



STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL

Council Offices, Old Market Hill
Sturminster Newton, Dorset DT10 1FH
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To: All Town Councillors

Dear Member,

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **Planning & Environment Committee** which will be held on **Thursday 20th June 2019** at Council Offices, Old Market Hill, Sturminster Newton at 7.15pm to transact the business set out in the Agenda below.

EML Lindsay

Emma Lindsay - Town Clerk

14th June 2019

Members of the public and press are welcome to attend in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960

No.	Agenda	Time (est.)
1	To receive comments and questions from members of the public	15 mins
2	To receive and if agreed approve apologies for absence	1 min
3	To receive declarations of interests and approve written applications for dispensations	1 min
4	To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18.04.2019*	2 mins
5	To decide what comment to make on each planning application listed below	20 mins
6	To receive a report from the Town Clerk on the outcomes of planning applications*	5 mins
7	To receive notice of any planning appeals and to approve any further response	2 mins
8	To receive a report regarding the implementation of the neighbourhood plan and agree further actions*	10 mins
9	To consider the issue of speeding in Northfields and agree further actions*	10 mins
10	To receive an update regarding the Station Road Pedestrian Zone and agree further actions	5 mins
11	To receive an update from the Rights of Way Group	5 mins
12	To decide what comment to make on any tree matters	2 mins
13	To receive correspondence and discuss any issues raised	2 mins
14	To receive information from members and discuss proposals for future business	5 mins

* Indicates that this agenda item is the subject of a briefing note or written report attached to this agenda.

Planning Applications received to be considered on 20.06 2019

1 *Plan Number* *District Reference* *Site Reference* *Other Reference*
2019/05/10 2/2019/0364/HOUSE

<i>Applicant</i> Mr Hatherly	<i>House Name</i> 97 Glue Hill	<i>Road</i>	<i>Locality</i>
<i>Town</i> Sturminster Newton	<i>County</i> Dorset	<i>Post Code</i> DT102DJ	<i>Application date</i> 30/05/19

Erect front porch, install 2 no. rooflights and staircase to form additional

accommodation within loft void (demolishing existing porch).

2 *Plan Number* *District Reference* *Site Reference* *Other Reference*
2019/05/11 2/2019/0365/LBC

Case Officer

Applicant

Mr Hatherly

House Name

97 Glue Hill

Road

Locality

Town

Sturminster Newton

County

Dorset

Post Code

DT102DJ

Application date

30/05/19

Demolish existing porch. Erect front porch; remove and replace roof; install french windows (re-open original rear door opening); install timber framed window in gable wall (re-open original); install 2 no. rooflights and staircase and carry out associated internal and external alterations.

3 *Plan Number* *District Reference* *Site Reference* *Other Reference*
2019/06/01

Case Officer

Applicant

Mr J Mortimer

House Name

New House

Road

Bridge Street

Locality

Town

Sturminster Newton

County

Dorset

Post Code

DT101BZ

Application date

12/06/19

Erect double garage and store.

STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Held on Thursday 18th April 2019 in the Council Chamber at 7.15pm

Present :

Councillor P Batstone
Councillor L Chater
Councillor V Fox
Councillor C Fraser

Cllr M Jones (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr H Lacey (Mayor)
Cllr R Taylor

Absent:

Cllr A Donaldson, Cllr H Reed, Cllr G Rose

In Attendance: Alan Harrison (Co-opted Footpaths Officer), Emma Lindsay (Town Clerk), Kate Squire (Finance Officer) and 24 members of the public.

