

FALKIRK COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the PLANNING COMMITTEE held ON SITE on WEDNESDAY 12 OCTOBER 2011 commencing at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Alexander, Buchanan, Lemetti (Items P87 and P88 only), McLuckie, McNeill, Mahoney (Item P89 only), Nicol and Thomson.

CONVENER: Councillor Buchanan.

APOLOGIES: Councillors C Martin, Oliver and Turner.

ATTENDING: Development Manager; Senior Planning Officer (J Milne) Roads Development Officer (R MacKenzie); Environmental Health Officer (S Henderson); Senior Planning Officer (Landscape) (Item P89 only); Planning Officer (A Lewis) (Item P89 only); Solicitor (K Quin) and Committee Officer (S Barton).

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None.

P87. SITING OF TEMPORARY CARAVAN, FORMATION OF FLOODLIT HORSE TRAINING ARENA, EXTENSION TO EXISTING SHED, ERECTION OF STORAGE SHED AND ERECTION OF ENTRANCE FEATURE WALL (RETROSPECTIVE) AT HOMESTEAD FARM, BINNIEHILL ROAD, SLAMANNAN, FALKIRK FK1 3BE FOR MR GERRY CROLLA - P/10/0636/FUL

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 14 September 2011 by the Director of Development Services on an application for detailed planning permission for the siting of a temporary caravan, formation of floodlit horse training arena, extension to existing shed, erection of storage shed and erection of entrance feature wall (retrospective) at Homestead Farm, Binniehills Road, Slamannan, Falkirk.

The Convener introduced the parties present.

Mr Milne, Senior Planning Officer outlined the nature of the application.

The applicant's agent was heard in support of the application.

Mr Hall, an objector, was heard in relation to the application.

Ms Hannon, an objector, was heard in relation to the application.

Ms McMillan, an objector, was heard in relation to the application.

Mr Glass, an objector, was heard in relation to the application.

Ms MacFarlane, an objector, was heard in relation to the application.

Ms Tetlow, an objector, was heard in relation to the application.

Mrs Hall, an objector was heard in relation to the application.

Mr McMillan, an objector, was heard in relation to the application.

The objectors highlighted the following issues:-

- The impact of the development on the woodland corridor and on woodland wildlife
- The visual impact of the development
- Damage to an area of great landscape value
- Concerns over the possible commercial operation of the premises
- The noise which is heard from the premises, echoing round the area
- Concerns over light pollution from the arena area
- Increase in traffic as a result of the development
- Concern over setting a precedent in granting a retrospective application.

Questions were then asked by Members of the Committee.

Mr Mackenzie, Roads Development Officer and Mr Henderson, Environmental Health Officer were heard in clarification of matters raised.

Councillor Hughes, 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 2 November 2011.

P88. SUB-DIVISION AND CHANGE OF USE OF EXISTING PUBLIC HOUSE TO FORM 2 UNITS, COMPRISING CLASS 2 (FINANCIAL, PROFESSIONAL AND OTHER SERVICES) USE AND HOT FOOD TAKEAWAY, INSTALLATION OF TWO SHOPFRONTS AND REAR EXTENSION AT RUMFORD ARMS, MADDISTON ROAD, RUMFORD, FALKIRK FK2 0SB FOR CADZOW PROPERTIES LTD - P/11/0305/FUL

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 14 September 2011 by the Director of Development Services on an application for detailed planning permission for the sub-division and change of use of existing public house to form 2 units, comprising class 2 (financial, professional and other services) use and hot food takeaway, installation of two shopfronts and rear extension at Rumford Arms, Maddiston Road, Rumford, Falkirk.

The Convener introduced the parties present.

The Development Manager outlined the nature of the application.

The applicant's agent spoke in support of the application.

Mr Lalli, an objector, was heard in relation to the application.

Mr Lalli highlighted the following issues:-

- Lack of pavement provision in front of the proposed units
- Concern over safety of children due to the increase in traffic
- The lack of parking provision and concern over access to the car park

Questions were then asked by Members of the Committee.

Councillor Hughes, as a 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 2 November 2011.

P89. INSTALLATION OF 13 WIND TURBINES, ACCESS TRACKS, SWITCHGEAR BUILDING, WIND MONITORING MAST AT LAND TO THE SOUTH OF STONERIDGE, FALKIRK FOR WIND PROSPECT DEVELOPMENTS LTD - P/10/0857/FUL

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 14 September 2011 by the Director of Development Services on an application for detailed planning permission for the installation of 13 wind turbines, access tracks, switchgear building, wind monitoring mast at land to the south of Stoneridge, Falkirk.

The Convener introduced the parties present.

Mr Milne, Senior Planning Officer outlined the nature of the application. Mr Harris, Senior Planning Officer (Landscape), and Ms Lewis, Planning Officer provided further information on the application.

The applicant spoke in support of the application.

Ms Collings, representing West Lothian Council, was heard in relation to their objection to the application.

Ms Strachan, representing Blackridge Community Council, was heard in relation to their objection to the application.

Mr Hardie, an objector, was heard in relation to the application.

The objectors highlighted the following issues:-

- Concerns over the visual impact of the proposal
- The effect on a National nature reserve
- Change in the amenity of the area
- Concerns over the landscape character assessment
- Proposal is contrary to national policy
- The safety implications of the development

Questions were then asked by Members of the Committee.

Officers and the applicant were heard in clarification of matters raised by the Committee and by objectors.

The Convener concluded by thanking the parties for their attendance and advising that the matter would be determined by the Planning Committee on 2 November 2011