

**SCOTTER PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010**

**Present:** Councillor S. Rayner (Chairman), Councillors B. Billam, M. Brown, D. Capes and J. Fillingham, M. Brown (Clerk).

With no members of the public present, the meeting commenced at 7.03pm.

**P16 2010/11 : To receive and approve apologies for absence**

No apologies were received, with all Councillors present.

**P17 2010/11 : To receive declarations of interest in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000**

No declarations were made at this point.

**P18 2010/11 : To approve notes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2010 as the Minutes of that meeting**

**RESOLVED: To approve the notes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2010, as circulated, as the Minutes.** These were signed by the Chairman.

The Committee noted that a letter had been received from Mr Turner of WLDC summarising the actions that WLDC had agreed to take at that meeting. The Clerk stated that the list did not include the agreed action for WLDC to submit a letter to the Council in a format that could be shared with the residents of Waggoners Close explaining the proposed course of action in relation to the public open space. The Committee asked the Clerk to respond to Mr Turner to this effect and to ask for the earliest receipt of that letter.

In light of the sensitivity of the information that has been requested by WLDC as part of its review of planning decisions and that is the topic of agenda item 4, the Chairman proposed that the public and press be temporarily excluded from the meeting.

**P19 2010/11 : To consider whether, in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press should be temporarily excluded from the meeting**

**RESOLVED : That, in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press should be temporarily excluded for the following item of business on the basis that it relates to confidential matters related to the actions of WLDC officers.**

**P20 2010/11 : To consider a response to WLDC's letter regarding its review of planning decisions.**

The Committee considered the letter received from the District Council asking it (for applications lodged between January 2005 and December 2009) to identify any decisions which the Council considers demonstrate a lack of probity, openness or impropriety and to give reasons for this opinion.

The Chairman then explained that, with some 230 applications seen by the Committee during this period, he had met with the Clerk and gone through the list of those applications. Having not been directly involved in how or why the decisions were made, the Chairman stated that it would not be possible for the Council to state with any confidence that any particular decision shows a lack of probity or openness or, indeed, impropriety. However, he explained that he had

**Initialed ..... Chairman**

identified applications on the list where there was a clear lack of consistency in approach or where the result was an unpleasant surprise to the Council considering all of the circumstances prevailing at that time. Having considered those applications in more detail, he had requested the Clerk to draft a letter in response to the District Council, including their details.

The Committee then considered the draft letter and, with members confident that it fairly reflected all of the applications whose results had raised major concerns within the Council, **RESOLVED : That the response, as drafted, be submitted to the District Council.**

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.25pm.

Clerk: .....

Chairman: .....

Date: .....