

PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 6TH OCTOBER 2021

Minutes of the meeting of the **PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE**, held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe, Newton Aycliffe on **WEDNESDAY 6 OCTOBER 2021 at 6 p.m.**

PRESENT

Councillors: Peter Bergg, Arun M. Chandran, Bob Fleming, George C. Gray, Ian Gray, Brian Haigh and Ken Robson.

OFFICERS

Chrissy Walton (Corporate and Policy Officer)
Sharna Stretch (Senior Administration Officer)

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Martin Ashcroft.

8. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Barbara A. Clare, Mrs Sandra Haigh, Carl Robinson, Maureen Shelton and Michael Stead.

9. MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS

No applications for dispensations had been received.

10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

11. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The Chairman received questions that were sent in from the members of the public.

12. MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Arun M. Chandran, seconded by Councillor Ian Gray, and

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Sub-Committee held on the 25th May 2021, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

13. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members considered the undermentioned planning applications:

- (a) DM/21/03021/HAZ - Application for Hazardous Substances Consent, Schlegel Giesse, Coatham Avenue, Aycliffe Business Park, Newton Aycliffe

A discussion took place and members voiced their concerns, many of which were formulated into the response to the planning authority.

RESOLVED – that the following response be submitted to the planning authority:

i) - The Town Council have considered this application at the Planning Sub-Committee on 6 October 2021 and would make the following objections to the proposal:

- Approving this application will set a precedent for the approval of other or similar applications to go ahead which cannot be allowed.
- The Town Council have grave concerns over another application to deal with hazardous waste on the doorstep of domestic properties with the nearest housing being only 610 metres away. In addition, the proximity to other businesses and the type of development that it is proposing may lead to job losses if approved.
- The proposed site is therefore not suitable for this type of development as it is too near to domestic properties.
- The plant proposes to deal with hazardous substances that may result in a release into the air which contains di-isocyanate monomer that is harmful to human health further contaminating the air quality in the area.
- The odour impact from any released contaminants will be unacceptable, no resident should have to put up with any further additional odours.
- This will exacerbate health issues in an already deprived area where the health of the people in the area is worse than the English Average.
- The application contradicts the proposed Ecological Emergency that DCC are considering at this time and to approve this application would be counterproductive.

In addition, Members at the Planning Sub-Committee asked the following questions:

- 1 – Where are the chemicals and products coming to this factory from?
- 2 – Is there an existing facility somewhere that can undertake this type of work and what is the safety record?
- 3 – Thinking about the nearby chemical sites, would there be any reactions to these chemicals should there be a vapour loss or accident on this application site?
- 4 – What % / average vapour loss would be anticipated and what would the emergency response be to deal with it?
- 5 – What detailed filtering processes are proposed in the chimney stack and factory to prevent vapour loss?

There is also a very real concern that the Business Park will revert to an old-fashioned Industrial Estate which Durham County Council have tried hard to move away from over the years.

ii) - It was further proposed by Councillor Arun M. Chandran and seconded by Councillor Bob Fleming that the Planning Consultant be contacted to gather their views on the application should further action need to be taken.

- (b) DM/21/03220/FPA - Resubmission of approval ref DM/21/00481/FPA for single story rear/side extension for alteration to external dimensions and fenestration change, 24 Youens Crescent, Newton Aycliffe

RESOLVED – that the following response be forwarded to Durham County Council:

No comments or objections.

14. MINERALS AND WASTE POLICIES AND ALLOCATIONS AND ALLOCATIONS DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT CONSULTATION – DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

The Corporate and Policy Officer provided members with information regarding a consultation document from Durham County Council, the Minerals and Waste Policies and Allocations Development Plan. The closing date for comments is 4.30pm, Friday 5 November 2021.

RESOLVED – that:

- i) Councillors receive the report and note the closing date for information.

15. DELEGATED DECISIONS

Councillors received a report of delegated decisions from Durham County Council for information and

RESOLVED – that the report be received.

CHAIRMAN