Minute No.	Comments	RESOLUTION <i>For each item, the proposer is named first followed by the seconder</i>
PE/39/19	ELECT A CHAIRMAN FOR THE MEETING Cllr Fraser was elected to chair the meeting.	Cllr Lacey Cllr Jones
PE/40/19	PUBLIC SESSION A member of the public commented regarding a Scramble Track on private land, stating that he felt this should be encouraged. A member of the public advised she would be objecting to a planning application close to the boundary of her house due to the size, noise, environmental impact and location. She felt the Council should also consider these factors when commenting on the proposal. A member of the public addressed the Council regarding an application on the agenda. He raised objections about the impact on wildlife and the environment in the proposed area and questioned the accuracy of the surveys carried out. Another member of the public stated that the existing smoke issue on site would be increased and the access to the site was not suitable due to flooding. Several other members of the public also raised concerns about the impact on existing wildlife. A member of the public then queried why the application was being made when a previous application elsewhere on the site already approved had not been taken up, causing concerns that more applications would be made at a later stage.	
PE/41/19	APOLOGIES Apologies were received from Cllrs Donaldson, Reed and Rose. These apologies were accepted by the members present.	Cllr Lacey Cllr Jones
PE/42/19	DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS Cllr Fox declared an interest as a member of North Dorset Planning Committee and would not be commenting on the plans outlined in Agenda Item No 6. Cllr Jones declared an interest in planning application no 3 having assisted both parties. Cllr Fraser declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application no 2 as a neighbour.	

Chairs Initials

PE/43/19

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING

The minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee Meeting held on 21st March 2019, having been circulated and publicised prior to the meeting, were taken as read and approved for signature by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

Cllr Lacey
Cllr Taylor

PE/44/19

CONSIDERATION OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1. **Plan Number**

District Reference 2/2019/0442/VARIA

Applicant

Specialised Supported Housing

House Name

Former DCC Buildings Bath Road

Town

Sturminster Newton

County

Dorset

Post Code

DT10 1EB

Redevelop two existing buildings (one storey and one single storey) to form 18 No. flats (Class C3). Alter vehicular access, retain 10 No. parking spaces and create 2 disability spaces. (Variation of Condition No. 13 of Planning Permission No. 2/2018/0799/FUL to amend the requirement of the remedial works to the surface water sewer to be completed prior to occupation of the development instead of prior to commencement of the development).

No objection as the Town Council accepts the need for the amendment.

Cllr Taylor
Cllr Jones

2.

Plan Number

District Reference 2/2019/0052/LBC

Applicant

Mrs Katie Vincent

House Name

Old Mill House, Newton Hill

Town

Sturminster Newton

County

Dorset

Post Code

DT10 2DQ

Removal of exterior paint. Render gable ends and North elevation. Remove cupboard in sitting room to expose original beams and chimney breast. Expose original wall panels in bathroom 1 and move doorway. Remove modern fire surround covering original cast iron fireplace in bedroom 5 and carry out all internal and external alterations in association to this.

No objection as this is necessary restoration work.

Cllr Jones
Cllr Batstone

3.

Plan Number

District Reference 2/2019/0219/FUL

Applicant

Mr & Mrs Hannam

House Name

Land at E 377390 N114847, Queens Coppice, Stalbridge Lane

Town

Sturminster Newton

County

Dorset

Post Code

Change of use from woodland/agricultural land to campsite for the purpose of erecting 1 No. treehouse.

No objection. The Town Council supports the application subject to further consideration of the impact on biodiversity by the proposed development.

Cllr Fraser
Cllr Taylor

4.

Plan Number

District Reference 2/2019/0471/FUL

Applicant

Mr Mark Jeanes

House Name

Lower Bagber Farm

Town

Sturminster Newton

County

Dorset

Post Code

DT10 2EX

Erect cattle housing building.

No objection. Consideration should be given to the provision of landscaping to minimize the visual impact of the development. It is also recommended that consideration should be given to create a

Cllr Lacey
Cllr Jones



lighting scheme within the building that does not adversely impact neighbouring residential properties.

5. **Plan Number**
District Reference 2/2019/0527/HOUSE
Applicant
 Mr Gavin Molloy
House Name
 Tanyards

Town	County	Post Code
Sturminster Newton	Dorset	DT10 1DF

Erect 2 no. garden sheds
No objection as the sheds will be within an enclosed garden.

Cllr Lacey
 Cllr Jones

PE/45/19 NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED OF PLANNING APPEALS
 No received planning application appeals were notified.

