

GAINSBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of the Planning and Development Committee held at Richmond House, Richmond Park, Morton Terrace, Gainsborough on Thursday 30 January 2014 at 6:38pm

Present: Councillor Mick Tinker (Chairman)
Councillor David Dobbie
Councillor Paul Key

In Attendance: Clerk to the Council
Deputy Clerk to the Council

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND REASONS GIVEN

Councillor Robin Perry
Councillor Matthew Boles

RESOLVED to accept the apologies for absence and the reason give.

2. TO RECEIVE MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCALISM ACT 2011 AND TO RECEIVE ANY APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

None received.

3. MINUTES (Paper A)

i. Meeting of the Planning and Development Committee held on Tuesday 10 September 2013

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning and Development Committee meeting held on Tuesday 10 September 2013 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Note: Councillor Barry Coward arrived at 6:44pm.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

i. Application Ref No.: 130820
Proposal: Planning application for construction of joiner's shop to serve existing factory, including realignment of front boundary fence
Location: AMP Rose Somerby Way Gainsborough Lincolnshire DN21 1XP

RESOLVED that Members had no objections to the application.

- ii. Application Ref No.: PL/0011/14 (W33/109/ /14)
Proposal: Environment Act 1995 - Review of Mining Sites. The First Periodic Review of the Mining Site at Gainsborough Oil and Gas Field, in the Parishes of Gainsborough, Morton, Blyton, Thonock, Pilham, Corringham, Upton and Lea. Minerals permissions relating to the site and which are subject to review: GR25/59, GU27/59, W109/1185, W109/211/85, W33/902/85 (previously subject to an Initial Review under reference W/0980/98).
Location: Gainsborough Oil and Gas Field, - various sites and associated pipelines, Gainsborough 1 Site, Corringham Road Industrial Estate, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire

Discussion ensued and concerns were made with regards to the potential link with shale gas fracking. Councillor Dobbie raised concerns that the application had only just appeared on Lincolnshire County Council website. Councillor Dobbie mentioned that the site had been purchased by IGas who are publicly reported as being connected with shale gas fracking. Councillor Dobbie had a number of other related concerns which Members noted. The Chair reminded Councillor Dobbie that the application states that it is not related to shale gas fracking.

RESOLVED that Members requested a extension to the consultation period, to raise concerns over the future business plan for the site, and request clarification when the next review of the sites will be.

Note: Councillor Isherwood and 1 member of the public arrived at 6:57pm.

- iii. Application Ref No.: PL/0010/14
Proposal: To regularise the location of two leachate storage tanks, ancillary compressor and oil storage containers
Location: Gainsborough Landfill Site, lea Road, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire

RESOLVED that Councillors had no objections to the application.

- iv. Application Ref No.: 130847
Proposal: Prior approval to extend dwellinghouse 6m from rear wall of original dwellinghouse, 2.4m to height of eaves of enlarged part dwellinghouse and 3.6m to highest point of enlarged part of dwellinghouse
Location: 209 Ropery Road, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire

RESOLVED that Councillors had no objections to the application.

- v. Application Ref No.: 130801
Proposal: Planning application for substitution of house types from 2no. two and a half storey semi-detached dwellings to 2no. two storey semi-detached dwellings.
Location: The Avenue/Belt Road Site Gainsborough, Lincolnshire

RESOLVED that Councillors had no objections to the application.

5. STREET NAMING

None received.

6. TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS

- i. Reference No.: 032630
Proposal: Fell one holly tree nearest to the war memorial, within the Conservation Area.
Location: War Memorial on corner of The Old Hall, Parnell Street, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, DN21 2NB.

The Clerk advised Members that the Royal British Legion had approached him regarding a wider scheme of works to the War Memorial and that the issue will be going before the Community Services Committee at its next meeting.

RESOLVED to refer to the Community Services Committee, to consider with the wider scheme referred to by the Clerk.

7. MOTION REFERRED FROM FULL COUNCIL

- i. Motion received from Councillor Barry Coward

That this council seeks to make a joint submission with West Lindsey District Council to the Planning Enquiry to be held in February 2014 to ensure the strategic requirements of Gainsborough are effectively presented.

Background:-

The draft Central Lincolnshire Core Strategy covering North Kesteven, Lincoln and West Lindsey area is due to go before the Planning Inspectorate via public enquiry in February. The public consultation was held during August 2013 and as such Gainsborough Town Council were unable to prepare a submission.

The Central Lincolnshire Core Strategy is the strategic planning document for Gainsborough over the next twenty years and as such it is important that Gainsborough's future development is correctly represented in the document.

The Strategy focuses on Lincoln / North Hykeham urban area with Sleaford, and to a lesser extent, Gainsborough as satellites.

However as Gainsborough is a growth point set to double in size during the period of the plan I consider Gainsborough has to develop as a hub of its own with axes running out to Lincoln, Newark, Retford, Doncaster, Scunthorpe and Grimsby. This presents problems with the Core Strategy as presently conceived as there appears to be no dovetailing with neighbouring plans in Nottinghamshire, North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire.

Gainsborough has to attract employment from a wider range of industries than perceived in the plan which appears to rely on the construction industry to employ Gainsborough folk (what happens when all the houses are built I wonder). Likewise the extra 20,000 folk who are to be enticed to live in Gainsborough cannot be matched by a simultaneous rise in employment in the town as envisaged in the plan. It will therefore be necessary to ensure good transport, both highway and public transport, along the axes listed above to encourage sufficient economic activity. Good transport links will also benefit not only the towns at the end of each axis but the villages and towns along and close to these lines of communication.

None of this appears to be featured in the Central Core Strategy, but in my view it is essential if development over the next 20 years is to be sustainable.

The Clerk advised that he had spoken with Suzanne Fysh from WLDC, and confirmed that she had offered to give a presentation to the Council later in the year once the Joint Planning Unit had themselves determined their precise plans for taking the project forward following the withdrawal of the Central Core Strategy.

8. WIND TURBINE – GAINSBOROUGH LANDFILL SITE (Paper C)

Members noted the response received from Lincolnshire County Council.

RESOLVED that no further action to be taken.

9. PLANNING COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

Members considered the future operational structure of the committee and relevant training opportunities for committee members. It was noted that as the Council had been dealing with other priorities in recent months that the Committee had not been effective as it could be but that as the Council continues its recovery it would now look to strengthen its procedures as a statutory consultee on planning applications for Gainsborough.

RESOLVED as follows:

1. To hold a Committee meeting once a month.
2. Members to submit their observations by e-mail to the Clerk/Deputy Clerk on applications that will be out of time for formal response to WLDC at the next relevant committee meeting. The Clerk/Deputy Clerk will submit those observations to WLDC but those observations to be reviewed by members along with applications that remain in date at each meeting.
3. To print a copy of applications for Councillors to view in the office once available on the WLDC website.
4. To approve a spend of £300 for planning training to be provided by Globe Planning Consultants that will be made available to all members and which the Clerk will organise and invite members accordingly.

The meeting concluded at 7:40pm.

Chairman