



Battle Town Council ^{JG}



Minutes of the **PLANNING & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE** held on
TUESDAY, 8th DECEMBER 2020 at 7.30pm by Zoom

Present: Cllrs J Gyngell (Chairman), A Brown, C Davies, G Favell, A Russell, D Wheeler.

In attendance: Mr B Marks (Footpaths Advisor), C Harris (Town Clerk).

Public Question Time

None.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr M Kiloh.

2. **Disclosure of interest:** None.

3. **Minutes of the previous meeting of 10th November 2020** were approved for electronic signature by Cllr Gyngell.

4. **Clerk's report** None.

5. Correspondence and Communications

- A response from the East Sussex Economic Recover Plan team regarding **Electric Vehicle charging points** had confirmed that the County Council is working with its Borough and District Council colleagues on a collective approach to the delivery of electric vehicle charging points across the county and suggested that, as the car parks are off-street and managed by Rother District Council, it is not for ESCC to consider. The Clerk was asked to forward the request to RDC, English Heritage and Network Rail, as owners of the paid to use public car parks.
- There had been no further information in relation to **development at A2100** and Cllr Favell agreed to investigate.
- **Responses from ESCC** in relation to three items raised at **Strengthening Local Relationships**:
 - A **one-way system at Battle Abbey/Abbey Green** – there is a good safety record and this would not be considered at this time;
 - **Brown tourist signs for Battle Golf Club** – no contact has been made with the Club owners and, as there is no safety concern, there is no intention to remove the signs;
 - **Potholes in Virgins Lane** – these do not meet the safety criteria for repair.
- **Decisions received:**
 - **Approved**
 - **RR/2020/1382/P** **24 Senlac Gardens, Battle TN33 0AX**
Proposed workshop and shed.
 - **RR/2020/1503/P** **58 Wellington Gardens, Battle TN33 0HD**
Side two storey addition and single storey rear addition.
 - **RR/2020/1589/P** **Netherhay Barn, Whatlington Road, Battle TN33 0NA**
Proposed replacement barn.

6. Cycling & Walking Working Group

Cllr Wheeler confirmed that a productive meeting had been held and the notes will be circulated shortly.

7. Footpath matters

- Following confirmation from one of the contractors that there would be no additional cost for the revision of top surface, Members considered the quotes received for the hard surfacing of

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sections of footpaths 41, 82 and 87. Three quotes had been received itemising each section with total costs of £10,939; £9883.50; and £21,456.23. Members were reminded that ESCC had agreed a 25% contribution and that there is a Footpaths Ear Marked Reserve (340) of £5,537. It was noted that the lower quote had been received from the contractor that had undertaken the footpath surface hardening works at Mansers Shaw. The Clerk was asked to confirm the process of notifying owners of the footpath with ESCC and, subject to this, **Members agreed that the surface hardening of footpath 82 between Mansers Shaw and the Almonry Farm should be carried out by Derek Catt at a cost of £6,752.50.** Further works to be considered after the Full Council discussion on using Council's Community Infrastructure Levy funds.

- It was noted that, following a suggestion from Cllr Favell, an updated Concept Design Options for the **Steps to Ramp project** had been received from the Landscape Architect, as attached. It was highlighted that Option 4 is feasible although, due to the surrounding levels which are higher as the ramp descends, it would require retaining walls both sides and a safety rail, 1.1m high to limit falls. The Clerk was asked to discuss options with the RDC access officer to obtain an opinion on the steepness and lengths of ramps, and also how any proposal may work alongside the shallow steps at Bowmans Drive.

8. Footway repairs

Members were reminded of Cllr Field's notification at Full Council of ESCC's proposal for **black top footway repairs** in all locations which has been challenged by RDC's Conservation Officer. **Members agreed to recommend to Full Council that a letter be sent to East Sussex County Council to express concern at its proposals for black top footway repairs in the vicinity of heritage buildings and reassurance that this would not be the case for Battle.**

9. Southeast Communities Rail Partnership

Members agreed that, in accordance with its Action Plan, the **invitation for representation** should be accepted. To ensure Council's comments are recorded this would be via email link.

10. Action Plans

The Clerk was asked to contact the MP for any update on the Hastings link road and subsequent position for **declassification of the A2100 through Battle High Street.**

In light of the reducing actions of **Battle Local Action Plan Group**, it was agreed to remove the reference to the group.

11. To consider applications received to date

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION / AMENDED PLANS AND/OR DESCRIPTION

[RR/2020/557/P](#) **127 Hastings Road, The Shed At Little Branshill, Battle TN33 0TN**

Proposed side two storey extension to provide additional living accommodation

Comment: No objection to this.

[RR/2020/1875/P](#) **Fredrick Thatcher Place - Land west of, North Trade Road, Battle TN33 0LL**

Construction of 4no dwellings with associated parking and landscaping

Comment: Members applauded the endeavours to provide 2 and 3 bedroom houses required by people of Battle. However, the development is outside the current development boundary and that stated in the Regulation 16 Battle Civil Parish Neighbourhood Plan. Concern was also raised in relation to the visibility splay and lack of tracking plan for vehicular turning. It was noted that there

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was a lack of design detail which reflects the High Weald Housing Design Guide and Battle Civil Parish Design Guidelines and no East Sussex Heritage Environment Record report; although the applicant had provided its own heritage report. For all these reasons, the Committee support a refusal of this application.

RR/2020/2004/P **Jamaine, Marley Lane, Battle TN33 0BB**

Two storey side extension.

Comment: No objection to this.

RR/2020/2095/P **38 Battle Gates, Battle TN33 0JD**

Double storey rear extension.

Comment: Members noted that this application had been withdrawn.

RR/2020/2146/P **92 Hastings Road, Battle TN33 0TQ**

Proposed single storey rear extension to replace conservatory and front entrance porch.

Comment: No objection to this.

RR/2020/2194/P **Darvel Down - land at, Netherfield, Battle TN33 9QF**

Variation of condition 12 imposed on RR/2017/2308/P to allow development to commence prior to the submission of a Traffic Regulation Order securing the provision of parking restrictions on the north side of Darvel Down.

Comment: Members felt that condition 12 is essential for the safety of residents and other road users of Netherfield and its removal should therefore be refused.

12. Finance

- The **budget report at 31st October 2020** was noted.

13. Matters for information / future agenda items

Mr Marks reported on a meeting of **Hasting & Rother Transport Action Group** that had reported proposals to encourage discussions between the bus and rail companies to deliver more coordinated transport to the south east. Members thanked Mr Marks and agreed that he should continue to represent the Council on this group.

The Clerk was asked to obtain an update on the position of the **appeals on land to the Rear of Fir Tree Cottage Netherfield Hill, Battle** site.

14. Date of next meeting: 12th January 2021

15. Confidential item

Members agreed, for the consideration of sensitive information it is recommended that the press and public be excluded in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 (1)(2) for the following item.

One member of the public left the meeting.

The **updated enforcement list as at 30th November 2020** was noted.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Cllr J Gyngell
Chairman

Minutes agreed & signed electronically 12th January 2021 - *JGyngell*