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PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday, 11 February 2021

Present:

Councillor	S Kelly (Chair)		
Councillors	S Foulkes	P Stuart	
	K Hodson	M Jordan	
	G Davies	A Wright	
	S Frost	A Gardner	
	B Kenny		

26 MINUTES

The Director of Law and Governance submitted the minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2021 for approval.

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2021 be approved.

27 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the Committee were asked whether they had any personal or prejudicial interests in connection with any application on the agenda and, if so, to declare them and state the nature of the interest.

Councillor S Foulkes declared a personal interest in respect of Item 5 – APP/20/01065: Land to the rear of 9 & 10 Copse Grove, Irby – by virtue of having been involved in a historic decision in this matter (minute 28 refers).

28 APP/20/01065 - LAND TO THE REAR OF 9 & 10 COPSE GROVE, IRBY, CH61 4YP

Councillor S Foulkes declared a personal interest in respect of this matter (minute 27 refers).

The Director of Regeneration and Place submitted the above application for consideration.

The Lead Petitioner addressed the Committee.

A Ward Councillor addressed the Committee.

It was moved by the Chair and seconded by Councillor A Gardner that the application be refused.

The motion was put and carried (8:2).

Resolved (8:2) – That the application be refused for the following reason:

The Local Planning Authority consider the site to be an area of visual importance to the locality and wider area. UDP policy GRE1, paragraph (iv), seeks to protect land with local amenity value. The Local Planning Authority considers development of the area would be harmful to local amenity contrary to GRE1 (paragraph (IV)) and the principles of the National Planning Policy Framework.

29 **DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE UPDATE – PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020**

The Director for Regeneration and Place submitted a report updating Members on the performance of the Development Management Service with regard to determining planning applications.

The report outlined performance against government targets in terms of the speed of processing all applications.

It was reported that during 2019/20 the Service had surpassed the requirements for all targets in each category of applications.

Councillor Foulkes expressed his thanks to Councillor Davies for his work as Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning in securing the extra resources for the Development Management Service and stated that the report showed that the Council provided an efficient planning service.

The Chair reiterated the fact that the first three quarterly performance remained consistently high in a particularly difficult year and thanked officers for their hard work in achieving this performance.

Resolved – That the report be noted and that officers be thanked for their hard work in achieving a high level of performance.

30 **DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE UPDATE – PLANNING APPEALS**

The Director for Regeneration and Place submitted a report to update Members on the performance of the Development Management Service regarding planning appeals and specifically the percentage of the Council's decisions overturned (on appeal) by the Planning Inspectorate.

The Principal Planning Team Leader reported that costs were put forward for four cases and no costs were awarded for any case which had resulted in 100% success.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

31 **DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE UPDATE - ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020**

The Director for Regeneration and Place submitted a report to update Members on the performance of the Development Management Service with regard to its planning enforcement activity for the period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020.

Members were advised that the performance of the enforcement service would be reported to the Planning Committee on a quarterly basis in future.

The Assistant Director, Chief Planner reported that 366 new cases had been opened between 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2020 and that during this period 340 cases had been closed and that the pandemic had led to some delays in commencing investigations in some cases, such as those that required an internal inspection of a building and that these cases would be progressed when it would be safe to do so.

The report outlined some examples of key successes achieved during 2020 which included the Hamilton Square Project, an updated Planning Enforcement Policy, Hillbark Hotel, Frankby, 34 Stanley Road, Hoylake and 1 Belford Drive, Moreton.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

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