

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE  
HELD AT THE SESSIONS HOUSE, EASTGATE, LOUTH  
ON TUESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2017**

**Present** Councillor Mrs. S. Crew (SC) (in the chair)

**Councillors:** Mrs. D. Blakey (DB), E. Ballard JP (EB), C. Green (CG), D.J.E. Hall (DJEH), Mrs. L. Harrison-Wiseman (LHW), D. Hobson (DH), G.E. Horton (GEH), R. Jackson (RJ), A. Leonard (AL), M. Locking (ML), Mrs. S.E. Locking (SEL), Mrs. J. Makinson-Sanders (JMS), Mrs. M. Ottaway MBE (MO), L.M. Stephenson (LMS), F.W.P. Treanor (FWPT), D. Turner (DT) and P.F. Watson (PFW)

**Councillors not present:** J. Speed (JS), J. Garret (JG) and D.E. Wing (DEW).

The Town Clerk, Mrs. L.J. Blankley, her Secretary, Mrs. L.M. Phillips, Mr. A. Morgan, Chief Executive of LCHS NHS Trust and one member of the public were also present.

The Mayor, Councillor Mrs. P.F. Watson took the chair during the public forum:

A lady spoke in the public forum about her objections to planning application N/105/00753/17 and her concern that neighbouring residents are not being informed by ELDC of proposals in time for them to make their objections to the Town Council. The Mayor advised that the lady should attend the ELDC Planning Meeting and she should voice her concerns there. The Mayor also suggested that the District Councillor for the Ward should be asked to speak on her behalf at the Planning Meeting.

The Mayor introduced Mr. A. Morgan the Chief Executive of LCHS NHS Trust whom she had invited to allay concerns over Louth Hospital. Mr. Morgan confirmed:

- That the hospital site had not been sold for housing and was still owned by NHS Property Services.
- That Carlton and Manby Wards currently had restricted occupancy due to fire safety concerns but they would go back to full occupancy levels following remedial works.
- That there were no plans, that he had seen, that suggested the closure of Louth Hospital and that the rumours being spread of this ilk were quite destabilizing to hear for the staff working there.
- That the CCG need to be very clear about what they want the future of the hospital to look like and this would involve close consultation with key stakeholders, such as LTC. He opined that an idea of the timescales involved would be beneficial and he undertook to obtain these and come back to the Council.

Cllr. RJ requested he also provide specific details about what services currently exist at Louth Hospital, what services have been lost in the last couple of years and which services might be at risk. Mr. Morgan said that none were currently at risk to his knowledge. The CCG would need to do their piece of work first before this might become apparent.

Cllr. Mrs. EB asked what the difference was between an Urgent Care Centre and A & E. Mr. Morgan replied that there were three grades of A & E: 1) A general hospital, offering consultant led care with an ITU (Intensive Therapy Unit) which has state of the art monitoring and life-support equipment so that normal body functions can be observed and supported whilst the patient is unwell. 2) A hospital specialising in some way e.g., Children's Hospital or Eye Hospital and then 3) a hospital which has a minor injury unit, is not consultant led, has no ITU.

Cllr. LMS wondered if Louth could ever be raised to a grade 1 A & E. Mr. Morgan said no, not in the next ten years, he does not think it'll ever be on the cards.

Cllrs. thanked Mr. Morgan for attending.  
Mr. Morgan left the meeting.

The Mayor announced that she was aware that comments had been made about her and Council staff on social media. She opined that everyone has an entitlement to freedom of speech and their opinions should not be suppressed. She asked all Councillors to ensure that should they encounter any issues that they emphasise the open door policy and ensure that conversations are productive by contacting the council for advice. She said that singling out individuals could be seen as damaging reputations and possible defamation for which advice would be sought using the legal advice service through our Insurance provider. She advised that the council has a complaints policy which covers all circumstances and she pointed Cllrs. in the direction of Section 127 of the Communications Act 2003 and Section 1 of the Malicious Communications Act 1988 for further information.

Cllr. FWPT thanked everyone for their kind cards and calls and thoughts and wishes while he was ill.

Cllr. AL warned that social media offences were being cracked down on by the police as a lot were coming before him in the Magistrates Courts.

Cllr. Mrs. MO asked if the Mayor could send a letter to Reverend Nick Brown to congratulate him on being commissioned to be the Rural Dean of Louthesk.

**96. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors J. Speed (JS), J. Garret (JG) and D.E. Wing (DEW).

**97. Chairman's Remarks**

The Chairman remarked that she was concerned that residents were not being notified of applications before they came to Town Council for consideration. Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. PFW, seconded by Cllr. AL it was **RESOLVED** that a letter should be sent to Mr. Panton at ELDC.

