

**MINUTES OF THE LOUTH TOWN COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE OLD COURT ROOM, THE SESSIONS HOUSE, LOUTH
ON TUESDAY 19TH JUNE 2018**

Present Councillor D.J.E. Hall (DJEH), (in the chair).

Councillors: Mrs. E. Ballard (EB), Mrs. D. Blakey (DB), Mrs. S. Crew (SC), C. Green (CG), Mrs. L. Harrison-Wiseman (LHW), D. Hobson (DH), G.E. Horton (GEH), R.A. Jackson (RJ), A. Leonard (AL), Mrs. J. Makinson-Sanders (JMS), Mrs. M. Ottaway (MO), F.W.P. Treanor (FWPT) and D.E. Wing (DEW)

Councillors not present: J. Garrett (JG), M. Locking (ML), Mrs. S.E. Locking (SEL), Mrs. J. Speed (JS), L.M. Stephenson (LMS), D. Turner (DT) and Mrs. P.F. Watson (PFW)

The Town Clerk, Mrs. L.M. Phillips, 1 member of the public and 1 invited guest were also present.

A lady spoke in the public forum that was saddened by the condition of the Town. She opined that the main street had weeds, grass and shrubbery growing from: cracks, the edge of the road, buildings and guttering. The Bus Station was in a state, the bins were awful and recently there had been condoms strewn everywhere. The lady also informed those present that the Gatherums looked wild and unkempt with the grass growing above knee height which would soon turn to dry hay and could pose a serious fire risk, plus, there was dog poo left everywhere in amongst it. Finally, she reported that cars were speeding dangerously around the town, especially in the evenings and that some had very loud exhausts which were causing annoyance to town centre residents. Town Councillors commented in agreement and District Councillors present assured the lady that they would take her complaints forward to ELDC and push for action to be taken.

Cllr. GEH reported that he had attended the opening of the Zero Degrees Festival, 'Party in the Pews' on Friday 15th June and he had also attended the Vintage Day on Sunday 17th June. He reported that he had thoroughly enjoyed himself and that the events were absolutely tremendous.

Finally, GEH read out a thank you card from Mrs. L. Blankley, the former Town Clerk.

55. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. JG, ML, Mrs. SEL, Mrs. JS, DT and Mrs. PFW.

56. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman had no remarks to make.

57. Declarations of Interest / Dispensations

The following declarations of interest were received:

- a. Cllr. CG – agenda items 4 and 9b – as a member of ELDC.
- b. Cllrs. FWPT and RJ – agenda items 4 and 9 – as members of ELDC.
- c. Cllr. GEH – planning application 11 – as he had been helping the applicants as their ward member for ELDC.
- d. Cllr. DH – planning application 6 – as his partner worked for another local nursery.
- e. Cllr. Mrs. JMS – agenda items 4, 6, 7, 8 and 11 – as a member of ELDC.

58. Presentation by Mr. C. Horton, ELDC Arboricultural Officer

Mr. Horton introduced himself and described his background, saying that he had previously worked in forestry, had been in East Lindsey for one year and had worked in North Lincolnshire for 4 years before that. He then went on to explain the different procedures with regard to trees within the conservation area and trees with a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) on them. He confirmed that *all* trees with a diameter of 7.5cm at breast height (species immaterial), within the conversation area, are protected and cannot be felled or have work carried out on them unless this is agreed by ELDC. He elucidated that members of the public wishing to fell or work on these trees are required to *give notice* of their intentions to ELDC. ELDC then have six weeks to decide whether to further protect the tree with a preservation order. No reasons are required for the works. If at the end of the six weeks a TPO has not been made, works can proceed. However, care should be taken, it is an offence to carry out work during the nesting season, the period for which is not set in stone. Caution should be

exercised at all times. He confirmed that ELDC are only able to make a TPO to prevent the work or impose conditions. There must be a good reason to impose a TPO and the tree in question should have some visual amenity. Decisions to impose TPO's can be appealed against. In contrast members of the public wishing to fell or work on trees that already have a TPO on them *must apply for permission* and ELDC has eight weeks to consider their applications. If at the end of the eight weeks a decision has not been made, work cannot go ahead. Applications are approved or refused and can be subject to conditions.

59. Minutes

Following a proposal by Cllr. DJEH, seconded by Cllr. CG it was **RESOLVED** by vote of the Committee that the notes of the last meeting held on 22nd May 2018 be approved as the Minutes.

60. Applications Received by the Local Planning Authority

The Committee considered all planning applications received, including those listed in the schedule (PA/Schedule 06-19-18) and **RESOLVED** as follows:

- a. N/105/00463/18 – Meridian House, 41 Eastgate – Object for reasons stated previously. Councillors are concerned about the potential loss of office space in the town centre and question whether the lack of take up of these units for business use is because access is restricted to times when the caretaker is present. LTC wonder whether, if access arrangements were improved, it might make the building more attractive to potential lessees.
- b. N/105/00951/18 – Pavilion, Wood Lane – have the following concerns: Adequate Parking and Servicing AND Access and Highway Safety Specifically, cars parking on the side of Wood Lane to drop off and pick up. Also, concerns re. small size of children's play area.
- c. N/105/00966/18 – 20 St. Mary's Park – LTC do not wish to submit a decision because it is believed that notice has not been served on the adjoining property.
- d. N/105/01133/18 – D.A. Bonnett, Thames Street – Object on the ground of loss of privacy.
- e. To support all other applications.

61. Planning Correspondence

The Committee noted a tabled document (attached) detailing planning decisions, enforcement complaints, appeal decisions, temporary road closures etc., as advised by the District and County Council. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should request a written explanation from LCC of the process that is followed for road closures.

62. Work to Trees

The Committee noted the following proposed work to trees within the Conservation Area:

- a. **Location:** 5 St. Mary's Lane – **Proposal:** T1 – Cedar – reduce two sections of the northern canopy from 9m to 6m in radius from the edge of the stem to branch tips. **Reasons:** T1 – to reduce branch end weight from limbs over garage roof.
- b. **Location:** 44 Crowtree Lane – **Proposal:** G1 – Conifers – Reduce in height from 8m to 4m.

63. Street Naming

- a. The Committee discussed the naming of a new street for the Waterloo Housing development off Monks Dyke Road (planning ref: N/092/02432/17) and it was **RESOLVED** to support the use of St. Helens Drive.
- b. The Committee considered compiling a list of pre-approved names for submission to ELDC for their future use and it was agreed that the Planning Working Group should look into this and bring back their suggestions to a future meeting.

64. Virgin Media Works

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. JMS, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO it was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk should invite representatives of LCC Highways and contractor representatives to a meeting of Louth Town Council to explain how they intend to ameliorate the problems left behind following work to install Virgin Media in Louth.

65. Waste Strategy Consultation – Closing Date 2nd July

Following a proposal by Cllr. AL, seconded by Cllr. CG it was **RESOLVED** that no corporate response should be made to the above consultation.

The Meeting Closed at 8.20pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) Dated _____