was queried and Mr Bennett advised there was no problem as they had a different client base to that of the community bus. The Chairman said it was important that users recognised they needed to book the service both ways and not assume a return journey. The Chairman thanked Mr Bennett for his presentation.

#### 746. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

LW/09/0518 2 Walesbeech Road East Saltden – erection of a block of six x 2 bed flats (demolition of existing bungalow). The Committee noted that a similar application had been made previously and the application had been rejected. The Committee considered that the current application did not differ significantly from the previous one and **OBJECTED** to the application and sited ST3 A and C as per the Town Council’s objection to the previous application.

LW/09/0473 31 Bridle Way Telscombe Cliffs – erection of 2m high and 8.4m long brick wall fronting Kirby Drive. The Committee discussed the application and following a vote agreed to **NO OBJECTIONS**. Cllr Howson requested that his vote against be recorded as he considered the wall out of keeping on a predominately open plan estate.

LW/09/0517 61a Rodmell Avenue, East Saltdean – installation of a steel and glass balcony to replace existing balcony at front. **NO OBJECTIONS**

#### 747. **PLANNING RESULTS FROM LEWES DISTRICT COUNCIL**

LW/09/0271 Application for erection of single storey extension to front at 79 Telscombe Cliffs Way Telscombe Cliffs. **GRANTED**

The Committee expressed concern that its comments in respect of site working hours and behaviour were not appearing on the planning approval notices issued by the District.

748. **NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING APPEALS**

LW/08/1176 78A Bannings Vale, Saltdean - erection of a first floor rear extension.  
**GRANTED**

749. **STRATEGIC HOUSING LAND AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT (SHLAA)  
CALL FOR SITES**

The Committee considered a letter from Lewes District Council outlining the process for identifying and notifying potential sites for possible future strategic housing development. The Committee considered that Telscombe and East Saltdean did not have any available land for development and noted the item.

750. **TO NOTE PUBLIC NOTICE RECEIVED FROM EAST SUSSEX COUNTY  
COUNCIL IN RESPECT OF DIVERSION OF FOOTPATH 12a -  
TELSCOMBE**

The Committee noted the information from the County Council.

751. **ENVIRONMENT AGENCY NEWHAVEN INCINERATOR – INVITATION  
TO STAKEHOLDER MEETING**

The committee noted the invitation from the Environment Agency to the meeting.

Signed .....  
CHAIRMAN - Cllr J Livings

NB The next meeting of the committee will be held on **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009  
commencing at 7.30 pm**