PE/46/19 SECTION 106 PRIORITIES FOR THE TOWN
 The committee discussed a report circulated by the Town Clerk on behalf of the section 106 working group following their recent meeting.
The Committee RECOMMENDED that the Council approve the following as SECTION 106 priorities for the proposed North Honeymead Fields development.

- **Garden allotments**
- **Skate park learner facility**
- **Contribution to the Sturminster Newton Astro-turf project**
- **Contribution to the enhancement of the Leisure Centre**

Cllr Taylor
 Cllr Batstone

PE/47/19 RIGHTS OF WAY
 Alan Harrison reported that the Rights of Way Group found it helpful to have the support and encouragement of the Town Council and the Countryside Rangers. He pointed out the 'Walkabouts' leaflets were featured in the May issue of Unity. Any issues regarding the paths should be reported to the Rangers.
 Cllr Fraser voiced his appreciation of the rights of Way Group for a fine network of footpaths.
 Cllr Batstone advised that a new walk to take in notable literary sites will be launched on the 15th June for the Literary Festival.

PE/48/19 TREE MATTERS
 The Town Clerk advised that the emergency tree works at Riverside Meadows have now been completed.

PE/49/19 CORRESPONDENCE.
 No correspondence had been received requiring members attention.

PE/50/19 INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS
Cllr Lacey pointed out that one of the shop fronts in the Town had been changed without permission. She also added that the Highways work at the bus stop had no traffic management which had caused issues with buses.
Cllr Fox informed the Committee yet again the corner of the Greengrocers building had been damaged by a vehicle.

Meeting Closed at 20.36

Approved on Chair's signature

Chairs Initials

Planning Application Decisions

Planning Applications reported at meetings between 07 March 2019 and 20 June 2019

1	<i>Plan Number</i>	<i>District Reference</i>	<i>Site Reference</i>	<i>Other Reference</i>
	2018/11/02	2/2018/1403/FUL		
	<i>Applicant</i>	<i>House Name</i>	<i>Road</i>	<i>Locality</i>
	Mr S Loveridge	Sturminster Newton Bakery	41 Bridge Street	
	<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Post Code</i>	<i>Application date</i>
	Sturminster Newton	Dorset	DT101AW	01/11/18

Change of Use of Bakery to form 1 no. ground floor dwelling.

Comment 16/11/18

**No Objections but comment:
concern about lack of parking and parking would be desirable.**

Decision 18/04/19

Grant of Planning Permission

2	<i>Plan Number</i>	<i>District Reference</i>	<i>Site Reference</i>	<i>Other Reference</i>
	2018/11/03	2/2018/1404/LBC		
	<i>Applicant</i>	<i>House Name</i>	<i>Road</i>	<i>Locality</i>
	Mr S Loveridge	Sturminster Bakery	41 Bridge Street	
	<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Post Code</i>	<i>Application date</i>
	Sturminster Newton	Dorset	DT101AW	01/11/18

Change of use of Bakery to form 1 no. ground floor dwelling and carry out associated internal and external alterations.

Comment 16/11/18

No Objections, but comment: concern about the lack of parking and parking would be desirable.

Decision 18/04/19

Grant of Listed Building Consent

3	<i>Plan Number</i>	<i>District Reference</i>	<i>Site Reference</i>	<i>Other Reference</i>
	2019/01/01	2/2018/1099/HOUSE		
	<i>Applicant</i>	<i>House Name</i>	<i>Road</i>	<i>Locality</i>
	Mr R Barnes	Rivers Corner House	Glue Hill	
	<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Post Code</i>	<i>Application date</i>
	Sturminster Newton	Dorset	DT102AB	01/01/19

Form dropped kerb, new vehicular access and driveway

Comment 18/01/19

No Objections.

The application is not in breach of any material planning considerations .

