



Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

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Chairman: Cllr Carole Mulroney
Vice Chairman: Cllr Caroline Parker
Town Clerk: Paul Beckerson



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2012 AT LEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE, 71-73 ELM ROAD, LEIGH-ON-SEA

Present: Cllrs: Pat Holden (Chairman), Margaret Cotgrove, Syrie Cox, Paul Lawrence, Carole Mulroney and Caroline Parker.

In Attendance: Cllrs Mark Bromfield, Jerry Holden, Cliff Passmore, Patsy Ryan, David Stanley, John Wren and Vanda Moyse (Office Administrator) plus 58 members of the public and two press.

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

34. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Alex Coulson, Donald Fraser and Richard Herbert

35. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr Carole Mulroney declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Member of The Leigh Society.

36. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of Planning Meeting held on 23rd August 2012 were agreed and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

37. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) LOS/12/0144 SOS/12/00969/FULM

LAND SOUTH OF BELTON WAY WEST LEIGH ON SEA (Thames Ward)

Erect two storey building with basement parking for use as a Hospice (Class C2), layout surface parking, soft/hard landscaping and associated works.

The meeting was adjourned to hear from the applicant and from members of the public.

Peter Marriner from Havens spoke and explained the changes to the application:

- These included the lowering of the overall building on the site by 500mm
- Some parking to be undercroft and building designed to have minimum impact from Marine Estate

Several members of the public spoke some for and some against the proposal.

Objections raised included:

- Green belt is the lung of Leigh
- Should Havens move on, the land would be considered brownfield and not green belt
- Building is very visible from railway and cyclists
- Land is subject to slippage
- Pollution due to increase of cars and deliveries from 80 + visitors and 183 full time equivalent staff
- Construction traffic could cause damage to cliff
- Site is not easily accessible for those from out of Leigh as bus route not good

Support comments included:

- This is a special case so green belt not valid
- Green belt land is not area of outstanding beauty
- Land is the only place suitable for the building
- Allowing the proposal would not set a precedent for other development

- Building has been engineered to cope with any possible land slippage
- Should Havens move on the building would have charitable covenant
- Sick deserved a pleasant place where they can view life carrying on around them

The meeting was reconvened.

Objection. – The Town Council objects to the application for the same reasons as before as the revised application makes very little change. Green Belt - Nature Conservation & Countryside Issues - Noise - future Expansion - Transport & Access (see response to SBC)

The meeting closed at 9.02pm