

MEETING AN.13:1011
DATE 27:04:11

South Somerset District Council

Draft Minutes of a meeting of the **Area North Committee** held in the Village Hall, Long Sutton on **Wednesday, 27th April 2011**.

(2.00 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.)

Present:

Members: Patrick Palmer (in the Chair)

Jill Beale	Jo Roundell Greene
Ann Campbell	Sylvia Seal
Tony Carvin	Sue Steele
Rupert Cox	Derek Yeomans
Roy Mills	

Officers:

Charlotte Jones	Area Development Manager (North)
Les Collett	Community Development Officer (North)
Adrian Noon	Area Lead North/East – Development Control
Andrew Blackburn	Committee Administrator

(**Note:** Where an executive or key decision is made, a reason will be noted immediately beneath the Committee's resolution.)

159. Minutes (Agenda item 1)

The minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd March 2011, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read and, having been approved as a correct record, were signed by the Chairman.

160. Apologies for Absence (Agenda item 2)

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Paul Robathan and Keith Ronaldson.

161. Declarations of Interest (Agenda item 3)

There were no declarations of interest.

162. Date of Next Meeting (Agenda item 4)

The Committee noted that there was no meeting scheduled to take place in May because of the elections and, therefore, the next meeting of the Area North Committee would be held on Wednesday, 22nd June 2011 at the Millennium Hall, Seavington.

163. Public Question Time (Agenda item 5)

There were no questions from members of the public.

164. Chairman's Announcements (Agenda item 6)

The Chairman referred to the e-mail that members would have received from the Area Development Manager (North) regarding the move of the Area North Development team to office accommodation at Bridge Barns, Long Sutton, with effect from 4th May 2011. He commented that the offices were just the right size with a good car park and would save the Council around £75,000 per year. The tenancy arrangements also provided flexibility for the future.

The Chairman referred to this being the last meeting of the Committee before the elections and he thanked all councillors for their support during his chairmanship. He further commented that he felt that the Committee had achieved an enormous amount and that it was viewed by the public as a progressive and helpful committee. He also thanked the Area Development Manager and all staff in Area North for their work in supporting the Committee. The Chairman further referred to Cllr. Ann Campbell and thanked her for the good support she had provided as Vice-Chairman over the last eight years.

The Chairman noted the comments of Cllr. Derek Yeomans who mentioned that he would be asking him to consider a request for a planning application to be discussed by the Committee.

165. Reports from Members (Agenda item 7)

Cllr. Jo Roundell Greene, Portfolio Holder for Economic and Organisational Development, referred to the District Council having been one of five local authorities shortlisted in the Municipal Journal Awards 2011 for the title 'Diversity Achievement of the Year'. The award was in recognition of a council's approach and work in relation to diversity. The Committee concurred with her remarks in thanking Cllr. Ann Campbell, who chaired the South Somerset Equality Steering Group, for all her efforts in furthering work in relation to diversity.

166. Area North Committee – Forward Plan (Agenda item 8)

Reference was made to the agenda report, which informed members of the proposed Area North Committee Forward Plan.

The Area Development Manager (North) further reported that a Committee Workshop was to be held on Wednesday, 25th May 2011, after the local elections, when members would have a further opportunity to discuss the Forward Plan for the new municipal year.

The following comments were made by members:-

- reference was made to the item regarding the Area North Affordable Housing Programme and comment expressed about its importance especially given the rural nature of the area. Members hoped that consideration of this item would not slip down in the forward plan;

- it was noted that the meeting dates for the submission to the Committee of the reports on the Council's Asset Strategy - Area North and on Huish Episcopi Sports Centre Management Agreement were still to be confirmed. Members commented that there was a need to be more specific with regard to the timescale for these reports to come to Committee and the Area Development Manager (North) agreed to follow this matter up with the Assistant Director (Finance and Corporate Services) and Assistant Director (Health and Wellbeing). The Area Development Manager (North) noted the suggestion of a member, which was supported by the Committee, that members be sent copies of her e-mails to officers concerning the submission of these reports to the Committee.

RESOLVED: that the Area North Committee Forward Plan as attached to the agenda be noted, subject to the above comments being taken into account.

(Resolution passed without dissent)

(Becky Sanders, Committee Administrator – 01935 462077)
(becky.sanders@southsomerset.gov.uk)

167. Planning Appeals (Agenda item 9)

The Committee noted the details contained in the agenda report, which informed members of planning appeals lodged, dismissed, and withdrawn.

NOTED.

(David Norris, Development Manager – 01935 462382)
(david.norris@southsomerset.gov.uk)

168. Planning Applications (Agenda item 10)

The Committee considered the application set out in the schedule attached to the agenda and the planning officer gave further information at the meeting and, where appropriate, advised members of letters received as a result of consultations since the agenda had been prepared.

(Copies of all letters reported may be inspected in the planning application file, which constitutes the background papers for this item).

10/04094/FUL (Pages 16-22) – The erection of 6 no. dwellinghouses (GR 339685/121721), John Alford Hambridge Ltd, Westmoor Lane, Hambridge – John Alford.

The Area Lead North/East, in updating members, reported that some inconsistencies in the submitted plans had been noticed by the case officer and the applicant had submitted amended plans on the 26th April 2011, which addressed those inconsistencies.

The Area Lead North/East, with the aid of slides and photographs, then summarised the details of the application as set out in the agenda report. He referred to the previous outline permission having lapsed but to there having been no changes in circumstances in the meantime. In mentioning the key considerations to be taken into account, he referred to the departure from planning policy, which he reported could be dealt with by this Committee. Reference was also made to the improvement of visual and residential amenity and to the

principle of the development of the site having been accepted. He further reported that there were no consultee or local objections to the application. The Area Lead North/East reported that the recommendation was one of approval subject to conditions as set out in the agenda report together with the amendment of condition 14 to reflect the amended plans received on the 26th April 2011 as referred to above.

Cllr. Sue Steele, ward member, commented that she was very much behind the application and referred to the village being a busy and thriving community with local facilities such as a shop, school and business park. She hoped that the Committee would accept the officer's recommendation of approval.

Other members also indicated their support for the application to be granted.

RESOLVED: that planning permission be granted subject to conditions 1-13 and informative note 1 as set out in the agenda report and the amendment of condition 14 to read as follows:-

The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans: 10.01, 10.02b, 10.03, 10.04a, 10.05, 10.06a, 10.07, 10.08a, 10.09, 10.10, 10.11 and 10.12a received 26/04/11.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

(Resolution passed unanimously)

(David Norris, Development Manager – 01935 462382)
(david.norris@southsomerset.gov.uk)

At the conclusion of the meeting, Cllr. Ann Campbell, Vice-Chairman, thanked Cllr. Patrick Palmer for his chairmanship of the Committee. She referred to the tremendous amount of work he put in behind the scenes and thanked him for his support during her time as Vice-Chairman. She reiterated the comments of the Chairman in thanking the officers for their support. She also referred to the Committee whose members she felt had made a good team and said farewell to those members who, like herself, would not be standing for re-election.

.....
 Chairman