

**MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28TH
JANUARY 2009 AT 7.00PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SIMPSON CENTRE, STOTFOLD**

Committee Members present: A Cooper (Chairman
B Collier Mrs M Cooper
Mrs L Lewin B Saunders
M Smith Mrs C Turner

Also present: Councillor Mrs Bundock and the Clerk

2779. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs Wilding and Mrs Hyde.

2780. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of Members interests.

MATTERS ARISING

2781. Planning Applications (see minute 2776)

A letter has been sent to the Planning Department at the District Council expressing the Committee's strong concerns regarding applications such as 1 Prince Harry Close, and the potential of further applications on other developments.

It appears that what is marked as amenity land is being included on the deeds of properties being sold by the developers as part of the plot. Therefore the developers appear to be selling land they don't own. Councillor Mrs Turner will bring this matter up at the next District Council Development Control Committee meeting. Members felt that when similar applications are received for comment we should state that it is amenity land and must stay as such and be in the ownership of the local authority.

A letter will be sent to the Chairman, Chief Executive and Solicitor of Mid Beds District Council to advise them of the apparent selling of land by the developers for Prince Harry Close which is not in their ownership, and for which they are submitting planning applications as if it was. A request will be made for a definition of 'amenity land' and how it can be protected.

2782. CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items of correspondence to report.

2783. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE COPY OF CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING TOYBOX DAY NURSERY, BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE BY COUNCILLOR MRS TURNER, AS REFERRED TO AT THE 9TH JANUARY 2009 MEETING

Members were previously circulated a copy of a letter from Toybox Day Nursery to the Mid Beds District Council Planning Team regarding their recently approved planning application for 70 High Street. The letter is in the public domain and formed part of their original planning application

documents. Some of its content refers to the parking provision in relation to number of children at the nursery.

With regard to the statement in the letter that the Nursery will 'ensure all staff parking is away from the property on side streets. We can do this in the initial contracts we offer staff', concern was expressed that this could actually be added to a contract, and that the nearby side streets would not be able to cope with extra on street parking.

Concern was also expressed over the apparent deliberate intention to go against the planning permission granted, by resubmitting a separate proposal for a larger place nursery, and the fact that they wrote and notified the District Council of their intentions in the early planning application stages.

Recommended that

- i) A letter is sent to the District Council Planning Team to advise that the letter from Toybox Day Nursery to the District Council has been brought to our attention and we have noted its contents. When and if a further application is received for the property this Committee will be mindful of the contents of the letter, and suggest that the District Council also takes the content into account.
- ii) The Planning Enforcement Team are to check how many child places there are at the nursery in three months time, subject to no new application for increase in places being received and approved in that time.

Councillor Smith requested that his name be recorded as voting against this recommendation.

A discussion ensued regarding the possibility of asking the nursery staff to not use our free shoppers car park for all day parking, however it was felt that this was a matter for the Recreation Grounds, Public Lands and Lighting Committee to consider.

Recommended that the matter of asking nursery staff, or any other driver, to not use the free shoppers car park for all day parking be referred to the Recreation Grounds, Public Lands and Lighting Committee for consideration.

2784. DECISION NOTICES

Members were circulated the list of Planning Decision Notices recently received.

Resolved that the Planning Decision Notices as listed and forming part of these Minutes be noted.

2785. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members considered the planning applications before them and it was:

Resolved that the comments made on the planning applications as listed and forming part of these minutes be forwarded to Mid Beds Planning Department.

2786. TO CONSIDER A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE ATTENDING THE DEVELOPMENT CONTROL MEETING AT MID BEDS DISTRICT COUNCIL RELATING TO ANY OF THE ABOVE QUOTED PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Resolved that it is not necessary for a representative of this Committee to attend the Development Control Meeting at Mid Beds District Council on behalf of the Town Council.

2787. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

There were no items for information purposes only.

There being no further relevant business the meeting was declared closed at 7.43pm

CHAIRMAN

DATED