

MINUTES OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING - MONDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 2014

Present:

Councillor Owen (in the Chair)

Councillors

Mrs Jackson
Brown

Elmes
Smith

Matthews
Hutton

Williams

In Attendance:

Gary Johnston, Head of Development Management
Carmel White, Assistant Head of Legal Services
Mark Shaw, Principal Planning Officer
Latif Patel, Group Engineer – Congestion Management
Chris Kelly, Senior Democratic Services Advisor

Apologies:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Stansfield who was engaged elsewhere on Council business.

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11TH AUGUST 2014

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 11th August 2014, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3 PLANNING/ENFORCEMENT APPEALS LODGED AND DETERMINED

Resolved: To note the Planning/Enforcement Appeals lodged and determined.

Background papers: (1) Letter from the Planning Inspectorate dated 19th August 2014.

(2) Letter from the Planning Inspectorate dated 22nd August 2014.

4 PLANNING ENFORCEMENT UPDATE REPORT

Resolved: To note the outcomes of the cases set out in the report and to support the actions of the Service Manager - Public Protection in authorising the Notices.

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5 PLANNING APPLICATION 12/0485 - FORMER TVR BUILDING, BRISTOL AVENUE

The Committee considered application 12/0485 for the retention of single storey extension to existing unit and continued use of premises as ice skating centre with associated dance studio, storage space, café, external plant, car and coach parking, service yard and cycle store at the former TVR building, Bristol Avenue.

Mr J Vose addressed the Committee and spoke in objection to the application.

Mr Cassidy, agent for the applicant and Mr Nicholson, the applicant, spoke in support of the application.

Mr Johnston, Head of Development Management, summarised the reasons for why the officers' recommendation had been for refusal. The Committee was advised that those reasons included that the proposed development introduced an inappropriate use into an area allocated for industrial uses where the site offered appropriate employment opportunities. Mr Johnston also highlighted to the Committee that approval of the development may set a precedent, making it difficult for the Council to refuse future applications for similar proposals on land designated for industrial and business use elsewhere in the borough.

The Committee discussed the protection of employment land and the merits of continuing to protect land that had stood inactive for a number of years. Members noted that there were a number of vacant business units available around the borough. They argued that as such the change of use of those particular units would not impact significantly on the wider economic development of Blackpool. Members also commented that there would be a number of jobs created should the proposed development be approved.

The Committee considered that there were other premises in the area operating leisure facilities and that the further creation of a sports facility would be beneficial for residents.

Members considered that the above factors were sufficient reasons to deviate from the Local Plan and to approve the application, without setting a precedent for future applications of a similar nature.

Resolved: That the application be approved, subject to the conditions, and for the reasons, set out in the appendix to the minutes.

Background papers: Applications, plans and replies to consultations upon the applications.

Chairman

(The meeting ended 5.45 pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:
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