

**STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
**HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 26 AT 7.15PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER**



**PRESENT:**

Cllr P Batstone  
Cllr L Cooper  
Cllr A Donaldson (Chair)  
Cllr L Jackson  
Cllr H Lacey  
Cllr P Marks  
Cllr J Rose  
Cllr S Trim

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: 8**

**MINUTE NO      COMMENTS**

**26/27/021      To receive comments and questions from members of the public**

A number of members of the public spoke in opposition of planning application P/OUT/2026/02464. Objections included:

- incorrect information in the application regarding rights of way access to the site
- development not supported by the Sturminster Newton Neighbourhood Plan
- road safety concerns for increased traffic at the junction of Hillcrest Close
- road and pedestrian safety in Hillcrest Close
- road and pedestrian safety during construction
- access during construction

A member of the public also spoke regarding agenda item 26/27/026, urging the Town Council to consider it's use and support of the Neighbourhood Plan when considering planning applications if it is looking at spending time and public money on the review.

**26/27/022      Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Fraser who wasn't well. These apologies were accepted by members.

**26/27/023      To approve declarations of interest and written applications for dispensation**

Cllr Trim declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 26/27/026 due to the proximity of her house to one of the areas specified for development in the neighbourhood plan.

**26/27/024 To approve the minutes of the previous Planning & Environment meeting held on 22 April 26**

The minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 22 April 26 having been circulated and published prior to the meeting, were taken as a true and correct record and duly signed by the Chair.

**26/27/025 Planning Matters**

**Planning Applications for consideration:**

- **P/FUL/2026/01238** - 5A Bridge Street Sturminster Newton DT10 1AP  
Change of use from residential to office  
**Comment: The Town Council has no objection to the building reverting back to its original purpose as an office**
- **P/OUT/2026/02464** - Land At E 377865 N 113155 Hillcrest Close Sturminster Newton  
Erection of up to no. 5 dwellings including associated infrastructure, landscaping and parking (outline application to determine access only)  
**Comment: The Town Council strongly objects to this application. It is not supported by the Sturminster Newton Neighbourhood Plan and there are serious concerns about safety of access in, out and around the site. The Town Council would have found it useful to see comments from Dorset Council Highways Department prior to commenting, however these are not yet available**

**Report on planning decisions of Dorset Council**

Planning decisions made 12 February to 14 May 26 were noted by the committee

**Any other planning matters**

There were no other planning matters to consider

**Tree Matters**

- **P/TRT/2026/02564** - Milk House Fair View Farm And Elmside Cottage To Puxey Lane - Lane Puxey DT10 2HR  
T7 of TPO 54/3/74 - Willow - Remove and replant.  
**This application was noted for information by the committee**

**26/27/026 To consider Neighbourhood Plan review**

The Clerk had circulated a report with the summons.

The Committee considered the report.

**The Committee resolved to recommend option two of the report to Full Council. A medium focussed review with as much of the review being done by Council, only employing a specialist where information cannot be obtained elsewhere.**

**26/27/027 To consider land transfers: Corralian Heights & Glue Hill**

The Clerk had circulated a report with the summons.  
The Committee noted the contents of the report

**26/27/028 To receive information from members and proposals for future business**

Cllr Cooper – Reported that he is looking into the removal of a tree nearby the Mill which has been removed.

Cllr Donaldson – Advised he will be attending the next meeting of the Planning Forum and invited other Cllrs to also attend. He pointed out an article in The Times featuring the Mill and lastly had welcomed observing the road sweeper along Bath Road.

The Clerk reported for information that the owners of Sturminster House had provided her with a copy of the scaffold licence.

**The Chair closed the meeting at 8.08pm**

**Chairs Signature .....** **Date Approved .....**

DRAFT