

## ATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

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DOCUMENT	<b>MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING</b>
VENUE	Town Council Chamber, North Street
DATE AND TIME	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> . April 2015 start 7pm
IN ATTENDANCE	Town Councillors: Jarvis, L Freer, Shaw, R Freer, Clews, Barker, Gurney, G Davis, M Davis, Pickard, County Cllr: N Dirveiks Public: J Rayner, R Rayner, R Hardy, C Jarvis, S Minshull, I Minshull, R Williams.
APOLOGIES	Town Cllrs: Clark, Singh, Barnard. Borough Cllrs: L Dirveiks
CHAIRMAN	Cllr Barker
CLERK	Mr Graham Day

Item		Actions	Notes
1.	<b>APOLOGIES</b> It was resolved to accept the Town Councillor's apologies. Proposed Cllr Shaw, seconded Cllr G Davis.		
2.	<b>PUBLIC SESSION</b> Cllr Shaw said that there were 2 buildings, in Long Street, which had satellite dishes erected, in what was a conservation area. Mr Williams spoke about the recent planning application, for Alder Mill, to which the Town Council had made an objection. He had found the answer disappointing as the building work had not started, and there had been no objections from County Highways. Cllr Jarvis agreed that no work had started. Cllr M Davis said that the Council may have to visit and view sites in the future. Mr Williams said that all work previously done at the site had planning permission. Cllr R Freer said that the Council sometimes had to make decisions on the information given and were unable to view sites. Cllr L Freer said that traffic would only get worse and County should consider reducing the speed limit. Cllr N Dirveiks said he had already noted this. Cllr R Freer said that the Council worried that any intensification would only add to the issue. Mr Williams said that in 30+ years there had never been an accident outside Alder Mill, there had been on the corner of Old Holly Lane and nearer to the bridge where he had concerns about another access. Cllr Pickard said that the Bloors application, in June, would look at traffic speeds. Cllr N Dirveiks said that the situation is changing with the increase in traffic.		
3.	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, DISPENSATIONS FOR DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST, DECLARATIONS OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY</b> To be taken as and when.  P111 4/15		

<p>4.</p>	<p><b>PLANNING APPLICATIONS, REPLIES FROM NWBC PLANNING</b>  PAP/2015/0220, 81 Witherley Road, - removal of trees, trees are diseased and County Forestry Officer has inspected, to be removed to wildlife guidelines. In view of the reply from NWBC, it was resolved to withdraw the objection. Proposed Cllr M Davis, seconded Cllr L Freer.</p> <p>PAP/2015/0128, Alder Mill, demolition of glasshouses and erection of storage buildings.  Cllr Jarvis said that the application was not intensifying the site and nothing had been started. Cllr M Davis said that a mistake had been made by objecting.  Cllr Pickard proposed that the objection be withdrawn, this was seconded by Cllr Clews, Cllr R Freer said that it needed 9 Cllrs to rescind an existing resolution, a vote was taken and there were only 6 in favour, the proposal fell.  It was resolved to wait for the response from County Highways, the clerk to write to NWBC planning that the Town Council was concerned about the increase in housing adding to the traffic issues, and that the applicant was in favour of a speed reduction. Proposed Cllr R Freer, seconded Cllr L Freer.  Cllr L Freer thanked Mr Williams for his attendance.</p> <p>It was resolved to bring forward item 6, proposed Cllr Clews, seconded Cllr Jarvis.</p>		
<p>6.</p>	<p>Cllr Jarvis declared an interest.</p> <p><b>PLANNING CONSULTATION, QE SCHOOL, ATHERSTONE</b>  Application received from County Council NWB/15CC004  Proposed demolition of existing buildings and construction of new, 3 storey main school building and new sports hall; energy centre; creation of new natural turf playing pitch and social area; associated hard and soft landscaping.  Cllr R Freer said that the Council should take comments from the public. The members of the public agreed that Cllr Jarvis should speak on their behalf.  The following points were raised;  The appearance of the new building was not satisfactory,  The stated public consultation was actually a presentation with nothing being changed.  The new building being situated in a position detrimental to existing housing.  The access for pedestrians was mixed with vehicle access, coinciding at the corner with Witherley Road.. It was stated that Highways had objected to a second access/exit, by the bus stop, as no accidents had occurred.  There was no roadside parking, only the access road for the opposite houses.  It was stated that a small proportion of the site was bound by housing, this was not correct.  The building would not be several metres below road level. As stated.  The roof plant would be visible and not screened.</p> <p>P112 4/15</p>		

The building would be done to a budget and the lack of finance reduced the scope for local design.

The building material is grey concrete block, to differentiate it from surrounding housing, when in fact it should blend in. the entrance hall is bright orange.

The translucent material, on the upper level of the sports hall, will cause light pollution along with the car park lights.

There had been a lack of public consultation and involvement with the local community.

The County Council was both an applicant and planning authority. 150 attended the event on 12<sup>th</sup>. February, although most accepted the design, very few would be local residents.

Cllr Clews thanked Cllr Dirveiks for his attendance.

Cllr L Freer said that only 6 replies were included in the statement, any other replies should be released. This school is one of six being built, with design limitations due to economy. The County Regulatory Board will only be seeing pictures, which seemed misleading, and they should visit the site.

