



EAST PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

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PLANNING AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

MINUTES: of the Committee Meeting held on Monday, 24th July 2023 at East Preston Infant School, Lashmar Road, East Preston at 18:30

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Christine Bowman, Kit Bradshaw, Elizabeth Linton, Glyn Mathias (Chairman), Steve Toney and Steven Wilkinson

ALSO: Clerk to the Council, Simon Cross
Sioned Vos, Chairman - East Preston & Kingston Preservation Society

ABSENT: Cllr David Moore

The following abbreviations may appear in these Minutes:

ADC – Arun District Council;
APC – Angmering Parish Council
FPC – Ferring Parish Council;
RPC – Rustington Parish Council;
WSCC – West Sussex County Council.

AoSERA – Angmering-on-Sea Estate Residents' Association;
EPKPS – East Preston and Kingston Preservation Society;
KPC – Kingston Parish Council;
WRA – Willowhayne Residents' Association;

The meeting opened at 18:30.

616/23 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

An apology and a reason for absence had been received from Cllr Moore (unavailable).

617/23 DECLARATION OF PERSONAL AND/OR PREJUDICIAL/PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Cllr Toney	EP/84/23/HH	Personal; Cllr Toney lives nearby
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618/23 PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public were present.

619/23 ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL (ADC) PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The committee considered the following Planning Applications:

Observations by 3rd August 2023

None

EP/84/23/HH Removal and replacement of front porch. Removal of rear conservatory and construction of single-storey rear extension
Helen House, 108 North Lane, East Preston, BN16 1HE

Mrs Vos said the Preservation Society would not be objecting to this Application.

There were no public representations regarding this Application.

The committee AGREED unanimously it would not raise any objections to this Application.

Cllr Mathias suggested the Clerk flag to the Planning Officer two problems with the submitted plans: firstly, the incompleteness of the eastern elevation on both Existing and Proposed drawings, not truly showing the garage extending in front of the main building, and secondly, the lack of a N arrow on the Existing drawing.

620/23 ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL (ADC) PLANNING APPLICATIONS IN OTHER AREAS

There were no Applications in other parishes to be considered.

621/23 WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL (WSCC) PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no WSCC Planning Applications to consider.

622/23 LICENSING APPLICATIONS

There were no Licensing Applications to consider.

623/23 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10TH JULY 2023

Draft Minutes from the meeting held on 10th July had been circulated to all councillors on 12th July, asking for suggested amendments by the end of the 13th July. Following a proposed addition to Minute 575/23 by Cllr Linton, a second version was circulated on 13th July. No further amendments were suggested.

The committee AGREED the Minutes could be signed as a true record of the meeting held on 10th July. Cllr Mathias duly signed the Minutes.

624/23 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Minute 572/23 – Correspondence – Perfect Pizza – a request for a review of this business's licence was submitted to ADC on 14th July.

Minute 573/23 – Correspondence – Digital Communications in the village – a reply, approved by Cllrs Mathias and Bowman, was sent to the initiator of the correspondence on 21st July. The Clerk circulated redacted copies of the author's latest reply to committee members:

"I am not advocating for the UK government to halt the 3G shutdown simply because East Preston council opposed a site that was deemed suitable for a 5G mast.

"The opinions of other councils not always aligning with yours are of little concern to me.

"If you had not opposed the mast, and another council did, my focus would have been entirely on the council that opposed it, not on you.

"You mention that the primary reason for rejecting the application was the negative impact of the mast's size and associated cabinets on the locality. However, I find this reasoning inadequate since the location in question is just an ordinary road, similar to many others in East Preston. It was not a significant landmark like the village green, your council offices, the conservative club, or the cricket green. I also note that you have been hesitant to suggest alternative areas, which leads me to believe that you either oppose 5G in the entire area or that you acknowledge the road was a suitable location, and you are

embarrassed to admit making a mistake or not being able to come up with a better option.

“You claim that numbers were in favor of not having the mast, but it's important to understand that the campaign against the mast used fake science to manipulate people's opposition, particularly by falsely highlighting non-existent risks to older residents. Counting those who were deceived by such misinformation as genuine opposition is simply ridiculous.