Decision 03/04/19

Grant of Planning Permission

Planning Application Decisions

Planning Applications reported at meetings between 07 March 2019 and 13 June 2019

4	<i>Plan Number</i> 2019/02/01	<i>District Reference</i> 2/2019/0062/HOUSE	<i>Site Reference</i>	<i>Other Reference</i>
	<i>Applicant</i> Mr D Murch	<i>House Name</i> 9 Brinsley Close	<i>Road</i>	<i>Locality</i>
	<i>Town</i> Sturminster Newton	<i>County</i> Dorset	<i>Post Code</i> DT101EG	<i>Application date</i> 04/02/19

Erect first storey extension.

Comment 22/02/19

No Objections.

The application is not in breach of any material planning considerations and is compliant with Sturminster Newton Neighbourhood Plan.

Decision 28/03/19

Grant of Planning Permission

5	<i>Plan Number</i> 2019/02/03	<i>District Reference</i> 2/2019/0179/FUL	<i>Site Reference</i>	<i>Other Reference</i>
	<i>Applicant</i> M Rose	<i>House Name</i> Plot 5, North Dorset Bus Park	<i>Road</i> Rolls Mill Way	<i>Locality</i>
	<i>Town</i> Sturminster Newton	<i>County</i> Dorset	<i>Post Code</i>	<i>Application date</i> 20/02/19

Erect building for Light Industrial (Class B1©, General Industrial (Class B2) and Storage and Distribution (Class B8) uses.

Comment 11/03/19

No Objections as this is a business park site.

However The Council recommends that the following conditions to be implemented;

- 1. A landscape scheme that mitigates the impact on the neighbouring properties and minimises noise.**
- 2. That the colour of the building should be carefully considered to merge with the skyline.**

Decision 08/05/19

Withdrawn.

6	<i>Plan Number</i> 2019/02/04	<i>District Reference</i> 2/2019/0117/HOUSE	<i>Site Reference</i>	<i>Other Reference</i>
	<i>Applicant</i> Mr and Mrs K Tearle	<i>House Name</i> Lindens Cottage	<i>Road</i> The Row	<i>Locality</i>
	<i>Town</i> Sturminster Newton	<i>County</i> Dorset	<i>Post Code</i> DT101AU	<i>Application date</i> 19/02/19

Erect single storey front extension.

Comment 11/03/19

No Objections. The plans are in keeping with the policies of the Neighbourhood

Decision 21/03/19

Grant of Planning Permission

Planning Application Decisions

Planning Applications reported at meetings between 07 March 2019 and 13 June 2019

7	<i>Plan Number</i>	<i>District Reference</i>	<i>Site Reference</i>	<i>Other Reference</i>
	2019/03/01	2/2018/1783/FUL		
	<i>Applicant</i>	<i>House Name</i>	<i>Road</i>	<i>Locality</i>
	Mr C Cox	Toll House	A357	Bagber
	<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Post Code</i>	<i>Application date</i>
	Sturminster Newton	Dorset	DT102HS	01/03/19

Erect outbuilding (demolish existing)

Comment 25/03/19

No Objections with the condition that the new building is considered part of the primary dwelling.

Decision 22/05/19

Grant of Planning Permissiion

8	<i>Plan Number</i>	<i>District Reference</i>	<i>Site Reference</i>	<i>Other Reference</i>
	2019/03/03	2/2018/1842/HOUSE		
	<i>Applicant</i>	<i>House Name</i>	<i>Road</i>	<i>Locality</i>
	Dr C Orman	Rolls Mill Farmhouse	A357	Rolls Mill
	<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Post Code</i>	<i>Application date</i>
	Sturminster Newton	Dorset	DT102HP	12/03/19

Raise existing chimney to 1.8m above thatch (retrospective).

Comment 25/03/19

No Objections.

Decision 26/04/19

Grant of Planning Permission

9	<i>Plan Number</i>	<i>District Reference</i>	<i>Site Reference</i>	<i>Other Reference</i>
	2019/04/01	2/2019/0052/LBC		
	<i>Applicant</i>	<i>House Name</i>	<i>Road</i>	<i>Locality</i>
		Old Mill House	Newton Hill	Newton
	<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Post Code</i>	<i>Application date</i>
	Sturminster Newton	Dorset	DT102DQ	01/04/19

Removal of exterior paint. Render gable ends and North elevation. Remove cupbaord in sitting room to expose original beams and chimney breast. Expose original wall panels in bathroom 1 and move doorway. Remove modern fire surround covering orginal cast iron fireplace in bedroom 5 and carry out all internal and external alterations in association to this.

