

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Regulation Committee held in the Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Tuesday, 3 May 2016.

PRESENT: Mr A H T Bowles (Chairman) Mr H Birkby, Mr L Burgess, Mr C W Caller, Mr G Cowan, Mrs V J Dagger, Mr J A Davies, Mr T Gates, Mr P J Homewood, Mr T A Maddison, Mr R A Marsh (Substitute for Mr S C Manion), Mr J M Ozog, Mrs E D Rowbotham, Mr C Simkins and Mr J N Wedgbury

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs S Thompson (Head of Planning Applications Group), Mr R Gregory (Team Leader - Planning Enforcement), Mrs L Wilkins (Definitive Map Team Leader) and Mr A Tait (Democratic Services Officer)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

9. Minutes (Item 3)

(1) The Committee noted that name of the speaker in paragraph 1 (66) of the Minutes of the Member Panel meeting on 22 February 2016 should read "Mr Osborne" and that the figure given in that sub-paragraph should read £3,600.

(2) The Definitive Map Team Leader informed the Committee that the Orders for Public Footpath ZF5 at Faversham had now been drafted. They were currently being checked and would be signed and sealed by the end of May 2016 at which point the consultation period would commence.

(3) The Definitive Map Team Leader informed the Committee that the Order for the extinguishment of Public Footpath WB71 at Tunbridge Wells had now been made and that the period for objection to be raised was due to expire on 13 May 2016.

(4) Mr T Gates asked for his personal congratulations to all the officers from the PROW Team to be recorded in respect of the consistently high quality of advice that had been provided to all parties involved in the Public Footpath ZF5 decision making. As the Local Member for Faversham, he also wished to thank the Panel Members for the courteous and fair approach they had taken during the Panel meeting on 22 February.

(5) The Committee noted correspondence from Mr Osborne that Bensted's Charity had £14,500 set aside and available to fund the required infrastructure rather than £3,600 as set out in the Minute, and that this together with the contribution from the Municipal Charities made a total of £36,500 available from the Faversham charities.

(6) RESOLVED that subject to (1) above:-

- (a) the Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 22 January 2016 and of the Member Panel meetings held on 22 February 2016, 18 March 2016 (Chaucer Fields) and 18 March 2016 (Tunbridge Wells) are correctly recorded and that they be signed by the Chairman; and
- (b) the draft Minutes of the Mental Health Guardianship Sub-Committee held on 26 January 2016 be noted.

10. Update on Planning Enforcement Issues

(Item 4)

(1) The Head of Planning Applications Group gave an update on planning enforcement matters since the last meeting of the Committee. She reported on the continuing integration of the Planning Enforcement Team with other regulatory bodies in terms of practical working and on a more strategic level. She highlighted the successful outcomes achieved at Larkey Wood, Chartham, resulting in more time and resources being available for other pressing cases.

(2) RESOLVED that the actions taken or contemplated in the report be endorsed.

EXEMPT ITEMS

(Open Access to Minutes)

(Members resolved under Section 100A of the Local government Act 1972 that the public be excluded from the meeting for the following business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 5 and 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.)

11. Update on Planning Enforcement issues

(Item 7)

(1) The Team Leader – Planning Enforcement gave an update on unauthorised planning enforcement matters, setting out actions taken or contemplated in respect of a number of sites. These were Mount Peasant Farm, Yorkletts; Roman Road, Dover; Aylesham Road, Dover; RS Skips Ltd, Gravesend; Nuralite Industrial Estate, Higham; Persimmon Ltd, Iwade; and Top Bungalow, Cranbrook.

(2) The Team Leader – Planning Enforcement confirmed that the reported breach at Willow Farm Equestrian, Faversham was at the early stage of investigation.

(3) RESOLVED that endorsement be given to the enforcement strategies outlined in paragraphs 3 to 8 of the report and the content of the attached Schedule/Appendix.

12. Update on Planning Enforcement issues at Pit-stop, Dargate

(Item 8)

(1) The Team Leader – Planning Enforcement updated the Committee on Planning Enforcement issues at land adjoining Pit-stop Café in Dargate. This included progress on the retrospective planning application to Swale BC for a proposed lorry park to cover the site.

(2) RESOLVED that endorsement be given to the enforcement strategy outlined in paragraphs 5 to 10 of the report.

13. Update on Planning Enforcement issues at Thirwell Farm, Hernhill

(Item 9)

(1) The Team Leader – Planning Enforcement reported on current enforcement actions and future actions contemplated within the overall strategy to achieve full restoration of the site.

(2) RESOLVED that the enforcement strategy outlined in paragraphs 4 to 14 of the report be endorsed.