

Mere Town Council

TOWN CLERK - MRS. L. C. WOOD

Minutes of a Town Council meeting held on Wednesday, 26th April 2017 at 6.45 p.m. in The Grove Building, Church Street, Mere

Present: Councillors: B. Norris (Chairman), J. Jordan (Vice-Chairman), N. Beale, C. Hazzard, R. Hill, Mrs. J. Hurd, G. Jeans, Mrs. K. Symonds & Mrs. L. Traves

Public Session

The Chairman will convene the Town Council meeting after the public session (please note that members of the public are no longer permitted to speak unless invited to do so by the Chairman).

Mr. Vernon Phillips of Pettridge Lane thanked the Town Council for taking time to review this re-submitted planning application. He said that the revision reduces the footprint by 15%. An upstairs window has been removed from the drawings but he said that the proposed dwelling will be crammed into a small site and the scale and design will not be sympathetic to the street scene. He said that pine cladding was out of character with the area.

Apologies for absence received from Cllrs. P. Coward & E. Mitchell.

127. To receive declarations of interest from members and to consider requests for new DPI dispensations.

Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Mere Town Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

- None received

128. Planning

a) Applications: (All applications can be viewed on Wiltshire Council's website <http://planning.wiltshire.gov.uk/Northgate/PlanningExplorer/ApplicationSearch.aspx> – and type in the relevant application number)

Application Ref: 17/02603/FUL
Application for: Full Planning
Proposal: Erect new 2 bedroom chalet type dwelling and the formation of a new access (resubmission of 16/12436/FUL)
At: Peacehaven, Pettridge Lane, Mere. BA12 6DG

The Chairman reminded members that a planning application for this site had been considered at the February Town Council meeting and that members had objected stating that *'the proposal would constitute overdevelopment of a small site. The proposed dwelling being too large for the size of the plot. The Town Council felt that the scale and design of the proposed dwelling would over-dominate the surrounding dwellings and look out of character in the street scene. The Town Council suggested that the applicant should re-think the design and amend to a smaller less dominant alternative.'*

Members noted that the applicant had made an effort to make the property smaller and to make it more parallel with the road. However, Cllr. Mrs. Symonds said that it seemed unnecessary to build a separate dwelling with a separate entrance to provide for carers accommodation as this was usually addressed with an annexe. She also felt that timber cladding was not in keeping with the area. Cllr. Mrs. Traves said that it was backland development and would become a separate dwelling in time. Cllr. Beale said that it was clear that it would be a separate dwelling. Cllr. Jeans said that although he would abstain from voting, he wanted it noted that Breezlands in Pettridge Lane now had timber cladding. Cllr. Mrs. Hurd said it was a bad precedent to start building houses in gardens.

RESOLVED to recommend refusal of the application for the following reasons: The Town Council notes that the applicant has made an attempt to reduce the size of the proposed dwelling, members still felt that it would constitute overdevelopment of a small site and that the scale and design of the proposed dwelling would over-dominate the surrounding dwellings and look out of character in the street scene. Proposal made by Cllr. Mrs. Traves, seconded by Cllr. Norris and carried with a vote of 7 for and 2 abstentions. In order not to compromise his position as Wiltshire Councillor, Cllr. Jeans abstained from voting.

Meeting closed at 18.56 p.m.

Note: Members are reminded that the Town Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights.