



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning and Development Committee held in the Council Chamber at Arms Everytne House, Blyth on Thursday 24th July 2014 at 6.30pm.

Present:

Councillors:

J R Potts (Vice-Chair in the Chair), A Cartie, A Gibbs-Barton and O Potts (Mayor)

Members of the Public: One

Also present:

Stephen Rickitt – Town Clerk (Democratic Services)

137/14/01: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor K Nisbet

138/14/02: DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS & THE GRANT OF ANY DISPENSATIONS

Application 14/02032/FUL – Blyth Spartans – Councillor Gibbs-Barton - £10 shareholding

139/14/03: MINUTES FROM THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12TH JUNE 2014

These were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair

140/14/04: MATTERS ARISING

None, not covered elsewhere on the agenda

141/14/05: PLANNING APPLICATIONS

5.1 From the Weekly Lists issued by Northumberland County Council

The Committee had no comments to make on the following applications

14/01013/FUL	Proposed construction of a seasonal canopy – ASDA, Cowpen Road, Blyth, Northumberland, NE24 4LZ.
14/01238/FUL	Construction of first floor bedroom extension over existing side garage creating 2 no bedrooms with shared en suite and construction of new utility and kitchen extension - 108 Tynedale Drive Blyth Northumberland NE24 4DS NB: The Committee decided to make no representations regarding an appeal in respect of this application.
14/01576/VARYCO	Variation of condition 2 relating to planning application 11/0068/VARYCO – Land on the South West Side of 211 Plessey Road, Blyth, Northumberland.
14/01591/FUL	Extension to dining room to end at current extension of kitchen into rear garden - 56 Curlew Way Blyth Northumberland NE24 3SD
14/01665/FUL	Construction of dormer window – 16 Winchester Avenue, Blyth, Northumberland, NE24 2EY
14/01704/HPA	Proposed orangery/conservatory extension to the rear – 8 Juniper Close, Cavendish Grange, Blyth, Northumberland.
14/01725/FUL	New porch with a pitched roof Extend mono-pitch roof across the frontage of existing house and single story side extension Side extension to comprise of a kitchen, utility room and bin store

New orangery to be constructed – 20 Beaumont Manor, Blyth, Northumberland, NE24 4LP.

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| 14/01798/COU | Change of use from A1 to A5 – 4 Bridge Street, Blyth, Northumberland, NE24 1BL |
| 14/1818/FUL | Change of use from a patient rehabilitation unit to residential dwelling – Wingate, 78 Middleton Street, Blyth, Northumberland, NE24 2LU |
| 14/01825/FUL | Demolish existing garage. Construct new garage and a single storey extension with flat roofed dormer bedroom to side of dwelling. Convert existing loft to living accommodation with flat roofed dormers to front and back. Replace existing glazed roof to conservatory with roof tiles to match existing roof. Construct new front porch. Remove existing paved front garden and construct additional car parking including new pavement crossing – 22 Swaledale Avenue, Blyth, Northumberland NE24 4SF. |
| 14/01905/FUL | Construction of single storey side and rear extension to dwelling, rear extension to flat roofed detached garage and new boundary wall/fences at side and rear boundaries to a maximum height of 2.1m – 46 Osprey Drive, Blyth, Northumberland, NE24 4SF. |
| 14/01967/FUL | Proposed construction of garage and extension to existing dwelling 14 Horton Manor, Bebside, Blyth, Northumberland, NE24 4SF. |
| 14/02013/FUL | Proposed garden room extension at rear – 80 The Pastures, Blyth, Northumberland NE24 3HA. |
| 14/02100/FUL | Proposed rear ground floor extension and extension to garage to provide workshop (application is amended scheme of approved application 13/03464/FUL. This scheme is smaller in floor area) – 3 Hampstead Close, Blyth, Northumberland, NE24 3XE. |

14/02122/HPA	Proposed replacement conservatory – 40 Ridley Avenue, Blyth, Northumberland, NE24 3BB.
14/02126/FUL	Remove existing west and south boundary and erect 2 metre boundary wall with timber gates on the south boundary - 43 Wright Street Blyth Northumberland NE24 1HB
14/012145/FUL	Proposed garage rebuild and rear extension to kitchen/utility. 141 Plessey Road Blyth Northumberland NE24 3JN
14/02163/FUL	Pitched roof over existing kitchen, garage and porch flat roofs - 35 Petrel Way Blyth Northumberland NE24 3QL
14/02217/ADE -	Internally illuminated letters supported on Brise Soleil above main entrance - Land North of Bath Lane Quay Road Blyth Northumberland

The Committee commented on the following applications as shown

12/02665/FUL	Brick built double garage (Retrospective) – 5 Druridge Crescent, Blyth, Northumberland NE24 4SA. The Committee were concerned by the comments of an objector regarding the type of materials being used and ask the County Council investigate under Building Regulations
14/02001/TREECA	Application to fell trees in a conservation area – 84 Middleton Street, Blyth, Northumberland, NE 24 2LU – The Committee do not object to the application but wish to suggest that a management plan should be requested for the trees on the site.
14/02032/FUL	Installation of all-weather playing surface, including floodlighting & water harvesting to replace existing grass surface Facility to be used by Blyth Spartans and Crofton First School - Blyth

Spartans A F C, Croft Park Plessey Road Blyth -
The Committee have no objections but believe a condition should be imposed to ensure floodlighting is not used after 10.00pm

14/02068/VARYCO Removal of condition 9 relating to planning permission 93/C/0411/P (Erection of 3.no retail units, new builders premises and associated parking) - Unit 1 Albion Retail Centre Albion Way Blyth Northumberland NE24 5BS – **The Committee believe that there should be no deliveries between midnight and 6.00am, to mitigate the effects on nearby residential properties.**

5.2 Other planning or similar applications which have to be considered before the next scheduled meeting of this Committee

The Committee considered a consultation on street names for land west of the Comrades Club Flat, Wright Street as 1-7 Daras Court. The Committee asked that the spelling be checked as Councillors wondered if it should be *Darras* or *Dara's*. Either of those was acceptable.

142/14/06: COWPEN ROAD

The Committee welcomed the Transport Appraisal Studies being undertaken by the County Council and look forward to participating in those studies.

143/14/07: CONSERVATION OFFICER

The Vice-Chair reported on a meeting held the previous week with the Conservation Team Managers at the County Council and was delighted to say that Martyn Kendall would be starting in August as the one day per day jointly funded conservation officer. It was envisaged he would be working in Blyth each Tuesday. The Committee was particularly interested in the local listing concept.

144/14/08: NORTHERN RAIL FRANCHISE

The Committee considered and adopted the report of the Town Clerk (Democratic Services) a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes.

145/14/09: CORE STRATEGY

The Committee were concerned about the further delays in producing a final draft. Further information will be provided to the Committee as it becomes available.

146/14/10: ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- The Committee noted the publication of the final bench-marking reports
- The Committee noted the revised targets agreed by the Town Council on 17 July 2014
- The Committee noted that Richard Schofield from Arch will address the Committee later in the year.
- The Committee noted the arrangements being made for training by Graham Garnham in the early autumn.

147/14/11: URGENT MATTERS

148/14/12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee noted the provisional next meeting of the Planning and Development Committee scheduled for the 14th August 2014 which will only take place if there is urgent business which needs attention.

In order to avoid a conflict of meetings, the Committee agreed to move their early September meeting to Wednesday 3rd September 2014 at 6.30pm.

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair

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Date.....

BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL
Planning & Development Committee
24 July 2014

Northern Rail Franchise

RECOMMENDATION

1: That the Town Council responds to one element of the consultation as set out in this report.

REPORT

1: In June 2014, the Department for Transport (DfT) commenced a stakeholder consultation on the Northern and Tran-Pennine Express Rail Franchises.

2: Amongst the issues is that of rolling stock for the Northern Rail franchise. The consultation admits the current stock is old

Northern

2.29 There is a variety of rolling stock on the Northern franchise. Most of the trains are diesel (87%), with the remainder being electric. The average age is over 24 years, with few trains under 20 years old.

2.30 The most common type of train is the 'Pacer', the Class 142 and 144 diesel multiple unit (DMU) railbuses used across the network. These railbuses do not comply with European standards for accessible trains¹⁷ and will require adaptation or replacement by 2020 at the latest.

2.31 Northern also operates a large fleet of 'Sprinter' type trains dating from the 1980s. These trains also do not yet meet the accessibility standards. Only some of Northern's fleet has customer information systems.

3: The paper sets out the following as an opportunity

Northern rolling stock

7.3 The new franchise provides the opportunity for extensive change to the trains themselves (the 'rolling stock'). Electrification will enable bidders to offer benefits through improved rolling stock such as:

- ☐ More capacity

- ☐ Better passenger environment
- ☐ Lower operating costs
- ☐ Faster journeys

7.4 We expect that the ITT will specify that, where electric operation of services is enabled by the electrification programmes, these services should primarily be operated by electric trains.

7.5 A change in the mix of diesel and electric traction in the Northern fleet will also make possible a fundamental review of train maintenance arrangements. As with train services, Network Rail is leading an industry process to identify possible approaches, but this is an area where bidders will be expected to determine their own strategy.

7.6 Furthermore, as set in Chapter 2, most of the existing Northern fleet is currently non-compliant with the new European standard for accessible trains. Proposals on how these requirements should be accommodated by the future Northern fleet will form an essential and important element of bids. Such proposals will need to consider how the requirements fit with the desirability of wider improvements in rolling stock for the Northern franchise.

7.7 In particular, bidders will be required to include plans, either in their core proposition or as an option, which would enable the withdrawal of all Pacer units from Northern services.

4: In an informal conversation at the recent workshop on the ABT Line, the Town Council was urged to respond to this element in particular to emphasise that new rolling stock should be provided and not merely a transfer of stock from other franchises.

5: The full consultation paper is available via <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/future-of-northern-and-transpennine-express-rail-franchises>

and there is a drop-in event at Newcastle Central Station on 31 July between 4.00pm and 6.00pm.

Stephen Rickitt
Town Clerk (Democratic Services)
15 July 2014