

GODALMING TOWN COUNCIL

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Municipal Buildings
Bridge Street
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1 July 2011

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU to attend the **PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** Meeting to be held in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, Bridge Street, Godalming on THURSDAY, 7 JULY 2011 at 6.30 pm.

Louise P Goodfellow
Town Clerk

Committee Members: Councillor Reynolds – Chairman
Councillor Thornton – Vice Chairman

Councillor P Martin
Councillor Poulter
Councillor C Gordon-Smith
Councillor T Martin
Councillor Wilson
Councillor A Bott
Councillor Hunter
Councillor Robinson
Councillor Williams

Councillor R Gordon-Smith
Councillor Thomson
Councillor Lister
Councillor Wheatley
Councillor Woodham
Councillor S Bott
Councillor Noyce
Councillor Welland

AGENDA

1. **MINUTES**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 16 June 2011, a copy of which has been circulated previously.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

3. **PETITIONS/STATEMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

The Chairman to allow members of the public to ask the Council questions, or make a statement or present a petition. This forum to be conducted in accordance with Standing Order 80.

4. **DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS**

To receive from Members, in relation to any items included on the agenda for this meeting, disclosure of any interests which are required to be disclosed by the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 No.1159.

Members of the Public have the right to attend all meetings of the Town Council and its Committees and are welcome.

Members are requested to disclose, in accordance with the Code of Conduct, both the existence and nature of any "Personal" or "Prejudicial" interests that they may have in relation to matters for consideration on this agenda.

Personal Interests

- (1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) to (5) below, where a Member has a personal interest in any business of the Town Council and attends a meeting of the Council at which the business is considered, the Member must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the interest becomes apparent.
- (2) Where the Member has a personal interest in any business of the Town Council which relates to or is likely to affect a person described in paragraph 8(1)(a)(i) or 8(1)(a)(ii)(aa) of the Code of Conduct, the Member needs only disclose to the meeting the existence and nature of that interest when s/he addresses the meeting on that business.
- (3) Where the Member has a personal interest in any business of the Town Council of the type mentioned in paragraph 8(1)(a)(viii) of the Code of Conduct, the Member need not disclose the nature or existence of that interest to the meeting if the interest was registered more than three years before the date of the meeting.
- (4) Sub-paragraph (1) only applies where the Member is aware or ought reasonably to be aware of the existence of the personal interest.
- (5) Where a Member has a personal interest but, by virtue of paragraph 14 of the Code of Conduct, sensitive information relating to it is not registered in the Town Council's register of members' interests, the Member must indicate to the meeting that s/he has a personal interest, but need not disclose the sensitive information to the meeting

The Comments and observations from the following Waverley Borough Councillors are preliminary ones prior to consideration at Borough Council level and are based on the evidence and representations to the Town Council.

Cllr P Martin
Cllr T Martin
Cllr Thomson
Cllr Wheatley
Cllr Thornton

Cllr RA Gordon-Smith
Cllr Reynolds
Cllr Welland
Cllr Wilson
Cllr Williams

Prejudicial Interests

Where a Member has a personal interest in any business of the Town Council that Member also has a prejudicial interest in that business where the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice that Member's judgement of the public interest. Where a Member has a prejudicial interest that Member must withdraw from the room or chamber where a meeting considering the business is being held.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - CONSULTATION

To consider a schedule of planning application attached at Appendix A.

6. PLANNING APPEALS

New Appeals Lodged

WA/2010/1890 Erection of a detached dwelling at 30 Chalk Road, Godalming.

7. WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL - PLANNING DECISIONS

A list of Godalming applications considered by Waverley Borough Council (either by delegated authority or by the Area Planning Committee (Central)) where decisions were significantly different to the observations submitted by the Town Council is attached for the information of members.

8. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

The Localism Bill introduces the concept of Neighbourhood planning which is a powerful reform designed by the Government “to create the conditions for communities to welcome growth by giving local people a real voice in deciding the look and feel of development in their area; from determining the locations of shops, offices and schools to setting standards of design for new housing”.

90 communities are already trialling the Neighbourhood planning process. These communities are currently preparing planning documents under the current legal and policy framework ahead of the new provisions for Neighbourhood Planning that will be introduced through the Localism Bill. The process gives Parish Councils a very key role.

Attached for the information of Members is a leaflet prepared by the Town & Country Planning Association. The leaflet gives a brief summary of the Neighbourhood planning process.

Members are asked to consider, in principle, whether or not Godalming Town Council should seek to lead the Neighbourhood planning process in Godalming. If so it is recommended that Members request a more detailed report on the process and staffing implications for the next meeting of this Committee.

9. BUILDINGS OF LOCAL MERIT

Members to consider the letter from the Waverley Borough Council Planning Portfolio Holder (attached for the information of Members).

The letter invites the Town Council to take part in the process of identifying Godalming buildings worthy of “Buildings of Local Merit” and Members are asked to consider whether, and how, they would wish to take this further.

10. PROPOSAL PURSUANT TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACTS 2007 & 2010

Members are asked to consider the e-mail correspondence (attached for the information of Members) from the National Co-ordinator of Local Works – a campaigning organisation promoting the Sustainable Communities Act (Members are invited to view the following website should they require further information on Local Works: <http://www.localworks.org/node/55>)

This Committee is asked whether it will support Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council in Suffolk in its request to the current Minister at the Department of Communities and Local Government (Greg Clark MP) to make the following planning policy/guidance to apply to large planning applications in the area of a Town or Parish Council:

”a) That any applicant or representatives of any applicant who submits such an application that will have a significant effect on an area must, if requested by the Town or Parish Council attend a meeting of
(i) that Council to answer questions from elected councillors; and
(ii) a Town Meeting, should one be duly called, to answer questions from all

electors.

b) That any applicant who submits such an application that will have a significant effect on an area must, if requested by the Town or Parish Council, or a Town Meeting, pay for the Council or Meeting to get an independent assessment carried out as to how the proposed development will affect the sustainability of the local communities.”

11. ITEMS FOR THE INFORMATION OF MEMBERS

Members are asked to note the items, which are tabled for their information.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Planning & Environment Committee is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 28 July 2011 at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brought forward by permission of the Chairman. Requests to be submitted prior to commencement of the meeting.

GODALMING TOWN COUNCIL

Disclosure by a Member¹ of a personal interest or a prejudicial interest in a matter under consideration at a meeting (S.81 Local Government Act 2000 and the adopted Godalming Town Council Code of Conduct).

As required by the Local Government Act 2000, **I HEREBY DISCLOSE**, for the information of the authority that I have [a personal interest]² [a prejudicial interest]³ in⁴ the following matter:-

COMMITTEE: _____

DATE: _____

NAME OF COUNCILLOR: _____

Please use the form below to state in which agenda items you have an interest. If you have a prejudicial interest in an item, please indicate whether you wish to speak (refer to Godalming Town Council's Code of Conduct paragraph 12(2)).

Agenda No.	Subject	Personal	Prejudicial	Reason	Speak?	
					Yes	No

Signed _____

Dated _____

¹ "Member" includes co-opted member, member of a committee, joint committee or sub-committee – section 83, Local Government Act 2000.

² A personal interest includes:

Any matter registered in the register of interests

Any decision which affects the well-being or financial position of a member or a friend or relative to a greater extent than others.

³ A prejudicial interest is a personal interest so significant that it is likely to prejudice the member's judgment of the public interest.

⁴ State item under consideration.