

WIMBORNE MINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the **PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** held on **TUESDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2007 at 5.00 pm** in the Committee Room, Town Hall, Wimborne Minster.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr M J Hodkinson (Chairman)
Cllr D G L Packer (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr J Burden
Cllr L G Harvey
Cllr Mrs D J March
Cllr A K Oliver – Ex-Officio – Chairman of the Council

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Cllr R W Booth
Cllr T Wheeler
Cllr R D Cook – Ex-Officio – Vice-Chairman of the Council

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PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS

The Town Clerk submitted a letter dated 25 October 2007 from the Traffic Regulation Team of Dorset County Council, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix A to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The Committee was asked to consider a schedule of proposals for no waiting at any time at various locations.

In respect of the proposals for Parkwood Road, the Town Mayor on behalf of a resident who required regular access to Lewens Close, expressed concern that vehicles might be displaced into that road as a result of the proposed extended waiting restrictions causing obstructions. Nevertheless, Parkwood Road was a Town Council initiative and was fully supported. The resident would be advised by the Town Mayor to raise the matter with the Traffic Regulation Team.

RESOLVED that the County Council be informed that the Town Council has no objection to the proposals contained in the Schedule.

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COUNTRYSIDE & RIGHTS OF WAY ACT 2000 (Min 74 – 28.08.07)

The Town Clerk submitted for information a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix B to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The report set out the action taken to support the County Council in its campaign to have removed the extinguishment provisions of the Countryside & Rights of Way Act.

He also submitted a further letter from Robert Walter, MP, a copy of which was circulated to each Member at the meeting and a copy of which appears as Appendix C to these Minutes.

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THE EAST DORSET DISTRICT (ST JOHN'S HILL, WIMBORNE, NO3) TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 2007 (WIM/63/1)

The Town Clerk submitted for information a notice dated 9 October 2007 and schedule from East Dorset District Council relating to this Tree Preservation Order, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix D to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

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DORSET'S GREENWOOD TREE PROJECT - REPRESENTATIVE

The Town Clerk submitted an email from the Greenwood Tree Project Officer of the Dorset Wildlife Trust, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix E to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The Trust had asked if the Town Council could nominate a representative to identify and survey the veteran trees in Wimborne Minster Parish.

RESOLVED that, in the first instance, the Tree Warden, Mrs V B Baker, be asked if she would accept the role.

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PLANNING DECISIONS

The Town Clerk submitted for information a schedule of planning decisions made by East Dorset District Council, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix F to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

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PLANNING APPLICATIONS COMMENTS

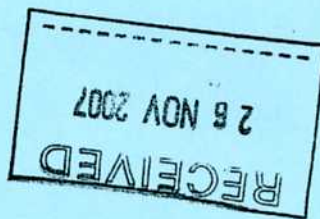
The Town Clerk submitted for information a schedule of comments on planning applications between 8 October and 12 November 2007, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix G to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The meeting closed at 5.28 pm

Signed Dated
Town Mayor and Chairman of the Council



Mr L Hewitt
Clerk to Wimborne Minster Town Council
The Town Hall
37 West Borough
Wimborne Minster
Dorset
BH21 1LT



JT/PAI/071107

22 November 2007

Dear Mr Hewitt

**Public Rights of Way Extinguishment Provisions of the
Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000**

I am today writing to all town and parish councils in North Dorset to alert them to provisions in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 which will extinguish public rights of way in existence before 1949 but not shown on the Definitive Map by 2026.

I have received representations from several councils regarding the extinguishment of public rights of way and have raised the matter with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. My concern is that nobody is likely to take steps to record rights of ways in towns and villages that existed before 1949 when towns and villages were growing at a particularly fast rate.

The government will publish a consultation paper before making regulations to enforce the provisions of this Act and I would urge you to respond. My preferred option would be to rescind the extinguishment provisions of the Act or at least exclude built up areas such as our towns and villages.

This is obviously important to everyone who lives in Dorset and enjoys our public rights of way. I will therefore be monitoring the government's actions closely and will be in touch again with any future developments.

In the meantime I know Colehill Parish Council has in place plans to set up a working party to determine whether there are any pathways or alleyways in Colehill which are not shown on the Definitive Map, but registering these rights of way can be a costly procedure.

Kind regards,

Robert Walter MP