

South Somerset District Council

Minutes of a meeting of the **Area North Committee** held at the **Council Chamber, Council Offices, Brympton Way, Yeovil BA20 2HT on Wednesday 25 May 2016.**

(3.30 - 4.30 pm)

Present:

Members: Councillor Clare Aparicio Paul (Chairman)

Neil Bloomfield	Jo Roundell Greene
Adam Dance	Dean Ruddle
Graham Middleton	Sylvia Seal
Stephen Page	Sue Steele
Shane Pledger	Derek Yeomans

Officers:

Helen Rutter	Area Development Manager (East) / Assistant Director (Communities)
Charlotte Jones	Area Development Manager (North) / Performance Manager
Paula Goddard	Senior Legal Executive
Adrian Noon	Area Lead (North/East)
Stephen Baimbridge	Planning / Enforcement Assistant
Becky Sanders	Democratic Services Officer

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

4. Minutes (Agenda Item 1)

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 April 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Apologies for absence (Agenda Item 2)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Tiffany Osborne and Crispin Raikes.

6. Declarations of Interest (Agenda Item 3)

Councillor Dean Ruddle declared a personal interest regarding planning application 16/01315/FUL as he is a member of Somerton Town Council.

7. Date of next meeting (Agenda Item 4)

Members noted the next meeting of Area North Committee was scheduled for 2.00pm on Wednesday 29 June, at a venue to be confirmed.

8. Public question time (Agenda Item 5)

Ms M Chambers addressed members regarding agenda item 10 – Area Development (North) – Review of 2015-16. She noted the two headings at the end of the report regarding climate change and equality implications, and queried if each project needed to be monitored on such policies and if so how were they monitored.

In response, the Chairman noted that a full written response would be provided by the Aea Development Team (North).

9. Chairman's announcements (Agenda Item 6)

The Chairman thanked Councillor Shane Pledger for his time as Area North Chairman for the last three years, and Councillor Dean Ruddle for his services as Vice Chairman over the past year. She also took the opportunity to thank Charlotte Jones for all her work as Area Development Manager (North) as she was transferring to work on the Transformation Programme.

10. Reports from members (Agenda Item 7)

Councillor Sue Steele referred to the recent Care Quality Commission (CQC) report for Musgrove Park Hospital where their recent inspection had graded the hospital as good overall, meaning the hospital was in the top 20% nationally.

Councillor Sylvia Seal reported that a long-standing member of the Ham Hill Ranger Team had been involved in a serious motor accident, and asked for members' patience if any tasks undertaken by the Countryside team were delayed. In response to the news, members asked that their best wishes were conveyed to the family.

11. Schedule of Planning Applications to be Determined By Committee (Agenda Item 8)

Members noted the schedule of planning applications to be determined at the meeting.

12. Planning Application 16/01315/FUL - 43 Walnut Drive, Somerton. (Agenda Item 9)

Proposal: Installation of external wall insulation and change of external finishes.

The Planning Assistant presented the application as detailed in the agenda and noted some concerns had been raised about the finish being render. He explained the reason

for the works and that the finish was proposed to be a light grey. The recommendation was for approval as it was felt on balance there were benefits to the proposal.

Mr D Harrison, spokesperson for Somerton Town Council, noted the roof at the property had been repaired but had not resolved the damp issues. The finish and colour would not be in keeping with the street scene. It was only one half of the semi-detached building that would be rendered and would project several inches from the neighbouring property. It was felt there were possibly other solutions to resolve the issue, including just rendering the gable end which would have less of a detrimental impact on the street scene.

Ward member, Councillor Dean Ruddle, noted another property along the road had had similar issues and dealing with the cavity ties had resolved the issue. He highlighted there were no other rendered buildings on the estate. He expressed disappointment with Yarlington as a landlord as they had been aware of the problem at the property for nearly three years. He did not support the application and proposed it be refused.