Comment 25/04/19

No Objections - as this is necessary restoration work.

Decision 28/05/19

Grant of Listed Building Consent

Planning Application Decisions

Planning Applications reported at meetings between 07 March 2019 and 13 June 2019

10	<i>Plan Number</i>	<i>District Reference</i>	<i>Site Reference</i>	<i>Other Reference</i>
	2019/04/02	2/2018/1843/LBC		
	<i>Applicant</i>	<i>House Name</i>	<i>Road</i>	<i>Locality</i>
	Dr C Orman	Rolls Mill Farmhouse	A357	Rolls Mill
	<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Post Code</i>	<i>Application date</i>
	Sturminster Newton	Dorset	DT102HP	12/03/19

Raise existing chimney to 1.8m above thatch and carry out associated external works (regularisation of works).

Comment 25/03/19

No Objections.

Decision 26/04/19

Grant of Listed Building

11	<i>Plan Number</i>	<i>District Reference</i>	<i>Site Reference</i>	<i>Other Reference</i>
	2019/04/02	2/2019/0442/VARIA		
	<i>Applicant</i>	<i>House Name</i>	<i>Road</i>	<i>Locality</i>
		Former DCC Buildings	Bath Road	
	<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Post Code</i>	<i>Application date</i>
	Sturminster Newton	Dorset	DT101EB	01/04/19

Redevelop two existing buildings (one two storey and one single storey) to form 18 No. flats (Class C3). Alter vehicular access, retain 10 No. parking spaces and create 2 disability spaces. (Variation of Condition No. 13 of Planning Permission No. 2/2018/0799/FUL to amend the requirement of the remedial works to the surface water sewer to be completed prior to occupation of the development instead of prior to commencement of the development).

Comment 25/04/19

No Objections - as the Town Council accepts the need for the amendment.

Decision 09/05/19

Grant of Planning Permission

12	<i>Plan Number</i>	<i>District Reference</i>	<i>Site Reference</i>	<i>Other Reference</i>
	2019/04/03	2/2019/0219/FUL		
	<i>Applicant</i>	<i>House Name</i>	<i>Road</i>	<i>Locality</i>
		Queens Coppice	Stalbridge Lane	
	<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Post Code</i>	<i>Application date</i>
	Sturminster Newton	Dorset		02/04/19

Change of use from woodland/agricultrual land to campsite for the purpose of erecting 1 no. treehouse

Comment 25/04/19

No Objections - The Town Council supports the application subject to further consideration of the impact on biodiversity by the proposed development.

Decision 15/05/19

Grant of Planning Permission

Sturminster Newton Town Council
Planning and Environment Committee 20th June 2019
Sturminster Newton Neighbourhood Plan

1. Introduction

Sturminster Newton's Neighbourhood Plan was formally adopted on x. The plan covers the period from 2016-2031. This report proposes monitoring arrangements and summarises the steps required in the event that the plan needs to be revised.

2. Implementation and Monitoring Arrangements

It is important that the Town Council, in its role as the qualifying body, puts arrangements in place to monitor and manage the implementation of the Neighbourhood Plan. For example, ensuring that the appropriate policies are applied when considering planning applications and reviewing the practical implications of particular policies over time.

3 Updating a Neighbourhood Plan

In time the monitoring work may lead to proposals to review individual policies or even the entire plan. The following provides a summary of the guidance regarding the revision of Neighbourhood Plans. The full text and further information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-planning--2#updating-neighbourhood-plan>.

