RESOURCES / PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, 22ND JULY 2013

Present:- Cllr J. Hart (Chair), Cllr P. Allen, Cllr M. Johns, Cllr D. Linney, Cllr C. Lofts, Cllr J. Lovell, Cllr J. Lynch, Cllr A. Maycock

1. Apologies for Absence
Cllr B. Bain, Cllr M. Caseman-Jones, Cllr J. Green, Cllr D. Tarbun

2. Declarations of Interest
None

3. Open to the Public
No members of the public were present.

4. PLANNING
a) Decisions
Permission for Development granted in respect of:-
S/2013/0594/FUL 8 Byron Close, Towcester
Two storey rear extension

b) Amendments
No amended applications had been received.

c) Applications
S/2013/0343/FUL 7 Jenkinson Road, Towcester
Single storey front and rear extension

No objections

S/2013/0392/ADV 9 Burcote Road, Towcester
Double garage to rear and new vehicular access

No objections

S/2013/0557/MAF Towcester Racecourse, London Road, Towcester (Paulerspury Parish)
Excavation of soils from land at the edge of the man-made pond for land raising purposes within the confines of the Racecourse

No objections

d) Appeal Under Section 78 Against Refusal of a Householder Application

Site Address: 89 Clare Crescent, Towcester
Description of Development: First Floor Extension
Application Ref: A/2013/0330/FUL
Appeal Ref: APP/Z2830/D/13/2200434
Appeal Start Date: 28th June 2013

Correspondence from SNC confirms the above appeal to the Secretary of State against its decision to refuse to grant planning permission. The appeal will be determined on the basis of written representations. The Clerk confirmed the committee had made no objections to the original application.
5. **Towcester Masterplan**

Cllr Lynch referred to the planning permission given for a housing development on the former Plessey site, Burcote Road. This was contrary to the Towcester Masterplan which had this site earmarked for light industry / employment. Cllr Lynch said the Masterplan carries no weight as it has not been subjected to public scrutiny. Cllr Lynch and SNC Cllr Wilby recently met with Policy Officer, Andy D’Arcy, of SNC to discuss the Masterplan. Cllr Lynch said that, in order to carry weight, the Masterplan could form part of the South Northamptonshire Local Plan which will go on to form part of the Core Strategy. He is happy to work with Cllr Wilby to put together a planning brief to bring forward to the TC for discussion.

Cllr Johns said members should discuss and set out the principles together for the planning brief. Cllr Lynch said he was proposing to do the groundwork to bring it to a point which would be difficult to achieve through committee meetings.

Cllr Allen said he thought, when discussed at the last RP Meeting on 8th July; the committee had agreed to set up a working group to discuss items within the Masterplan with this aim. The Clerk referred to the draft minutes of the meeting on 8th July and confirmed this was the case and Cllr Godwin had asked to be part of the working group.

Cllr Linney said the TC has already discussed and agreed the terms of the Masterplan. Cllr Lofts advised that the Masterplan has changed as various sites have been developed which were not included.

Cllr Johns said all the TC can do is scheme out the general principles, i.e. with respect to the Police Station / Magistrates Court he considers it important to maintain the façade of the building. He said the Masterplan is considered to be out of date; he is uncertain what expectations Cllr Lynch has.

Cllr Lynch referred Appendix A - Sites TA to TM. With the exception of those already up for development, the TC needs to either adhere to the Masterplan for each site or put forward a new idea.

Cllr Lovell felt the committee were confusing two separate issues which overlap by a long way. Cllr Lynch is speaking about the Masterplan and developing a planning brief for areas designated for development that will carry real weight.

Cllr Linney said the TC needs to get meetings organised to nail this down before time slips away.

Cllr Johns said he would be pleased to attend a meeting as soon as possible with discussions concentrating on key sites within the Masterplan that the TC can input into.

The Clerk recommended the working group holds its first meeting before approaching SNC with any suggestions.

Cllr Hart said she did not wish to deter anyone that inputting into this process but the TC do need to decide as a body what it wants.

It was agreed that all members would look at Sites TA to TM within Appendix A of the Towcester Masterplan. A meeting will be held in September where Cllr Lynch and other members of the working group will bring forward their ideas for discussion.

6. **2012/13 Audit of Accounts**

a) **Report from B.D.O. regarding the Audit of Accounts for the 2012/13 Financial Year**

The Clerk confirmed the audit of the 2012/13 Financial Year accounts has been completed by B.D.O. No issues have been raised except for the Fidelity Guarantee Insurance. The TC has raised its FGI from £175,000 to £250,000 but B.D.O. still considers this to be insufficient.

**Proposal**

Cllr Johns proposed that the TC maintains its Fidelity Guarantee Insurance at the current level of £250,000; seconded by Cllr Lofts; all in favour

b) **Invoice for Auditing the Annual Return**

The Clerk confirmed receipt of the invoice for £800.00 from B.D.O for audit of the 2012/13 Financial Year accounts.

7. **Finance**

a) **Cheques Issued**
The Clerk distributed copies of the Cheques Issued List (cheque numbers 010399 to 010431). The following cheque numbers were highlighted:-

010402 / £2,500.00 to N.C.C. – school crossing patrol September 2013 to March 2014
010405 / £493.00 to 24/7 UK Maintenance – digging out and replacement of 3 concrete litter bins
010409 / £1,300.00 to 2Commune – design of the new TC website
The Clerk confirmed that 2Commune has programmed in works to design the new TC website for the end of August.
010414 / £1,235.00 to Sita UK – Tove Wetlands Pocket Park project
010418 / £1,867.00 to Youngs Nurseries – Window Box Scheme 2013
The Clerk confirmed a recharge invoice will be raised to Towcester Business Club with respect to the window box scheme.
010422 / £35.00 to The Information Commissioner – annual date protection fee
010428 / £770.00 to SNC – emptying of the commercial wheelie bins at Towcester Community Centre
The Clerk confirmed an additional wheelie bin was requested by Sure Start; the cost of this will be recharged to NCC.

Cllr Lovell pointed out that cheque number 010401 was omitted from the list. The Clerk said this was most likely to be a cancelled cheque but will confirm this at the next meeting.

b) Internet Payments List
The Clerk distributed copies of the Internet Payments List detailing the salary and pension payments for July 2013. The annual telephone expenses of £145.00 to the Clerk have been paid once but listed twice on the sheet. The Clerk crossed through one listing of this item and countersigned it.

Proposal
Cllr Linney proposed that the Cheques Issued List and Internet Payments List be signed by the Chair and R.F.O;
seconded by Cllr Lofts; all in favour

c) Salaries
N. A. L. C. has confirmed that the National Salary Award for 2013/14 has been agreed at 1% increase. This increase is to be applied from 1st April 2013.

8. Northamptonshire Highways
   Rights of Way Newsletter

The Northamptonshire Highways Rights of Way Newsletter confirms The Ramblers Voluntary Work Party have been busy again installing 8 new steps and a handrail up to Towcester Racecourse which has greatly improved the access. A copy of the newsletter is available from the Clerk.