

FALKIRK COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the PLANNING COMMITTEE held ON SITE on FRIDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2010 commencing at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Buchanan, Constable (except agenda item P138); Lemetti, Mahoney (for agenda item P138 and application P/10/0622/FUL); A MacDonald (for agenda item P138 and applications P/10/0622/FUL); McLuckie, McNeill (for agenda item P138 and application P/10/0622/FUL); Nicol and Oliver (for agenda item P138 and application P/10/0622/FUL).

CONVENER: Councillor Buchanan.

ATTENDING: Head of Economic Development (for agenda item P138); Development Management Co-ordinator (D Campbell); Transport Planning Co-ordinator (K Collins) (for agenda item P138); Network Co-ordinator (for agenda item P138); Roads Development Co-ordinator (for applications P/10/0622/FUL, P/10/0666/FUL and P/10/0130/FUL); Assistant Planning Officer (K Hope) (for application P/10/0666/FUL); Assistant Planning Officer (G Clark) (for application P/10/0622/FUL); Environmental Health Officer (S Henderson) (for application P/10/0130/FUL); Legal Services Manager (I Henderson), and Committee Officer (A Sobieraj).

DECLARATIONS None.
OF INTEREST:

P138. ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984: 7.5T (WITH ACCESS) WEIGHT RESTRICTION, A905 BEANCROSS ROAD, GRANGEMOUTH

With reference to Minute of Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 3 November 2010 (Paragraph P122 refers), Committee gave further consideration to Report (circulated) dated 26 October 2010 by the Director of Development Services requesting Members consideration on whether to initiate proceedings for a Traffic Regulation Order for a 7.5T weight restriction on the A905 Beancross Road, Grangemouth between the Earls Park and Beancross roundabouts.

Members in the first instance met close to the new roundabout accessing Earls Gate Park at Caledon Green at the business park.

The Convener introduced the parties present.

The Network Co-ordinator outlined the nature of the report providing options for a weight restriction either on a full or a part time basis (between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 a.m.).

Mr Inglis, on behalf of Grangemouth Community Council, a consultee, was heard in relation to the application. The Community Council supported a full time weight restriction. It considered that a part time restriction was not sufficient and was unenforceable.

Questions were then asked by Members of the Committee.

Mr Duff, Head of Economic Development provided information in relation to the transport route for heavy vehicles, the economic effect that imposing a weight restriction could have and the operators' view that it is an important direct route. Mr Duff also commented on efforts to gain funding for infrastructure improvements.

Members thereafter attended at Beancross Roundabout where they met with local residents who had made comment to the Council following the initial consultation by Roads Services.

The meeting was thereafter re-convened with the local residents present.

The Convener introduced the parties present.

The Network Co-ordinator outlined the nature of the application.

Mr Inglis, on behalf of Grangemouth Community Council, a consultee, was heard in relation to the application.

Ms McDonald, a local resident, was heard in relation to the application.

Mr Haslem, a local resident, was heard in relation to the application.

Mr Clark, a local resident, was heard in relation to the application.

Ms Aitken, a local resident, was heard in relation to the application.

Ms Snedden, a local resident, was heard in relation to the application.

Ms Smith, a local resident, was heard in relation to the application.

The local residents highlighted the following issues:-

- The number of lorries using the route;
- Environmental issues such as noise, pollution and vibration;
- Support for a full time weight restriction;
- That a part time restriction was not sufficient or enforceable; and
- Suggesting a potential alternative route for lorries.

Questions were then asked by Members of the Committee.

Mr Duff, Head of Economic Development provided information in relation to the transport route for heavy vehicles, the economic effect that imposing a weight restriction could have and the operators' view that it is an important direct route. Mr Duff also commented on efforts to gain funding for infrastructure improvements.

The Convener concluded by thanking the parties for their attendance and advising that the matter would be determined by the Planning Committee on 1 December 2010.

Thereafter the Network Coordinator directed by bus through the current route for heavy goods vehicles and the alternative route past the fire station and A9.

**P139. EXTENSION TO DWELLINGHOUSE AT 17 RUSSEL STREET, FALKIRK
FK2 7HU FOR ANDREA RE - P/10/0622/FUL**

With reference to Minute of Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 3 November 2010 (Paragraph P131 refers), Committee gave further consideration to Report (circulated) dated 26 October 2010 by the Director of Development Services on an application for full planning permission for an extension to a dwellinghouse at 17 Russell Street, Falkirk.

The Convener introduced the parties present.

The Assistant Planning Officer (G Clark) outlined the nature of the application.

