

Minutes of a meeting of the PLANS COMMITTEE held at The Winter Gardens, Ventnor, IW on 22nd September 2008.

Present: Councillor Mrs.S.J.Scoccia (Presiding)
Councillors A.C.Bartlett, Mrs.M.Cawley, J.S.Fitzgerald-Bond, B.M.Lucas, R.J.Mew and M/s D.Robinson.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor C.J.Elvers.

1. CHAIRMAN

In the absence of the Chairman, Councillor C.J.Elvers, the Town Mayor presided.

2. ST.CATHERINE'S CHURCH

Rev, Graham Morris attended the meeting and made a presentation to members explaining the plans for the future restoration and development of the church and churchyard. He said that the condition of the churchyard was of great concern, many of the memorials being in a broken and dangerous state with the inscriptions now illegible. He explained how the PCC would like to remove and resite these stones and lay out the area as a garden with improved access which would become a focal point for the town. He went on to describe the dilapidated state of the tower which was in need of extensive repair at an estimated cost of £220,000. English Heritage had been involved in the proposals since 2007 and application for grant aid was being made to that body and other potential sources of financial assistance.

Rev Morris displayed pictures of the present condition of the churchyard and the tower and described the works proposed. He answered members questions and said that at this stage the PCC would appreciate the views of the Town Council on the project.

The Town Council welcomed the plans which would be a great improvement to a prominent feature of the town and increase the potential use of an area which was at present very much in need of restoration and were very pleased to give their full support to the scheme described.

The Town Mayor thanked Rev.Morris for his presentation and giving the Town Council an early opportunity to make their views known.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th September 2008 were approved and signed.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs.S.J.Scoccia declared an interest as a member of the Development Control Committee and did not vote upon planning applications.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

It was Resolved -

(a) That the Planning Authority be informed that the Town Council see no reason why planning permission should not be issued in respect of the following applications

P/01953/08 TCP/23140/A Single storey rear extension to form sun room - 2
Barn Close

P/01896/08 TCP/21758/B Alterations; extension to provide additional living
accommodation; conservatory - Queen Mary Cottage,
Old Park Road

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS (Continued)

(b) That the Planning Authority be recommended to refuse planning consent in respect of the following application for the reasons listed:

P/01323/08 TCP/14784/A Demolition of detached garage; two storey side extension to form garage and gated courtyard with bedroom accomodation above; external stairs on rear elevation to access 1st floor terrace with balustrading - 46 Ocean View Rd. - the proposal is an overdevelopment of the site; the Committee are concerned with ground stability in area of the proposed development; the development is out of keeping with adjoining properties and the existing street scene.

(c) The Committee were unable to make a majority decision regarding the following application the voting being equally split and therefore make no comment upon the application to the Planning Authority:

P/01916/08 TCP/14487/M Conversion of house into 2 houses to include replacement porches - 35 Madeira Road.

NOTE: Councillors Mrs.M.Cawley and J.S.Fitzgerald-Bond declared personal interests in Plan No. P/01916/08 and did not vote thereon.

Councillors Mrs.M.Cawley, J.S.Fitzgerald-Bond, B.M.Lucas and R.J.Mew declared personal interests in Plan No. P/01953/08 and did not vote thereon.

6. REMOVAL OF RED TELEPHONE BOXES BY BT

Councillor Mrs.S.J.Scoccia referred to a message from thePlanning Department relating to the removal of red telephone boxes. It was understood that if the Town Councils wished to adopt the red boxes (without a telephone in them) they could do so and use them for other purposes subject to a charge and other conditions concerning future upkeep. Members could see little point in such an arrangement. Councillor Scoccia said she would obtain further information and circulate it to members via e-mail and they could consider what action to take. The deadline for a response to BT is 1st October. It was agreed that the Town Mayor and Town Clerk be authorised to reply in line with the views expressed by members when all details were known.

Chairman