

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
PLANNING CONTROL COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2012 AT 3.00 P.M.

IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 1

PRESENT:
Councillors

Kraujalis, J.T. (Vice-Chairman-in the Chair)

Allen, F.W.C.

Bernard, J.D.

Fisher, P.

Freeman, Miss .M

Jones, R. (substituting for Davies, D.N.)

Morgan, C.W.J.

Pearson, A.

Rowley, J.

Whitehouse, Mrs. L.

(In the absence of the Chairman, Councillor Mrs. S. Cartwright, the Vice-Chairman, Councillor J.T. Kraujalis took the Chair).

224. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs. S. Cartwright (Chairman), D.N. Davies, Mrs. P.Z. Stretton, M. Sutherland, Mrs. D.M. Todd and R. Todd.

225. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members

No other Declarations of Interests were made in addition to those already confirmed by Members in the Register of Members' Interests.

226. Disclosure of lobbying of Members

None disclosed.

227. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 November, 2012 be approved as a correct record subject to Councillor J. Bernard being added to the list of Members present.

228. Members' requests for site visits

There were no requests for site visits.

229. Application CH/12/0324, Retention of Perimeter Fence, Silver Trees Holiday Park, Stafford Brook Road, Rugeley

Following a site visit by Members of the Committee, consideration was given to the Report of the Development Manager (Enclosure 6.1 – 6.9 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

The Development Manager circulated an update to Members. He advised that the following comments had been received from the Council's Landscape Officer:-

The site is within the Green Belt, the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and partially within a Special Area of Conservation.

The close board fence introduces a very urban feel to the area heightening the sense of enclosure and thus of development. This creates a negative feel to the general open nature of the area and detrimental to the visual quality of the area and AONB, especially given the amount of fencing installed.

The submitted photos show area of apparent dead wood to the conifers and thus justifying erecting a fence to hide this; however it appears from the photos that this lower section has been pruned back to allow installation of the fence thus removing any green growth and exposing the dead, non leaf section.

The section of boundary along Penkrige Bank Road including the woodland strip was to be improved and maintained including improvements to the hedge under previous consents in order to screen the increased expanse of caravan parking area. Clearly this has not been done.

The use of a post and rail fence would have been more appropriate to define a rural boundary and could incorporate wire mesh along the rear to aid security. Such a fence combined with a native hedge and associated with removal of non native conifers that clearly have not been maintained, would be the appropriate solution and one that would be more in keeping with the local landscape and its designation.

The proposal would not be supported in present form due to detrimental effects on the landscape character and visual issues.

The officer recommendation was for the application to be deferred to allow Officers to discuss the matters raised by the Landscape Officer with the applicant.

The Development Manager also advised that he would investigate the boundary treatments and report back at the next meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the application be deferred to a further meeting of the Committee to allow Officers to discuss the matters raised by the Landscape Officer with the applicant.

CHAIRMAN

The meeting closed at 3.05pm.