**98. Declarations of Interest**

- a. Cllr. Mrs. PFW declared an interest in any item from or relating to ELDC – as a member of ELDC and in planning application 4 – as a director of Magna Vitae.
- b. Cllr. RJ – agenda items 7a and b – as a member of ELDC.
- c. Cllr. Mrs. JMS – agenda items 6, 7 and 8 – as a member of ELDC.
- d. Cllr. FWPT – agenda item 7a and b and planning application 4 – as a member of ELDC and planning application 3 as an acquaintance of the applicant.
- e. Cllr. CG – agenda item 7b – as a member of ELDC.
- f. Cllr. DT – planning application 7 – as an acquaintance of the applicant.
- g. Cllr. AL – planning application 7 – as a business competitor.

**99. Minutes**

Following a proposal by Cllr. DJEH, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. MO it was **RESOLVED** to approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

**100. Town Clerk's Report on Matters Outstanding**

The Town Clerk had no outstanding matters to report on.

**101. Applications received by the Local Planning Authority**

The Committee considered the applications listed in the schedule (PA/Schedule 06-27-17) and **RESOLVED** as follows:

- a. 1) N/105/00378/17 – Louth Town Council unanimously (of those able to vote) **OBJECT** to this development. Whilst this amendment refers to the opening up onto Blanchard Road to satisfy Fire Service requirements, the principles of the objections have not changed. The impact of the development and this amendment will have fundamental impacts not only on local / neighbouring residents but also on the sustainability of the town itself. This area of the town and this site in particular has already been subject to a much larger application which was dismissed after a public inquiry in which the Inspector concluded ' that the appeal scheme is not sustainable.....the adverse effects on the town and surrounding countryside attract very great weight. In this they are sufficient, **CUMULATIVELY**, to significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits....  
The Town Council wishes its previous submitted comments to remain unchanged and to

add its very great concerns that whilst the larger development appeal was dismissed there is a very great danger that it will be recreated by creeping smaller development sites without any benefits and as the Housing allocation for the District is now satisfied this application should be refused.

- a. 2) N/105/00431/17 – Louth Town Council again unanimously (of those voting) OBJECT to this application for the same reasons as previously submitted with the additional justification of the Anglian Water Report and wildlife considerations.  
The local District Councillor has been requested to Call in the Application to ensure that it is discussed by the Planning Committee.
- b. 8) N/105/00980/17 – to defer pending more information as Noise and Air Pollution Assessments not present for review.
- c. To support all other applications.

NB Planning applications 3 and 5 were not discussed as they had been included on the schedule in error having been resolved upon at earlier meetings. Cllr. Mrs. PFW left the room during the discussion on planning application 4.

## 102. Planning Correspondence

The Committee noted that the following notifications had been received:

### a. Planning Decisions (Variances)

- i. N/105/00737/17 103 Kidgate – Windows – Refused Planning Permission by ELDC which was supported by LTC by virtue of double glazed panes and external glazing bars would harm the character of the building, and thus the contribution that the building, and the grouping it sits within, makes to the Conservation Area.....

Cllr. Mrs. JMS observed that Louth was covered by a Section 4 which means that all replacement doors and windows should have planning permission in the Conservation Area.

- ii. N/105/ 635/17 Cistercian Cottage – Outline erection of dwelling – Refused Planning Permission by ELDC Planning Committee which was supported by LTC - National Planning Policy Framework at paragraph 55 states that housing should be located where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities and Local Planning Authorities should avoid new isolated homes in the countryside unless there are special circumstances. In this case the site is within a countryside location and part of the agricultural/rural landscape where those special circumstances are required. No such case has been made by the applicant and therefore the proposal represents an unjustified new dwelling in the countryside.

### b. Planning Enforcement

Complaints regarding the following ‘Untidy Land’ are being followed up by ELDC at the following locations:

- i. 1 Grosvenor Road
- ii. Land rear of 70 Church Street

## 103. Proposed Work to Trees

The Committee objected to the following proposed work to trees as no reason had been given and they were of the opinion that felling should be the last course of action after all other solutions, such as pollarding, had been considered:

- a. 64 Westgate – T1 Magnolia spp – Fell – No reason given.

## 104. Next Meeting

The Committee noted that the date of the next scheduled meeting was Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2017.

The Meeting Closed at 8.24pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Chairman)

Dated \_\_\_\_\_