

LICHFIELD CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Planning Applications Committee held in Committee Room 1, Guildhall, Lichfield, at 6.30pm on Tuesday, 6 July 2010

PRESENT: Councillor R J Awty (Chairman), and Councillors Mrs J A Allsopp, B F Bacon, Mrs M P Bland, Mrs M G Boyle, D P A Dundas, Mrs D English, D R R Prentis, Mrs E C Roe, D Smedley, J A Smith, T J Thomas, A D Thompson and M A Warfield.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs N Bacon G Boyle, B D Diggle, Mrs J M Eagland, C Greatorex, M J Fryers, P L Hitchman, I A Jackson, J C Walker, and J N Wilks.

17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

When considering planning applications and/or licensing matters, and in accordance with advice received from the Standards Board for England, those City councillors present who were also members of the District Council's Planning and/or Licensing Committee confirmed that their comments at this meeting were a preliminary view and that they might change their view when they heard all of the evidence at the District Council's Planning Committee.

18 MINUTES

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 June 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.*

19 LICENSING APPLICATIONS

Members considered Lichfield District Council Premises Licences as per agenda Appendix C.

RESOLVED: *That the Premises Licences be noted.*

20 SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOLS – FRIARY HIGH SCHOOL

Consideration was given to proposals to install a puffin crossing across Eastern Avenue at the Grange Lane junction and proposals to improve crossing facilities on the A51 Western By-Pass at the Abnalls Lane junction.

RESOLVED: *1. That the Town Clerk writes to Staffordshire County Council Highways supporting in principle the proposed junction improvements at Eastern Avenue/Grange Lane, but suggesting that in these times of economic restraint instead of the proposed Puffin crossing a footpath with fence be installed to the existing crossing outside the Friary School.*

2. That the proposals for a central island and uncontrolled pedestrian crossing on the A51 Western By-Pass at the Abnalls Lane junction be supported.

3. That Staffordshire County Council Highways be requested to provide approximate costings when consulting on future schemes so that this information could be taken into consideration when considering the merits of the scheme.

21 RAIL ISSUES

Consideration was given to the agenda report by Councillor A D Thompson on the West Coast Rail 250 meeting and to the Town Clerk's agenda report on High Speed Rail 2.

RESOLVED: *1. That the City Council supports the principle of a high speed rail network, but considers that further work needs to be undertaken into the overall business case. In particular further consideration needs to be given to the business case for a super-fast 250mph route because the straightness of the route required for this restricts the ability to mitigate the route by avoiding settlements and landscape features within this very densely populated part of the UK.*

2. *That the Council urges the Government to commence formal consultation at the earliest possible date, and that such consultation takes place on genuine route options as there is a real danger that so much design work will have been undertaken on the route before consultation begins that consultation processes will be prejudged and open to legal challenge.*

3. *That the design and route of the proposed HS2 line adjacent to Lichfield, as indicated on the March 2010 drawings, would be totally unacceptable by reasons of the extremely adverse impact it will have on the residents and environment of the city because of the length and extreme height of viaduct/embankment in such close proximity to the city.*

4. *That the proposed route through the Britannia Enterprise Estate is unacceptable as, even if compensation is ultimately paid, the uncertainty of the HS2 proposal will effectively preclude these businesses from investing and expanding.*

5. *That the City Council makes these views known to the District and County Councils and other agencies and organisations. In particular it requests that the District and County Councils liaise fully with the City Council in any consultation engagement they have with HS2 Ltd, and expects that it will also be directly involved in any consultation process.*

6. *That the Town Clerk writes to the Transport Minister, and to local MP's Michael Fabricant and Christopher Pincher, with the above recommendations.*

22 STREET NAMING

Further consideration was given to naming of one of the new roads off Brownsfield Road.

RESOLVED: *That the Town Clerk writes to the District Council recommending that the preferred name for the road off Brownsfield Road remained as 'Godfrey', and referring to the reasons why this name was appropriate. The letter to state however that this was a recommendation only, and it was noted that the District Council had the legal responsibility for naming of new roads and could choose whether to accept or reject this proposal.*

Cllr D Smedley requested that it be recorded in the Minutes that he voted against this item.

23 TRENT VALLEY ROAD

Members remarked that there was no footpath on Trent Valley Road between Wissage Road and Burton Old Road.

RESOLVED: *That the Town Clerk writes to Staffordshire County Council requesting that the footpath is extended between Wissage Road and Burton Old Road if possible.*

24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED:

- 1 *That the decisions of Lichfield District Council on planning applications as listed on Agenda Appendix 'B' be received and noted.*
- 2 *That recommendations be submitted to Lichfield District Council in respect of planning applications as listed in Appendix 'A'.*

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.35PM
CHAIRMAN