3.1 In what ways can a Neighbourhood Plan or order be changed?

There are 3 types of modification which can be made to a Neighbourhood Plan or order. The process will depend on the degree of change which the modification involves:

Minor (non-material) modifications to a Neighbourhood Plan or order are those which would not materially affect the policies in the plan or permission granted by the order. These may include correcting errors, such as a reference to a supporting document, and would not require examination or a referendum.

Material modifications which do not change the nature of the plan or order would require examination but not a referendum. This might, for example, entail the addition of a design code that builds on a pre-existing design policy, or the addition of a site or sites which, subject to the decision of the independent examiner, are not so significant or substantial as to change the nature of the plan.

Material modifications which do change the nature of the plan or order would require examination and a referendum. This might, for example, involve allocating significant new sites for development.

3.2 When will it be necessary to review and update a Neighbourhood Plan?

A Neighbourhood Plan must set out the period for which it is to have effect; for the Sturminster Newton Neighbourhood Plan this period is 2016-2031. Neighbourhood Plan policies remain in force until the plan policy is replaced.

There is no requirement to review or update a Neighbourhood Plan. However, policies in a Neighbourhood Plan may become out of date, for example if they conflict with policies in a

local plan covering the neighbourhood area that is adopted after the making of the Neighbourhood Plan. In such cases, the more recent plan policy takes precedence. In addition, where a policy has been in force for a period of time, other material considerations may be given greater weight in planning decisions as the evidence base for the plan policy becomes less robust.

3.3 How are minor Neighbourhood Plan or Order updates made?

Minor updates to a Neighbourhood Plan or Order would not materially affect the policies in the plan or permission granted by the Order. A local planning authority may make such updates at any time, but only with the consent of the qualifying body. Consultation, examination and referendum are not required.

3.4 How are more substantive Neighbourhood Plan updates made?

If a qualifying body wish to make updates (modifications) that do materially affect the policies in the plan, they should follow the process set out in guidance, with the following additional requirements:

The qualifying body must (at the pre-submission publicity and consultation stage and when the modified plan is submitted to the local planning authority) state whether they believe that the modifications are so significant or substantial as to change the nature of the plan and give reasons

the local planning authority must (when sending the modified plan to the independent examiner) state whether they believe that the modifications are so significant or substantial as to change the nature of the plan and give reasons. The local planning authority must also submit a copy of the original plan to the independent examiner

the qualifying body must decide whether to proceed with the examination after the examiner has decided whether the modifications proposed change the nature of the plan

3.5 Do Neighbourhood Plan updates require a referendum?

Where material modifications do not change the nature of the plan (and the examiner finds that the proposal meets the basic conditions, or would with further modifications) a referendum is not required. A local planning authority will be required to make the modified plan within 5 weeks following receipt of the examiner's report, or such later date as agreed in writing between the local planning authority and the qualifying body.

Where material modifications do change the nature of the plan, the local planning authority would publicise and consider the examiner's report in line with the procedure for making a new Neighbourhood Plan. A decision may be made whether to proceed to referendum so that, if the referendum is successful, the Neighbourhood Plan becomes part of the development plan. A decision may be made whether to proceed to referendum so that, if the referendum is successful, the Neighbourhood Plan becomes part of the development plan.

3.6 How is the decision on whether modifications change the nature of the plan made?

Whether modifications change the nature of the plan is a decision for the independent examiner. The examiner will consider the nature of the existing plan, alongside representations and the statements on the matter made by the qualifying body and the local planning authority.

Neighbourhood Plans can shape and direct sustainable development in their area. If the original plan primarily shapes growth through measures such as design policies, then modifications seeking to take forward these policies through design codes would be unlikely to change the nature of the plan.

4 Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

The Sturminster Newton Neighbourhood Plan is a key Council document and therefore all members need to be familiar with it. However, a more focused piece of work is needed to recommend how the Council fully embeds and monitors the policies within the plan. It is proposed that a working group be established to lead on this activity:

Role

To manage the implementation and monitoring of the Sturminster Newton Neighbourhood Plan within the Town Council.

Membership

Four to six Councillors

Governance

The group will make recommendations to the Planning and Environment Committee for approval by the Town Council.