Ward member, Councillor Stephen Page, noted he had originally supported the application. However, having seen more information and heard comments made he felt the issue needed to be looked at again by Yarlington for an alternative solution.

During discussion, members expressed varying comments including:

- Need to see a surveyors report.
- Should be a better solution than this.
- Feel Yarlington would be doing best they could for the tenant.
- Should be strict controls on colour
- Do believe the wall/cavity ties need to be addressed.
- Only rendering half a semi-detached building is a lazy solution.

Multiple proposals were initially put forward and seconded to refuse, defer and approve the application, however these were all lost.

Following a further short debate, it was proposed to defer the application to receive a full surveyors report and technical information, and on being put to the vote this was carried 7 in favour, 4 against.

RESOLVED: That planning application 16/01315/FUL be DEFERRED to receive a full surveyors report and technical information.

(Voting: 7 in favour, 4 against)

13. Area Development (North) - Review of 2015-16 (Agenda Item 10)

The Area Development Manager (North) introduced the report as shown in the agenda and provided a short presentation which included information about:

- Statistical information about the service
- Local information centres
- Financial support to projects

During a brief discussion the Area Development Manager (North) responded to points of detail and explained changes to the future staff structure within the Area Development Team (North).

Members were content to note the report and presentation. They also expressed their gratitude and best wishes for the future to Teresa Oulds (Neighbourhood Development Officer). The Chairman thanked the Area Development Manager for her informative report.

RESOLVED: That the report and presentation be noted.

14. Area North Committee - Appointment of Members to Outside Organisations and Groups for 2016/17 (Executive Decision) (Agenda Item 11)

The Area Development Manager (North) introduced the report as detailed in the agenda.

During a very brief discussion, a member commented that the Langport Abattoir Liaison Group meets quarterly and not two or three times a year as stated in the report. The Area Development Manager (North) noted the update and agreed the information held on file would be changed.

There being no further discussion, members unanimously agreed that the same members continue to serve on the groups and organisations as had served in the previous year.

RESOLVED: It was resolved that:

- (1) Councillor Sue Steele be appointed as the member to represent Area North Committee regarding Community Safety / Neighbourhood Policing Liaison.
- (2) That the following members be appointed to the outside organisations and groups for 2016/17 as listed below:

Reason: To appoint district council representatives to outside organisations and groups.

Outside Organisation/Group	2016/17 Representatives
Somerset Levels & Moors Local Action Group Executive Board	Clare Aparicio Paul
Langport Abattoir Liaison Group	Clare Aparicio Paul Derek Yeomans
Martock Community Planning Partnership	Neil Bloomfield / Graham Middleton
Strode College Community Education Advisory Committee	Crispin Raikes
Huish Episcopi Leisure Centre Board	Clare Aparicio Paul Tiffany Osborne

(Voting: Unanimous in favour)

15. Scheme of Delegation - Development Control - Nomination of Substitutes for Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2016/17 (Executive Decision) (Agenda Item 12)

The Committee made the appointment of member to serve as the substitutes for Chairman and Vice Chairman.

RESOLVED: That, in line with the Development Control Revised Scheme of Delegation, Derek Yeomans (first substitute) and Sylvia Seal (second substitute) be appointed to act as substitutes for the Chairman and Vice Chairman to make decisions in the Chairman's and Vice Chairman's absence on whether an application should be considered by the Area Committee as requested by the Ward Member(s) for the year 2016/17.

Reason: To appoint two substitute members for the Chairman and Vice Chairman in line with the Development Control Scheme of Delegation for 2016/17.

(Voting: Unanimous)

16. Area North Committee Forward Plan (Agenda Item 13)

The Area Development Manager (North) noted there were no updates to the Forward Plan.

RESOLVED: That the Area North Committee Forward Plan be noted.

17. Planning Appeals (Agenda Item 14)

Members noted the report that detailed recent planning appeals which had been lodged, dismissed or allowed.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

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Chairman