

MINUTES OF PLANNING AND FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE HELD ON
TUESDAY 20th MARCH 2018 AT
6.45 PM AT MILLFIELDS, MILL WAY NEEDINGWORTH.

PRESENT:

Cllr J Neish (chairman)
Cllr C Pearce
Cllr S Mortlock
Cllr M Williamson (start of item 45)
Cllr E MacPherson
Cllr I Neve

Miss J Bowd (Parish Clerk)
1 members of public

43. To Receive Apologies for Absence.

Cllr R Fountain-personal
Cllr A Holloway – personal

44. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20th February 2018.

Resolved: That the minutes be signed as a true and correct record.
All in favour (Prop Cllr Neve, 2nd Cllr Mortlock) All in favour

45. Planning.

Cllr Mortlock declared a pecuniary interest in the following item as a Director of a Company advising on the plans.

45.1 To consider the following planning applications received:

- (i) Application ref: 18/00239/HHFUL Proposed new annexe to replace the existing summerhouse/garage to the rear of the site Spring Cottage Holywell Front Holywell St Ives PE27 4TG.

Clerk advised members that there were 3 comments logged with HDC all objecting to the plans.

Cllr Neve spoke stating his understanding was that the summer house was to be turned into a separate dwelling for the accommodation for a relative, this is contrary to the Council policy to prevent development within the inner ring of Holywell.

Cllr Pearce felt that HDC has already set a precedent for such development over the past 12-24months.

Cllrs Neish and MacPherson agreed with Cllr Neve considering that the Parish Council should stand by its policy of non-development in the inner ring.

Both the Clerk and Chairman confirmed that they had been unable to find the notices relating to this proposed development which should have been put up by HDC.

The Chairman asked if members had any questions for the applicant who was in attendance. Cllr Neve asked for clarification of his understanding that this was to be a permanent dwelling for a resident following demolition of the summerhouse. This was confirmed.

Resolved: That the application be objected to on the grounds infill development- policy H35 Tandem development which is to be

discouraged and the Parish Council policy to protect the inner ring at Holywell. (Prop Cllr Neve, 2nd Cllr MacPherson) 4 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention.

46. To review of delegation for planning applications.

Cllr Neve asked for confirmation of his understanding that the new scheme involves the Ward Councillor calling in an application within 21 or 28 days in order for it to go to DMC. Clerk confirmed this was correct subject to the request being supported by sound planning reasons.

Cllr Neish queried who decides if it is a legitimate planning reason if it is the case officer this is questionable.

Cllr Pearce felt that all delegated powers should be scrapped and all applications where the officer and Council disagree should go to DMC. This system leaves it open for officer discretion and is not constitutional. Cllr Neve understood the reason- to reduce caseload for District Councillors.

Cllr Williamson felt that asking Ward Councillors to 'call in' added more work for the Ward Councillor.

Cllr Mortlock felt it was biased as officers have more dealings with applicant.

Resolved: That the Clerk write to HDC proposing a return to the 'old' system which is more transparent (Prop Cllr Pearce 2nd Cllr Neve) All in favour.

47. To approve the transfer of funds from Nationwide Building society

Clerk provided bank account balance as at 15th March and list of current outstanding cheques. Net position is £28,000 until precept received in April. Request is for transfer of £10,000 from Nationwide building society.

Resolved: That the transfer be approved (Prop Cllr Neve 2nd Cllr Williamson) All in favour.

48. To approve support of draft letter "Future of supported bus services around St Ives"

Resolved: That the letter be supported. (Prop Cllr Williamson, 2nd Cllr Neve) All in favour.

47. Items to report.

None

Being no further business the meeting closed at 7.05pm

Chairman

Date