4. Recommendation

- i. That the committee notes the contents of this report.
- ii. That the committee establishes a working group to oversee the implementation of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Emma Lindsay

Town Clerk

Sturminster Newton Town Council
Planning and Environment Committee 20th June 2019
Speeding Traffic in Northfields

1. Introduction

Members will be aware that concerns have been raised regarding the speed of traffic in the Northfields area of the Town.

2. Review

I asked the Community Liaison Team Leader (Highways – Dorset Council) to visit the site to review possible traffic management solutions. He has advised that in residential areas such as Northfields parked cars generally act in a way to discourage speeding, he also noted that the hedge adjacent to the amenity area tends to act as a traffic calming measure. He suggested that the Council could explore the creation of a 20mph zone but this must be preceded by a traffic speed check to determine suitability. It is important to note that a 20mph zone can only be implemented if the 85th percentile is no greater than 24mph. If the measured distribution of speeds exceeds 24mph then a 20mph zone could only be implemented if additional traffic calming measures are introduced that force an overall reduction in speeds. Further guidance regarding the Speed Limit Policy is appended to this report.

If the Council wishes to explore the creation of a 20mph zone then it will first need to undertake instrumented speed monitoring in the area to confirm the speed of the traffic over a period of two weeks. I have been advised that this will cost between £300 and £500 and would be carried out by Dorset Highways on behalf of the Town Council.

3. Recommendation

- i. That the committee notes the contents of this report and the appended Speed Limit Policy.
- ii. That the committee decides if it wishes to recommend the implementation of speed monitoring in Northfields with a maximum cost of £500.

Emma Lindsay

Town Clerk

SPEED LIMIT POLICY DOCUMENT

This policy document has been prepared to reflect the Department for Transport's (DfT) guidance which seeks a common national approach to setting speed limits.

Priority will be in areas where there are collisions. Speed limits should be evidence led, self-explaining and encourage self-compliance. Indeed, if a speed limit is set in isolation, or is unrealistically low, it is likely to be ineffective and lead to disrespect for the speed limit. Alternative speed management options should always be considered before a new speed limit is introduced; all decisions taken will be evidence based.

URBAN SPEED MANAGEMENT

The table below shows a summary of the criteria for various urban speed limits.

Table 1 – Speed limits in urban areas – summary

Speed limit (mph)	Where speed limit should be considered:
20 (including 20 mph zone)	In streets that are primarily residential and in other town or city streets where pedestrian and cyclist movements are high, such as around schools, shops, markets, playgrounds and other areas, where motor vehicle movement is not the primary function
30	In other built-up areas (where motor vehicle movement is deemed more important), with development on both sides of the road
40	On higher quality suburban roads or those on the outskirts of urban areas where there is little development, with few cyclists, pedestrians or equestrians. On roads with good width and layout, parking and waiting restrictions in operation and buildings set back from the road. On roads that, where possible, cater for the needs of non-motorised users through segregation of road space and have adequate footways and crossing places.
50	On dual carriageway ring or radial routes or bypasses that have become partially built up, with little or no roadside development.

20mph Speed Limits

- 20mph limits should not be implemented on roads with a strategic function or on a main road. The advice from the Police is that the limits must be self-enforcing.
- The speed of traffic should be naturally at or around 20mph and have mean speeds

no greater than 24mph. Where vehicle speeds are substantially higher than this then traffic calming will be required.

20mph Zones

- 20mph zones have similar criteria to 20mph limits but repeater signs are not required. The purpose of a 20mph zone is to create conditions in which drivers naturally drive at 20mph, this usually means substantial traffic calming would be required.
- 20mph zones usually have entrance or “gateway” features to mark the start of the zone.

30mph - street lit areas in towns

- 30mph limits are considered the normal in street lit areas (where there are 3 or more lighting columns not more than 183m apart).
- These areas will demonstrate a high degree of frontage development with pedestrian activity, driveways, junctions, traffic signals and crossings. Generally residential areas and town centres.
- Terminal signs will be positioned as close as practicable to the start of visual development. Where forward visibility is restricted, signs may be extended outwards to meet standard forward visibility requirements.
- Apart from the terminal 30mph signs NO other repeater 30mph signs or road markings are permitted.

