



GILLINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Town Hall, School Road, Gillingham, Dorset SP8 4QR
Tel: 01747 823588 Email: GTC@gillinghamdorset-tc.gov.uk

Minutes of an interim meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on **Monday 24th October 2016** commencing at 8.56 pm in The Jubilee Room, Town Hall, School Road, Gillingham.

Present: Cllr B Von Clemens (Chairman), Cllr D Walsh (Deputy Chairman),
Cllr Ms A Baker, Cllr Mrs A Beckley, Cllr R Evill, Cllr A Frith,
Cllr Mrs S Hunt, Cllr Miss E Jones and Cllr S Joyce.

In attendance: Mrs Clare Ratcliffe, Deputy Town Clerk.
Two members of the public.

269. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr P Harris and Cllr Miss N Purkis.

270. Declarations of Interest - Members are required to comply with the requirements of Section 27 of the Localism Act 2011 discloseable pecuniary interests.

- The Chairman referred to agenda item no. 3(c) Application No. 2/2016/1506/TPTREE and informed the meeting that as Gillingham Town Council is the applicant, the Planning Committee will not be able to submit a recommendation to North Dorset District Council.
- Cllr Mrs Hunt declared a personal interest in agenda item no. 3(b) Application No. 2/2016/1449/CATREE as she is known to the applicant.
- Cllr Joyce declared a personal interest in agenda item no. 3(e) Application No. 2/2016/1480/CATREE as he is known to the applicant.

271. Tree Works Applications:

a. Application No: 2/2016/1446/CATREE

Proposal: T1 - Cherry - Crown lift of lower limbs of tree as they are interfering with roof of the property see photo TRK2). Also light reduction all over approx. 15% of crown (see photo TRK3) and removal of Ivy. (Note. removal of ivy - Council approval not required).

Location: Topsy Rabbit Kindergarten, Coachmans Corner, The Square, Gillingham, Dorset, SP84AY

COMMENTS:

Cllr Ms Baker presented a report to members and informed the meeting that the proposals are a notification of proposed works to trees in a Conservation Area.

Following a discussion all members agreed to the proposed works.

271. Tree Works Applications continued:

RECOMMENDATION:

Gillingham Town Council has no objections to the proposals and recommended approval subject to the North Dorset District Council Tree Officer's recommendations.

b. Application No: 2/2016/1449/CATREE

Proposal: T1 - Monterey Cypress - Fell. Dying, displaying sparse foliage density and patches of coryneum canker. Tree is of poor vigour which has continued to decline over the past three years.

T2 - Alder – Fell: dying, displaying decreasing leaf size and chlorotic foliage.

Location: Stourbridge House, Post Office Road to Pierstons Fields - Road, Milton-on-Stour, Dorset SP8 5PZ

COMMENTS:

Cllr Ms Baker presented a report to members and informed the meeting that the proposals are a notification of proposed works to trees in a Conservation Area.

Following a discussion, regarding T2, members were concerned that the removal of the Alder would be detrimental to the group of trees; however, this was subject to the recommendations of the North Dorset District Council tree officer. Cllr Mrs Beckley and Cllr Mrs S Hunt abstained from voting.

Following a discussion, regarding T1, the majority of members objected to the proposed works; however this was subject to the recommendations of the North Dorset District Council tree officer. Cllr Mrs Beckley and Cllr Mrs S Hunt abstained from voting.

RECOMMENDATION:

T 2 - Gillingham Town Council recommended refusal of Alder as its removal may be detrimental to the group of tree, and recommended refusal subject to the North Dorset District Council Tree Officer's recommendations.

T1 – Gillingham Town Council recommended refusal of the Monterey Cypress as members did not consider that the dying tree was a risk and recommended refusal subject to the North Dorset District Council Tree Officer's recommendations.

c. Application No: 2/2016/1506/TPTREE

Proposal: T1 - Willow - Reduce height of the tree by approx. 6m back to a suitable primary branch junction.

