

Planning (Action) Sub - Committee

Date and Time: 4th May 2020 at 10.32am

Place: Virtual Meeting via Teams

Present:

COUNCILLORS

Cllr Cockarill, Cllr Oliver, Cllr Southern, Cllr Quarterman

Officers:

Mark Jaggard – Head of Place

Emma Whittaker – Planning Manager

Maxine Lewis – Planning and Enforcement Team Leader

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

2 ITEM 1 – Nomination of Chairman.

Cllr Oliver nominated Cllr Cockarill

Cllr Quarterman seconded.

Unfortunately Cllr Cockarill's microphone was not functioning therefore a further nomination was made.

Cllr Southern nominated Cllr Oliver

Cllr Quarterman seconded.

All members present agreed and Cllr Oliver was appointed to Chair the meeting

Note: Cllr Cockarill was able to actively contribute to the meeting via the Teams chat function.

ITEM 2 – Planning Scheme of Sub-Delegation Paper.

Mrs Whittaker gave a brief presentation of the proposed changes and highlighted that due to unprecedented times revision to the current scheme is required. The proposal is a hybrid version of the current scheme. She clarified this also related to confirmation of Tree Preservation Orders.

Cllr Southern sought clarity on member referrals which was provided by Mrs Whittaker.

Cllr Oliver, Cllr Quarterman, Cllr Southern, Cllr Cockarill agreed the recommendation as set out in the Officer's report.

Resolved:

The Planning (Action) Sub-Committee adopts the Emergency Covid-19 Planning Scheme of Delegation (Appendix A) to replace the Planning Scheme of Delegation (December 2013); and

The Planning (Action) Sub-Committee authorises the following amendment to Power 173 of the Scheme of Delegation to Officers:

173. Planning Power to make Tree Preservation Orders and to determine applications made under the Order, ~~but not to determine Objections to Orders.~~

ITEM 3 – Statement of Community Involvement Paper.

Mrs Whittaker gave a brief presentation of the proposed change. She explained that we are currently unable to meet our adopted procedures and clarified that the requested changes will enable decision making to proceed despite current circumstances.

Cllr Southern sought clarification that neighbour notification letters are being issued. Mrs Whittaker confirmed.

Cllr Oliver sought clarification that properties opposite as well as adjoining are notified. Mrs Whittaker confirmed.

Cllr Southern sought clarification that these measures will only apply to the current lockdown situation, and, the situation would revert as soon as is possible.

Cllr Oliver sought clarification over the term "lockdown".

Mrs Whittaker clarified that at a recovery stage matters would be re-evaluated and that the situation would need review.

Mr Jaggard confirmed that these are temporary changes to enable business to run as usual.

Cllr Quarterman sought clarity on posting site notices. Mrs Whittaker advised this is currently not possible but the issue is constantly under review.

Cllr Oliver clarified that priority would be given to notices which are statutorily required. Mrs Whittaker clarified this would be the case and the issue would be constantly under review.

Cllr Southern clarified these changes will enable issuing decisions.

Members resolved that as soon as practically and reasonably possible, these measures be reviewed and reversed. This to be debated by the Portfolio Holder and the Joint Chief Executives at an appropriate time.

Cllr Oliver, Cllr Southern, Cllr Quarterman, Cllr Cockarill agreed the recommendation as set out in the Officer's report.

Resolved:

The Planning (Action) Sub-Committee recommends that the Portfolio Holder for Place Services requests that the Joint Chief Executives authorise temporary amendments to Appendix D (Consultation Procedures for Planning Applications) of the Council's Statement of Community Involvement as set out in Appendix A to the Officer's report.

The meeting closed at 11.02 am.