“Regarding the committee members' lack of technical knowledge, I agree with you. However, this does not justify opposing a solution that is desperately needed by many residents working from home since the pandemic. I'm not asking you to become experts, but rather to collaborate with operators and suggest a few general areas where a mast could be located, working together to find the most suitable option.

“I'm puzzled as to why you would even consider locations outside EP to provide a service within EP and it is needless to state the obvious that you have no control over those areas outside of EP.

“There are plenty of ordinary roads within EP that could be suitable for mast installations.

“The rejection of an ideal location due to misplaced concerns about protecting older residents based on junk science and opposition from a few million pound plus homeowners is disappointing and has potentially robbed a whole village of decent high speed internet.

“In conclusion, I urge the council to reconsider its stance, collaborate with operators, and make decisions based on accurate information. Prioritize the need for reliable 5G connectivity, especially for those working from home, over unfounded fears. Propose alternative locations and work together to find a suitable solution for the benefit of East Preston residents.”

It would be fair to say the committee was neither impressed with this response nor did it understand why the author was making this such a local matter to be resolved. The committee AGREED unanimously a reply should be sent to attempt to close down this correspondence. The Clerk would draft something to be agreed by Cllrs Mathias and Bowman.

625/23 RECENT DECISIONS

The committee NOTED the following decisions recently made by the Local Planning Authority, ADC:

* denotes Applications against which the council raised objections

EP/59/23/CLP	Lawful development certificate for proposed replacement/upgrade of halogen floodlights... Angmering On Sea Lawn Tennis Club, Homelands Avenue, East Preston	Withdrawn
The Chairman reminded the meeting any Application from any of the council's tenants should be notified to the council by the tenant. This had not been.		

626/23 COMPLIANCE MATTERS

ENF/51/22 (03/03/22)	Alleged Unauthorised Outbuildings [REDACTED]
ENF/214/22 (07/22)	Alleged Unauthorised Single Storey Extension [REDACTED]
ENF/238/22 (07/22)	Alleged notifiable works in respect of balcony change of wood to glass fenestration [REDACTED]
ENF/203/23 (07/23)	Alleged unauthorised outbuilding [REDACTED]

The Clerk advised there were no updates on the above cases.

627/23 PLANNING INSPECTORATE APPEALS

C3810/W/22/3313857 (start date – 01/06/23)	3 No Stables and a barn. Land east of Kingston House, Kingston Lane, Kingston, BN16 1RP (K/22/22/PL)
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As of the morning of the meeting there was still no proposed dates for 3313857.

628/23 EAST PRESTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (EPNP) REVIEW

The first meeting, including members of the public, of the East Preston Neighbourhood Plan Review Steering Group was scheduled to take place directly after this meeting. Five members of the public were likely to attend and a further three had given their apologies. Initially, Cllr Bowman would remain interim chairman of the Steering Group but there would be an election for a permanent chairman at the Steering Group's next meeting.

629/23 AREAS OF SPECIAL CHARACTER

Nothing to report.

630/23 CORRESPONDENCE

Earlier in the day, the Clerk had advised committee members he had initiated correspondence with Sir Peter Bottomley MP about the disparity between raising a Planning Compliance case, where the complainant's anonymity was assured, and initiating a Review of a Licensed Premises, where the complainant had to send a copy of the whole complaint directly to the licensee. The Clerk said he felt this probably led to fewer members of the public asking for justifiable reviews of licenced premises because the licensee would know the complainant's details. He had that morning received the following response from Sir Peter's office:

“Dear Mr Cross

Thank you for your email to Sir Peter we are grateful to you for taking the time to get in touch.

You have raised an important query which Sir Peter has asked the Under Secretary of State (Local Government and Building Safety) to respond to. We have asked they contact you direct, but Sir Peter has requested a copy of their response.

Parliament is currently in Recess so we are not sure what the Minister's diary is like so it is likely that you may not get a response until Parliament returns in early September. However if you do not receive a timely response, please do come back and we can chase this up for you.

Thank you again for being in touch.

Kind regards

Anne

Anne Double
Senior Caseworker

Office of Sir Peter Bottomley
Member of Parliament for Worthing West”

631/23 NEW MATTERS FOR THE NEXT MEETING (14TH AUGUST)

Nothing to note.

The Meeting ended at 18:53.

Chairman: *Cllr Glyn Mathias* Date: **14th August 2023**

(END)