



PLANNING COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD
 7.30pm, Thursday 17th March 2016
 Catshill Village Hall, Golden Cross Lane

Present Cllrs B McEldowney (Vice Chair – to chair this meeting), M Knight (Chair), T Gillespie, P Masters, M Shepheard, O Sweeting

In attendance Clerk: R Powell, 2* members of the public (*1 member of the public arrived at 19:48hrs during Agenda Item 4)

1. Apologies None received
2. Declarations of Interest Cllr M Knight declared an interest of pre-determination in relation to Log 664 for Catshill Baptist Church in that he had submitted comment on the application as a Member of the Public. Cllr Knight was therefore to leave the room when any discussions were to be had about this item in line with the Council's Standing Orders.
3. To consider members' requests for dispensation None requested.
4. Adjournment for public question time Cllr M Knight left the room at this point in the meeting (19:33hrs)
 The Member of the public present, Mr P Fisher wished to speak to the Council as the Church Secretary for Catshill Baptist Church, in relation to Log 664. He informed the Council of the open meeting the Church had provided for residents near the building and the reasons for the building work that were to take place. The middle part of the Church had previously been discovered to have no foundations causing crumbling of the walls within the Church Hall and the chimney stack to begin to fall. This and the need for a building that could best serve as a facility for the local community, had led to the plans for the extension and alteration of the Baptist Church. Members engaged in discussion with Mr Fisher to establish details including the reasons for the design of the roof shape to allow better use of roof space, the height of the roof, the comments from residents regarding the trees, which were to remain, the hedges, which were to be moved back to allow more car parking and the windows at the south end of the church, to which the Church were open to frosting or removing if necessary. Mr Fisher also informed the Committee Members of the money that had been raised from members of the congregation and donations to aid with the completion of the works and that they were only £3,000 shy of their £250,000 target that had been set.
 Mr D Scholes from the leadership team at Catshill Baptist Church arrived at 19:48hrs during this discussion. Members also discussed when the church were hoping for the works to take place, how long they would be operating for and were informed that the Church would do as much as possible to prevent disruption with contractors. The Church are currently looking for alternative premises for services and groups in an attempt to make the works as unencumbered and smooth running as possible.
 Following the discussion Mr Fisher and Mr Scholes chose to remain in the meeting but were aware that they would no longer be able to speak.
5. Minutes of meeting held 18/02/16
 The minutes of the previous meeting held 18th February 2016 were accepted and signed.
 Cllr M Knight returned at this point in the meeting at 20:03hrs.
6. To comment on applications received by the Parish Council

Log no.	App no.	Address	Proposal
Log 662	16/0142	493 Birmingham Road, Catshill, Worcestershire, B61 0HY,	1) Relocation of Kitchen Extraction Flue for unit 2 2) New Flue Enclosure for unit

			1 3) Relocation of rear exit door 4) Alteration of Shop Sign
<p>Prior to discussions regarding this Log Number, the Clerk informed Members that an extension to the comment deadline had been requested from the Planning Officer involved with both this case and Log 663. Although this had been granted, on the previous day (16/03/16) the Clerk had received the decision notices for both these applications stating that they had been approved. The Clerk had contacted the Officer who had apologised and requested that the Parish Council's comments continue to be forwarded to her, therefore Members should continue to go ahead and discuss the applications.</p> <p>PC comment: Parish Council have considered the application and have no comment to make.</p>			
Log 663	16/0143	493 Birmingham Road, Catshill, Worcestershire, B61 0HY,	<p>Unit 1: New shop sign will be constructed based on aluminium light box and acrylic panel with vinyl cut-out letter.</p> <p>Unit 2: The existing shop sign will be modified but retain the same specification, aluminium light box with 20mm acrylic cut-out letter.</p> <p>Unit 3: New shop sign will be constructed based on aluminium light box and acrylic panel with vinyl cut-out letter.</p>
<p>PC comment: The Parish Council have considered the application and have no comment to make.</p>			
Log 664	16/0108	Catshill Baptist Church , The Dock, Catshill, Worcestershire	Proposed replacement hall, extensions and alterations.
<p>CLlr M Knight left the meeting at 20:12hrs prior to the discussion of this application.</p> <p>PC comment: The Parish Council have considered the application and have no comment to make.</p>			

Responses to the above were recorded on the Parish Council's Planning Log and online via Bromsgrove District Council's public access website to this effect.

<http://appuview.bromsgrove.gov.uk/online-applications>

Responses to Log 662 and 663 were sent via email to the Planning Officer involved as they could not be added to the portal.

The two members of the public, Mr Fisher and Mr Scholes, left the meeting following the discussion of this application at 20:21hrs. CLlr M Knight re-joined the meeting at the same point.

7. To consider, if available, redrawn plans in relation to 33 Oak Road as per information received by Planning Officers

The Clerk had received amended and redrawn plans from the Planning Officer who had been supporting the applicant for the above mentioned property, with additional emailed information. These documents were circulated to Members prior to the Committee Meeting. Following discussion, Members concluded that there was no comment to make regarding this application.

It was agreed the Clerk should email the Planning Officer to this effect.

8. To review planning log and provide comment / update including Local Planning Authority decisions, appeals & enforcement actions

The planning log was reviewed; members noted recent Planning Authority decisions relating to Log number 660 which had been approved. In addition, the Clerk drew Members attention to two Enforcements. One for car spraying in Mayfield Close had been closed due to there being no planning issues. Another relating to the land at the rear of 658 Birmingham Road remained open. The Clerk had contacted the Enforcement Officer who had offered the information that there were vehicles and possibly unauthorised stables on the land. A PCN had been served but not returned and the Officer would probably write again then have to revisit the site in preparation for a potential enforcement. The Clerk would monitor the situation.

9. Clerk's report to include:

9.1 Singletons signage – any relevant update from Cllr B Cooper

The Clerk reported that no information had been received from Cllr Cooper but that Cllr Sweeting had attended the CALC meeting at which enforcements were discussed. Members were informed that Ruth Bamford, Head of Planning and Regeneration, had offered her direct line contact number to allow Councils to communicate with her regarding the issues they have. Members engaged in further discussions regarding the signage and their concerns regarding the process that had been followed with Enforcement. They discussed the precedent that was being set by allowing the signs to remain without the application for Planning Permission and whether Singletons were even aware or had been contacted during the investigations from Enforcement Officers.

It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Ruth Bamford and express these concerns. In addition, the Clerk would contact Cllr B Cooper and inform him of the steps that were being followed.

9.2 Assistant Clerk – update on progress

The Clerk informed the Council that there had been numerous requests for applications with six being returned at present. The short listing would take place on Thursday 24th March in an informal meeting of the Finance and Staffing Committee and with the attendance of Cllr M Knight.

Next meeting to be held 14th April 2016 at 7:30pm

This meeting ended at 20:39 hrs.

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Chairman, Planning Committee

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Date