Mr Re, the applicant, was heard in relation to the application.

Mr Thomson, the applicant's agent, was heard in relation to the application.

Mr and Mrs Radtkowski, objectors, on hearing clarification on the nature of the windows proposed for the extension, indicated their intention to withdraw their objection to the application and would contact the Council in writing to withdraw their objection.

Questions were then asked by Members of the Committee.

Councillor Meiklejohn, as local Member for the area, was heard in relation to the application and advised that Councillor Alexander, a local member for the area, had intimated his apologies for the meeting as he was a consultee on the application as a local resident.

The Convener concluded by thanking the parties for their attendance and advising that the matter would be determined by the Planning Committee on 1 December 2010.

Following the close of the meeting, a local neighbouring proprietor Mr Paterson, an objector, appeared and requested to be heard. In the interests of fairness and transparency and with all parties available, the Convener in consultation with the legal officer present, the local member and Members of the Committee, agreed to reconvene the visit to give the objector the opportunity to be heard.

The Convener introduced the parties present.

The Assistant Planning Officer (G Clark) outlined the nature of the application.

Mr Re, the applicant, was heard in relation to the application.

Mr Thomson, the applicant's agent, was heard in relation to the application.

Mr and Mrs Radtkowski had indicated that they no longer wished to be present as they intended to withdraw their objection.

Mr Paterson, an objector, was heard in relation to the application including overshadowing and the impact on light into his property and within the garden and the effect on the mutual chimney and his gas flue.

Questions were then asked by Members of the Committee.

Councillor Meiklejohn, as local Member for the area, was heard in relation to the application. Councillor Meiklejohn, as local Member for the area, was heard in relation to the application and advised that Councillor Alexander, a local member for the area, had intimated his apologies for the meeting as he was a consultee on the application as a local resident.

Members also visited the objector's garden to view the area of the proposed extension.

The Convener concluded by thanking the parties for their attendance and advising that the matter would be determined by the Planning Committee on 1 December 2010.

P140. EXTENSION TO DWELLINGHOUSE AT ANNFIELD, 19 POLMONT ROAD, LAURIESTON, FALKIRK FK2 9QQ FOR MR AND MRS RAE - P/10/0666/FUL

With reference to Minute of Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 3 November 2010 (Paragraph P132 refers), Committee gave further consideration to Report (circulated) dated 26 October 2010 by the Director of Development Services on an application for full planning permission for the extension of a dwellinghouse at Annfield, 19 Polmont Road, Laurieston, Falkirk.

The Convener introduced the parties present.

The Development Management Co-ordinator outlined the nature of the application.

Mr Rae, the applicant, was heard in support of the application.

The Convener read out two letters of support submitted at the meeting by the applicant Ms Mitchell and Mr and Mrs Main, neighbours, who could not attend the meeting but had requested that their support for the application be recorded.

Questions were then asked by Members of the Committee.

Councillor Jackson, as local Member for the area, was heard in relation to the application.

The Convener concluded by thanking the parties for their attendance and advising that the matter would be determined by the Planning Committee on 1 December 2010.

P141. PART CHANGE OF USE FROM AGRICULTURAL LAND TO OPERATE A FORESTRY/TREE SURGEON BUSINESS AND PROCESSING TIMBER AT 8 CAULDCOATS HOLDINGS, LINLITHGOW, EH49 7LX FOR MR SANDY CROOK – P/10/0130/FUL

With reference to Minutes of Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 22 September and the Special Meeting on 21 October 2010 (Paragraphs P99 and P118 refer), Committee gave further consideration to Report (circulated) dated 15 September 2010, by the Director of Development Services on an application for full planning permission for the part change of use from agricultural land (approximately 0.69 hectares in area including access road) to operate a forestry/tree surgeon business in conjunction with associated processing timber at 8 Cauldcoats Holdings on the north side of the A904 Linlithgow to South Queensferry Road.

The site had been visited by Members on 21 October 2010 and considered at the Special meeting of the Committee when it was **AGREED** to continue consideration of the application to a future meeting to enable a further site visit to be undertaken, in order that Members could hear the chipping machinery in operation.

The Convener introduced the parties present and confirmed the purpose of the meeting.

The Development Management Co-ordinator outlined the nature of the application.

Mr Crooks, the applicant, prepared the chipping equipment and this was heard by Members from the garden of an objector (access granted) who was present at the meeting on site on 21 October 2010.

No further questions were asked by Members of the Committee.

The Convener concluded by thanking the parties for their attendance and advising that the matter would be determined by the Planning Committee on 1 December 2010.