

**MINUTES OF PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8 MAY 2012
IN THE ROBIN ROOM, THE CASTLE, HERTFORD AT 6.00PM**

PRESENT: Councillor D Poole, in the Chair
Councillors P Moore, P Ruffles and R Willis

IN ATTENDANCE: Tricia Carpenter (minutes)

503. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR THE MEETING

In the absence of the committee chair and vice chair, it was proposed that Councillor D Poole chair the meeting.

504. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors B Haddock, (Prior engagement) R Radford, (Dep.Mayoral engagement) and N Wilson (Holiday) .

505. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr P Ruffles	Personal	Application 3/12/0711/FP &3/12/0606/FP	Friend of the applicants.
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506. THE MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The Minutes of the Sub-Committee Meeting held on 23 April 2012 were approved as a correct record of the proceedings, and the Chairman authorised to sign the same.

507. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA – PAPER A

Shire Hall Flagpole

It was noted that no response had been received from the Ministry of Justice

Drinking Fountain at Old Cross

Updated information was awaited from East Herts Council.

Post Box on 1 St Andrew Street

It was noted that work would shortly be commencing to restore the post box.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The action sheet be noted.

508. QUESTIONS AND/OR STATEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None.

509. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Committee considered current planning applications, and commented as follows:

3/12/0411/FP/LP	Camping and Caravan Site, Mangrove Road	Site improvements involving conversion of 67 existing pitches into hard standing, standardising 24 L shaped hard standings. Resurface existing caravan storage area. Resurface existing internal access road
No objection		
3/12/0644/FP/SD	5 The Avenue	Front entrance gates, piers and widening of existing driveway
The Committee maintained concern that widening of any entrances generally disadvantaged passing pedestrians. Pedestrian safety should be of paramount concern.		
3/12/0645/FP/MC	51 Bengeo Street	Two rear storey extension and single storey side/rear extension
No comment		
3/12/0654/FP/AK	93 West Street	Loft conversion with rear dormer window and 2no rooflights to the front of the property
The Council was opposed to rooflights to front roof aspects but found it difficult to register a formal objection in the light of the roof lights in nearby buildings already in position. The Council was not aware of the planning status of the existing rooflights in nearby buildings, but nevertheless regretted their presence.		
3/12/0656/FP/LP	6 The Drive	Two storey side and rear extension with replacement garage
No objection		
3/12/0687/FP/AK	1 Wilton Crescent	Single storey side extension
No objection		
3/12/0709/FP/AK	10 Magnolia Close	Conversion of garage to habitable room
The Council generally objected to the conversion of garages		
3/12/0711/FP/JS	14 Chambers Street	Single storey and first floor rear extension
No objection		
3/12/0717/FP/SD	The Garden House, 17 Warren Park Road	Detached garage
No objection		
3/12/0723/LB/SD	Herts County Council, County Hall	Installation of a ventilation system to a computer server room including removal of glazing panes to five dormer windows to allow aluminium louvre vents to be fitted
No objection		

Councillors P Ruffles declared that any views he expressed about applications were on the evidence before him so far, and at this meeting. He reserved the right to speak on additional evidence, which may be presented to him subsequently as a District Councillor.

Note: Cllr Moore left the meeting at 6.30pm.

510. CORRESPONDENCE

The following appeal decision from the Planning Inspectorate:

26 Burleigh Road
Appeal dismissed

511. HERTFORDSHIRE'S DRAFT RURAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY CONSULTATION

The Committee proposed the following comments in response to the Draft Rural Transport Strategy:

Whilst accepting the important objective of the strategy to reduce the need to travel to and from rural areas, Hertford Town Council sought to facilitate the best transport qualities in the most rural areas which made up its hinterland. Hertford as a Market Town; the County Town; and a traditional 'hub', had economic and other social reasons for wanting to ensure good access to the Town Centre. It is concerned particularly about rural public transport, and public rights of way giving healthy access for Town and Country people alike.

The Town Council is mindful of the high potential in its own community (and possibly an even greater potential in the rural communities) for almost unnoticed problems of social exclusion. Transport access is a key to inclusion.

Hertford Town Council particularly endorses the aim in East Herts represented in Challenge 5 and in Challenge 6.

The report rightly underlined the effects of the economic downturn which impinged particularly on the rural transport problems of the disadvantaged. Hertford Council supports whatever 'sustainable transport solutions' can be found and the subsequent promotion of such schemes as solutions. Town centre vitality would be one of the beneficiaries.

Unsurprisingly, Hertford Council supported all initiatives in the report which encouraged health giving physical activity. It believed the Localism Act could facilitate much which the strategy proposed, provided any initiatives were carefully nurtured.

Concern was expressed regarding the lack of transport into the Town Centre from Bengo on Sundays and Bank Holidays. Whilst it was noted that Bengo was closer to Hertford than the rural transport plan covered, nevertheless it represented a lack of transport into Hertford.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The above comments be forwarded to Hertfordshire County Council in response to the Draft Rural Transport Strategy.

512. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

None.

The meeting closed at 6.40 p.m.