



Devizes Town Council

www.devizes-tc.gov.uk

PLANNING COMMITTEE

You are summonsed to attend a meeting of the Planning Committee at the following, place and date.

Date: **THURSDAY 21 JANUARY 2010**

Time: 7.00pm.

Venue: Council Chamber, Town Hall, St John's Street, Devizes

Enquiries: Town Hall - Tel: 01380 722160

Chairman: Councillor Smith

Councillors:	Beinhorn	Mrs Burton	Callow
	East	Evans	Mrs Evans
	Gagen	Gudgeon	Hopkins
	Nash	Parsons	A R Taylor
	Mrs Taylor	C S Winchcombe	Mrs Winchcombe

AGENDA

1. MINUTES

To approve as a correct record and authorise the Chairman to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 5 January 2009 and which have been circulated alongside the agenda.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. DISCLOSURE(S) OF INTEREST

To receive any disclosure(s) of interest by a Councillor or an officer in matters to be considered at this meeting, in accordance with provisions of Sections 94 or 117 of the Local Government Act 1972 or the National Code of Local Government Conduct.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At the Chairman's discretion, members of the public attending the meeting will be allowed to ask questions, make a statement or address the Council upon a matter of concern to that person which is relevant to the Council. A time limit of 5 minutes per person will be permitted, but this may be extended at the Chairman's discretion and a maximum period of 20 minutes has been allocated by the Council for this item of business.

5. FOR DECISION – WILTSHIRE COUNCIL'S NOTICE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Details of Planning Applications for Consideration are attached (doc 5/1).

Members wishing to make enquiries about any of the applications listed or inspect plans before the meeting are advised to do so at the Planning Department, Wiltshire Council, Browfort, Bath Road, Devizes.

6. REPORT FOR INFORMATION – WILTSHIRE COUNCIL'S NOTICE OF PLANS GRANTED OR REFUSED

Attached (doc 6/1) a list of plans granted, refused or withdrawn.

7. REPORT FOR INFORMATION – REPRESENTATION OF AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE BY DEVIZES DIVISIONAL MEMBERS

At a meeting of this committee on the 8 December concerns were raised about the lack of representation by Devizes divisional members on the eastern area planning committee.

It was requested that officers write to both the Guardians, the political group which represents Devizes and Councillor Jane Scott, leader of Wiltshire Council to ascertain why there was no local representation and to seek an assurance that in future Devizes divisional members will sit on the Area Planning Committee.

Attached are docs 7/1 and 7/2, which respond to the issues raised. In summary Councillor Carter explains that the group took a conscious decision not to accept the one seat allocated to their group. In setting out the decision of the Guardians, he explained that in not being members of the Area Planning Committee, they are unfettered by the protocols associated with the committee membership, leaving them at every stage of the planning application to actively scrutinise its progress. In addition, they still have the ability to speak at the planning committee itself.

Councillor Scott confirmed in her letter that seats are allocated on the Area Planning Board based on a political proportional basis and therefore if a political group decides not to take up their allocated seat this is a matter for the relevant group.

8. REPORT FOR INFORMATION - GRITTING IN DEVIZES

At its meeting on the 5 January, the committee requested that the issue of gritting to be placed on agenda. Members at that meeting expressed concerns that there was no strategy for clearing snow and ice from the pavements in the town.

Officers at the time explained that salt had been given to the Council in order that we may be able to assist with clearing pavements.

After the snowfall on the night of the 5 January, the Town Council did support Wiltshire Council with snow clearance, however two of the three park staff were unable to make it into work as the live some distance from the town. Progress to clear the streets was slow with our limited resources.

Following heavy snowfalls on the night of the 12 January there seemed to be much more of a coordinated approach and therefore Town Council staff worked clearing the cemetery as we had a number of funerals taking place.

The committee did express concerns that we would carry some liability if an injury were to occur as a result of snow clearance undertaken by the Town Council. Wiltshire Council have confirmed that they would not pass on any claim should one be made. Officers have been told that some retailers are concerned that they will be liable if they clear snow and ice from the pavements in front of their shops.

9. REPORT FOR INFORMATION - LOCATION OF THE NEW PRIMARY CARE CENTRE & RETIREMENT VILLAGE

At the end of 2009 members had an opportunity to view plans for the new primary care centre. At that time it was explained that the Primary Care Trust favoured a new location for the facility near the new Quakers Walk development. The plans also include provision for a retirement village.

On the 12 January, Councillor Mrs Taylor attended a meeting organised by NHS Wiltshire in which questions could be given to them about the revised location of this facility.

Councillor Mrs Taylor will brief the committee on the outcome of that meeting which will give them a better understanding of the proposals prior to the committee being required to consider the application in early February.

PLANNING COMMITTEE
21 JANUARY 2010

This committee is reminded that this report is only for information and they should keep an open mind about the plans until they are formally consulted on on the planning application

10. QUESTION TIME

Members will be allowed a short period in which to put questions on matters within the remit of this Committee which are not contained in the reports of matters formally considered by the Committee at this meeting. The question may be answered at the meeting or may be referred back to the Committee at a later date. The question may not be the subject of any further details.

DEPUTY TOWN CLERK