Cllr Shaw said he was pleased to see the attendance at the meeting, he commented that the system is referred to as shovel ready.

Cllr Dirveiks said that the building would look like some of the old factories in Atherstone.

Cllr Pickard said that residents were being bulldozed, with the plans being 31miles away in Warwick, the response of local people was important and they should be asked for comments.

Cllr Jarvis said that children would be encouraged to cycle to school but only 30 places for cycles would be provided.

It was stated that the perimeter fence would be a minimum 8ft. high (like a prison).

It was stated that it had been promised that the hedge would be maintained, but it was not shown on the plan.

It was not clear how the school would be increased for more children.

Cllr Clews said it had been stated that site traffic would be held on the A5, but it was not clear how or where.

Cllr R Freer said that the school capacity would not be adequate considering the amount of new houses to be built.

Refurbishing the quadrangles and the grammar school and creating an access from the A5 should be considered. The PFI meant that taxpayers had to rent back from builder and even maintenance would have to be done by approved contractors.

There would be no direct public access to the sports hall.

The existing trees/bushes should be kept.

The parking would be inadequate with the number of staff to the parking spaces.

It was agreed to send the replies to the Town Council letter (from County and the EFA) to NWBC planning.

Cllr Jarvis said that the method statement should be obtained from the builder.

There should be no parking on the access road in front of the opposite houses.

Cllr Dirveiks said that only planning reasons would be taken into account, and that many replies should be sent.

P113 4/15

He said that the school had been sold off and was not under the responsibility of the County.

Cllr M Davis agreed that as many replies as possible should be sent and asked whether anyone could assist with planning objections. It was said that on the plans trees were shown on the housing side which were not there.

It was said that the access for the pupils would be much safer halfway down the drive and not on the corner of the road.

Cllr R Freer said that the proposed chicken farm at Mancetter had been opposed by organising a public meeting with planning and the applicants. It was agreed that a public meeting be organised.

Mr Williams said that he had been a governor of the school, and that when 250-300 parents attended the school the parking was inadequate. He said that the design was not in line with the National Planning Policy Landscape Design and could affect the view of any listed building.

Cllr Dirveiks said that the only listed part was the façade of the old headmaster's house, which would not be affected. Mr Williams said that it could also include the curtilage.

Cllr Dirveiks said that the old building was not fit for purpose, with the quadrangles bad for working, and cold and draughty in the winter. He said that comments should be positive so as not to frighten off investment.

Mr Williams said that the design should be a compromise between the residents and the designers.

Cllr L Freer said that the County had made the school an academy, without consultation. It was on the edge of a conservation area, and near to an old burial ground. She said that the planning consultation also coincided with the election period for local councils.

Cllr R Freer said that he did not accept that then quadrangles could not be altered and the old grammar school utilised, no one had looked what was really needed.

Cllr Dirveiks said that County did not make the school an academy, it had been imposed through central government, and that the planning application was done through the EFA.

Cllr L Freer said that the new school should go behind the quadrangles, nearer to the A5, and access should be made safer.

Cllr Jarvis said that the building shown did not look to scale, the Town Council should organise a public meeting with as large an attendance as possible, and demand that the Regulatory Board attends. It was resolved to ask for an extension to reply, and to have a public meeting, proposed Cllr Jarvis, seconded Cllr Pickard.

Cllr Barker said that taxpayers would be paying for generations.

Cllr Jarvis said that the Vicar had offered the use of St Mary's Church.

Cllr L Freer said this was a bad message to give children, if this was the architecture of the future, many good schools and universities had old buildings.

Cllr Dirveiks said that replies ought to be allowed up to the Regulatory Board meeting of 9<sup>th</sup>. June. He said that many parents had probably not seen the plans and were unaware of the safety issues.

It was resolved to put a notice of the public meeting, and plans in the Atherstone Herald.

7.	<p><b>MARKET SQUARE STALLS AND CANOPIES</b></p> <p>The clerk reported that the signed grant agreement had been returned to NWBC. (total £24773)</p> <p>The clerk reported that the demonstration of the stalls and canopy had been carried out.</p> <p>The clerk reported that cost of the canopy was £10598 with logos, or without logos £6495.</p> <p>The cost of the stalls was £1030 (including logo and weights) each . Cost for groundworks on Market Square not obtained to date.</p> <p>It was resolved to order the double star canopy and 15 stalls. The canopy to be without printed logo, both coloured white. The groundworks and folding tables for the stalls to be ordered if within the total grant amount. Proposed Cllr M Davis, seconded Cllr G Davis.</p> <p>The clerk presented a quotation received from local company to erect/dismantle and store the canopy and stalls (c/o Smithy Farm Shop.)</p> <p>Stalls £20 each (must have minimum amount/charge)</p> <p>Canopy £250 each time.</p> <p>Storage/maintenance/cleaning £500 per year.</p> <p>Tarpaulins needed for wet days to transport canopy.</p> <p>It was resolved to place an order to the quotation, proposed Cllr Barker, seconded Cllr G Davis.</p>		
<b>The meeting closed at 9.15pm.</b>			

Signed ..... Chairman of Atherstone Town Council