Location: Rolls Bridge, Gillingham, Dorset, SP8 4BB

COMMENTS:

The Chairman reminded the meeting that as the applicant is Gillingham Town Council the Planning Committee is unable to submit a recommendation to North Dorset District Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

As Gillingham Town Council is the applicant, the committee is unable to submit a recommendation to North Dorset District Council.

271. Tree Works Applications continued:

d. Application No: 2/2016/1518/CATREE

Proposal: T1 - Cotoneaster - Reduce the height down to 2-3m T2 and T3 - Apple - Reduce the height by .5 -1m, prune out water shoots and any rubbing branches.

Location: 8 Wyke Court, Wyke Road, Gillingham, SP8 4SQ

COMMENTS:

Cllr Ms Baker presented a report to members and informed the meeting that the proposals are a notification of proposed works to trees in a Conservation Area.

Following a discussion, members agreed with the proposed works.

RECOMMENDATION:

Gillingham Town Council has no objections to the proposals and recommended approval subject to the North Dorset District Council Tree Officer's recommendations.

e. Application No: 2/2016/1480/CATREE

Proposal: T1 - Ash (one large stem and eleven smaller) - Pollard all stems cutting back to bole approx. 1.5 - 2m from ground level. T2 - Ash - Reduce crown by approx. 25%, shortening vertical growth by up to 2.5m and lateral limbs 1.5 - 2m. Crown lift raising lower lateral limbs to 3.5m from ground level.

Location: 2 Hillside Post Office Road To Pierstons Fields - Road Milton On Stour Dorset SP8 5PY

COMMENTS:

Cllr Ms Baker presented a report to members and informed the meeting that the proposals are a notification of proposed works to trees in a Conservation Area.

Following a discussion, members were shocked at the severity of the work proposed for T2 as little tree would remain if the works are carried out. It is believed the tree works have been requested to improve the view from a recently constructed conservatory. Five members voted in favour and four members abstained including Cllr Joyce as he was known to the applicants.

Following a discussion, some members were not totally in agreement with the type of management proposed for T1. It appears that this type of management has been carried out in the past; however, members considered that they would rather leave the decision with the North Dorset District Council Tree Officer. The majority of members were in favour. Cllr Mrs Beckley abstained. Cllr Joyce abstained from voting as he is known to the applicant.

RECOMMENDATION:

Gillingham Town Council considered the proposed works for T2 too excessive and would unbalance the tree canopy and recommended refusal subject to the North Dorset District Council Tree Officer's recommendations.

Gillingham Town Council recommended the management of T1 is approved subject to the North Dorset District Council's Tree Officer's recommendations.

271. Tree Works Applications continued:

f. Application No: 2/2016/1492/TPTREE

Proposal: T1 and T2 - Field Maple - Fell to ground level and treat stump .

Location: Land Adjacent To: 7 Matthews Place Hyde Road Gillingham Dorset SP8 4DB

COMMENTS:

Cllr Ms Baker presented a report to members and informed the meeting that the application is for tree works to 2 no. Field Maples which are subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO)

Following a discussion, members agreed that the loss of the T1 and T2 would be detrimental to the local street scene and many residents would be upset. Despite a full investigation being carried out by the applicant's insurance company regarding the subsidence to the property, members considered that an unbiased tree survey should be carried out before a decision was made to remove these trees.

RECOMMENDATION:

Gillingham Town Council considered that the loss of T1 and T2 would be detrimental to the character of the Conservation Area/street scene and strongly recommended that an independent tree survey was carried out, therefore members recommended refusal subject to the North Dorset District Council Tree Officer's recommendations.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Mrs Baker for all her hard work as Tree Warden in preparing detailed reports in readiness for the Planning Committee meetings. Cllr Mr Baker will no longer be able to fulfil the role of Tree Warden as she has taken full time employment. If any member knows of anyone in the community who would like to take on this volunteer role, please contact the Town Clerk.

Closure. The meeting closed at 9.29pm.