

WESTGATE-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Planning, Highways and Environmental Committee held at 6.30 pm, on Monday 21st November 2016 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall Buildings, 31 St. Mildred's Road, Westgate-on-Sea.

Present: Councillors Morrish (Chairman), Miss Cornford, King, Rickett, Rolfe and Miss Scott.

Also present: G Orton, Miss Clare Wheeler & Roy Wade (Acting Town Council)

502 ~~498~~ CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman opened the meeting and gave the usual "housekeeping" instructions.

503 ~~499~~ APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Miss Ashbee.

504 ~~500~~ MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2016 were deferred to the next meeting.

505 ~~501~~ MEMBERS' INTEREST

No disclosures of interest were made.

506 ~~501~~ PLANNING APPLICATIONS DETERMINED BY TDC

Members noted the following decisions had been made:

TH/16/1106 82 Westgate Bay Avenue – UPVC m - REFUSE windows (in conservation area). (Members noted that Cllr. Rickett had asked that CAG refer to the enforcement officers at TDC his concerns over these proposals.)

507 ~~502~~ PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR DETERMINATION

Committee considered the following applications and had regard to the comments of CAG and

RESOLVED: To make the following comments:

TH/16/1106 82 Westgate Bat Avenue UPVC windows and to be referred to TDC Enforcement officers as the premises are within the Conservation Area.

TH/16/1113 Garden Flat Copmanhurst, The Grove – alterations –SUPPORT

**TH/16/1270 15 Westbury Road Driveway and demolition of part of wall etc.
RECOMMENDATION REFUSAL**

**TH/16/1410 18 College Gardens Erection of conservatory – NO
OBSERVATIONS**

TH/16/1358 97 Sea Road minor extensions etc.- NO OBSERVATIONS

**Th/16/1431 51 Westgate Bay Avenue Fell 1 sycamore and tree surgery
SUPPORT**

TH/16/1437 3 The Grove Tree surgery to 3 holly trees –SUPPORT

**TH/16/1463 – 76 Canterbury Road – Support sympathetic reduction of the
overhanging side growth back to the boundary by a professional
arboriculturist.**

508 **502. LATE PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

No late applications were received.

509 **503 POSSIBLE 20MPH ZONE IN WESTGATE ON SEA**

Consideration of this matter was deferred to the next meeting.

510 **504 POTENTIAL CCTV IN WESTGATE ON SEA**

Consideration of this matter was deferred to the next meeting and Members were asked to suggest to the Town Clerk any areas that may benefit from CCTV coverage.

511 **505 NOTES ON LOCAL PLAN & NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING PARTY
31 OCTOBER 2016**

Members had regard to the notes prepared by Cllr Miss Scott and noted that the Local Plan would be released for consultation in January/February 2017. However Members noted that there was not likely to be any reduction in the number of new houses to be built in Westgate or Birchington. The comments of Mr Orton was noted that the number of houses to be build had increased to 17,100 but the estimate for the growth in population had not been revised to support the new build programme. Cllr Miss Scott indicated that in her view the proposed new build is based on incorrect information.

RECOMMENDED: That it be acceptable that (A) the Town Council may need to engage professional advisers to oppose the views within the Draft Local Plan and that £9000.00 be included in the draft budget proposals for 2017/8 to meet these costs, (b) that grant funding of £3000.00 be sought towards these costs; (B) Birchington Parish Council be asked to join with the Town Council in opposing the Draft Local Plan

(See minute no.512 for other budget bids)

and be asked to match fund the costs of engaging professional planners; and (B) Sir Roger Gale .be sked to support the Town Council in its opposition to the proposals within the Plan.

512 -506 PRESENTATION BY MSSRS. KINGDOM

A presentation was not made.

513 -507. KCC HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION SURVEY

The Chairman, Cllr. Morrish reported that he had almost completed the survey and sought Members views on any aspects not included within the survey. Members noted the survey and made the following general comments:

Town centre roads	Generally satisfactory but pavements need attention and drop kerbs inadequate.
Footways	Generally in poor condition especially those not adjacent to highways
Gullies	In poor condition. And in many cases choked with vegetation and weeds.
Highway Junctions	Would Kent Highways consider the installation of mirrors to assist traffic movement.

514 -508: DRAFT STREET CLEANING SCHEDULE

The matter was deferred as the MOU from the District Council had still not been received.

515 -509: WESTGATE RAILWAY STATION – ACTION TO CLEAN-UP

The Committee expressed concerns at the poor level of cleanliness at the Station.

It was moved by Cllr. Morrish and seconded by Cllr Rickett and

RESOLVED: That British Rail and Thanet District Council be advised of the Town Council's concern at the unsatisfactory level of cleanliness at Westgate-on-Sea Railway Station

516 510 LYMINGTON ROAD RECREATION AREA

Committee discussed the recreation ground and noted Cllr. King's comments that the Recreation Ground had been gifted in perpetuity to the residents of Westgate.

It was moved by Cllr. King and seconded by Cllr. Morrish and

RESOLVED: That (A) TDC be advised of the of the gifting of this land to the residents of Westgate and as the Town has a Town Council TDC be required to return the Recreation Ground to Westgate-on-Sea and

(B) if TDC refuse to hand back the Recreation Ground the matter be referred to the Secretary of State,

517 -511. **REPAIRS TO THE SHELTER AT WEST BAY**

Councillor Miss Cornford expressed her concerns that the assurances of to repair and re-furbish the shelter had not been met.

The Acting Clerk was asked to advise TDC of the Town Council's concerns and asked for a timetable for when these works will be undertaken.

518 -512. **CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE'S BUDGET REQUIREMENTS FOR 2017/18**

Committee considered the budget requirements for 2017/8 and **RECOMMEND:** to Finance and General Purposes Committee the following budget heads be included:

Local Plan	£9000.00 (See minute no. 505)
Memorial maintenance	500.00
Lymington Road (Grass cutting)	1700.00

519 -513. **BIRCHINGTON SAVE OUR SHELTERS WORKING PARTY**

Clare Wheeler reported upon an initiative in Birchington where a Group had been formed to preserve and restore the 9 shelters within their area. The Group were actively fund raising and each member of the Group paid an annual subscription to the Group. The District Council had carried out a survey of all the shelters within the district.

Committee considered setting up a similar Group in Westgate on Sea, the condition of the shelters particularly at St Mildred's Bay and West Bay It was also suggested that sponsorship could be sought for the repairs and refurbishment of the shelters and also because of the historical importance of some of the shelters application be made to the Heritage Lottery Fund for funding to restore the shelters.

It was moved by Cllr. Miss Scott and seconded by Cllr. Miss Cornford and

RESOLVED: That (A) Thanet District Council be asked to indicate when the sea front shelters are to be repaired and refurbished; and

(B) TDC be asked to supply details of the seafront shelters they have undertaken.

Time concluded: 9.10pm

Signed: 

Chairman: Cllr Morrish

Planning, Highways & Environmental Committee

Time concluded: 8.15 p.m.