40mph

- Generally higher quality suburban roads away from town centres with less frontage development but with side roads, some bends and traffic signals / crossings.

50mph

- In exceptional circumstances where the road environment permits such as ring or radial routes.

Rural Speed Management

Table two below shows the criteria for various rural speed limits.

Table 2 – Speed limits for single carriageway roads with a predominant motor traffic flow function

Speed limit (mph)	Where speed limit should be considered:
60	Recommended for most high quality strategic A and B roads with few bends, junctions or accesses.
50	Should be considered for lower quality A and B roads that may have a relatively high number of bends, junctions or accesses. Can also be considered where mean speeds are below 50mph, so lower limit does not interfere with traffic flow.
40	Should be considered where there are bends, junctions or accesses, substantial development, a strong environmental or landscape reason, or where there are considerable numbers of vulnerable road users

Village 30mph Speed Limit

Where appropriate 30mph is considered the normal in villages.

- The DfT defines a village relating to simple criteria based on the density of frontage development and distance: The density of frontage development should be 20 or more houses with extra allowance for key buildings such as schools and churches, with a minimum of 3 houses per 100m section within the proposed 30mph limit. A preferred minimum length of 600m to avoid too many changes of speed limit along a route.
- 30mph limits are not permitted on country lanes or for covering potential hazards such as bends or "T" junctions outside villages and towns.
- Terminal signs will be positioned as close as practicable to the start of visual development. Where forward visibility is restricted, signs may be extended outwards to meet standard forward visibility requirements.
- Carriageway roundels (a painted "30" marking on the road) can be used in conjunction with "entrance" signs. Repeater roundels will only be considered in exceptional circumstances where signs are obscured and must be accompanied with a sign.

30mph village speed limits are appropriate where the mean speed of vehicles is not greater than 34mph. Where speeds are higher, or if the village criteria are not met, a reduction to 40mph may be more appropriate particularly on the approach to villages where properties may be situated beyond the main core of the village.

BUT these should be limited in use and consideration should first be given to speed reduction measures such as warning signs or carriageway narrowing with lines. Roads, where reduction to 40mph from the national speed limit may be appropriate, should have some frontage development with driveways or have other key building such as schools or churches. Sporadic development or isolated groups of houses should only be considered if the criteria are met.

40, 50 or 60mph speed limit?

The national speed limit on the rural road network is 60mph on single carriageway roads and 70mph on dual carriageways. Rural single carriageway roads are split into two categories in relation to their function:

- **Upper tier roads** – Roads catering for primary through traffic typically, but not necessarily, “A” and “B” class roads. Here the speed limit can be 60 or 50mph
- **Lower tier roads** – Roads with a local access function where quality of life issues are important typically C and Unclassified roads. Here the speed limit can be 50 or 40mph.

Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions (TSRGD) 2016

April 2016 saw a relaxation in the regulations that surround the signing of speed limits.

Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions (TSRGD) 2016 gives local highway authorities greater flexibility regarding the signing of speed limits.

Previous regulations were very prescribed and strict. The regulations now do not prescribe how many speed limit terminal or repeater signs are required.

Standard practice for the County Council will be to install two (one on either side of the road) speed limit terminal signs for the entry into a reduce speed limit with consideration being available for only using one terminal sign if the road layout does not allow for two.

The relaxations allow the County Council to consider only having one terminal sign when entering a higher speed limit.

The relaxations also allow the County Council to be more flexible on how many repeaters signs are required. Previous regulations prescribed a set minimum number of repeater signs based upon the length of a speed limit. TSRGD 2016 does not provide a number for required repeater signs. Technically this means that no

repeaters are required however the County Council recognises that to have no (zero) speed limit repeater signs would not be reasonable in all cases but it does allow us to be more flexible and pragmatic about where repeaters signs would be most appropriate.