

North Yorkshire County Council

Planning and Regulatory Functions Committee

Minutes of the meeting held remotely via Microsoft Teams on 03 August 2021 at 10.00 am.

Present:-

County Councillors David Blades (Vice-Chairman in the Chair), Caroline Goodrick, Robert Heseltine, David Hugill, John McCartney, Chris Pearson and Clive Pearson

Apologies were submitted by County Councillors Mike Jordan and Peter Sowray.

The meeting was available to watch live via the County Council's website and a recording of the meeting is now available on the website via the following link www.northyorks.gov.uk/livemeetings

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

237 Welcome and Introductions

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and those present introduced themselves.

The Chairman explained that the meeting would be held using video conferencing with a live broadcast to the Council's YouTube site. The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 had lapsed on 7 May 2021 and any formal decisions required will be taken by the the Chief Executive Officer using his emergency delegated decision-making powers, after taking into account the views of the Committee members, all the relevant information and the recommendations of the Committee.

238. Minutes of the meeting held on 27 July 2021

Resolved -

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 27 July 2021, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and confirmed by Members, be submitted to the Chief Executive with a recommendation of approval to sign under his emergency delegated powers. and then signed by the Chairman as a correct record at the next available opportunity.

239. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

240. Public Questions or Statements

The Clerk stated that, other than those that had indicated that they wished to speak in

relation to the application below, there were no questions or statements from members of the public.

241. Planning application for the purpose of the replacement and upgrade of local infrastructure to reduce impact from local sewerage flooding. The application includes a fenced compound to enclose site, four weatherproof plant enclosures on raised concrete slabs, a vent stack, new access track from highway on land at Yorkshire Water Sewage Pumping Station, Main Street, Colton, Tadcaster

Considered -

The report of the Corporate Director, Business and Environmental Services requesting Members to determine a Planning application for the purpose of the replacement and upgrade of local infrastructure to reduce impact from local sewerage flooding. The application includes a fenced compound to enclose site, four weatherproof plant enclosures on raised concrete slabs, a vent stack, new access track from highway on land at Yorkshire Water Sewage Pumping Station, Main Street, Colton, Tadcaster

The application was subject to an objection having been raised, in respect of the Proposal, on the grounds of residential amenity and was, therefore, reported to the Committee for determination.

Dr M and Mr J Inman had submitted the following statement, which was read out by the Clerk:-

We have been waiting for some time for a solution to the problem of sewage flooding into our front garden and driveway.

Every time there is moderate rainfall, we rely on tankers emptying the existing inadequate pumping station – otherwise the sewage bubbles up through our drains. The sewage empties dramatically in response to the pumping.

On one occasion last winter the flooding was so severe that the tanker drivers brought sandbags to prevent our house from flooding (with sewage).

When the garden is flooded, we cannot use any toilet.

We are both pensioners and know that the situation is a considerable health hazard for us.

We have got to the stage that we are nervous of going on holiday in case there is severe flooding.

When the new pumping station is finished there will be less of a problem for the whole village as hopefully there will be no sewage incursions and fewer tankers with any that prove necessary being further away and therefore much quieter.

County Councillor Richard Musgrave had submitted the following statement, which was read out by the Clerk:-

There have been significant issues in Colton for many years due to the inadequacy of the sewerage system and so the proposal to upgrade the infrastructure is welcome.

Having read the Officer's thorough report, I agree with the conclusion drawn in section 8 of the report and respectfully request that Committee grant permission subject to the conditions given.

Following the public statements a representative of the Head of Planning Services presented the Committee report, highlighting the proposal, the site description, the consultations that have taken place, the advertisement and representations, planning guidance and policy and planning considerations. The reports also provided a conclusion and recommendations

Detailed plans, photographs and visual information were presented to complement the report.

The Planning Officer updated the Committee on the following issues:-

Para 7.9 under location

The proposed development lies in a field adjacent to the existing SPS, which it is proposing to replace, so is located close to the source of the waste to be dealt with and it is also set back from the road with an area included to accommodate vehicles when they visit the site compound so minimising the transportation impacts and so accords with 'saved' Policy 4/1 a), c), e), g) and j) of the NYWLP, emerging Policies W08 and W10 of the MWJP and Paragraph 82 and 178 of the NPPF. Therefore, given the reasons listed above the location proposed for the new SPS is considered acceptable and accords with local and national policy.

CORRECTION: Paragraph 82 should be Paragraph 83 and paragraph 178 should be removed.

Paragraph 7.25 under Flood risk last sentence

Paragraph 190 of the NPPF states that inappropriate development should not be located in areas at risk of flooding, the proposed development would be in Flood Zone 1 which has a low risk of flooding so this reflects paragraph 190. It is considered that the proposal accords with emerging 'saved' Policy a) and c), Policy D09 of the MWJP, paragraph 7 of the NPPW and paragraphs 184 and 190 of the NPPF.

CORRECTION - Paragraph 184 should be Paragraph 174 and Paragraph 190 should be Paragraph 159

Paragraph 7.26 and Paragraph 7.27 under Soils and agricultural land use

CORRECTION – all reference to Paragraph 184 of the NPPF should be Paragraph 174

Members undertook a discussion of the application and the following issues and points were highlighted during that discussion:-

- A Member asked whether the proposal would be less visible from the main road than the existing facility. This was confirmed.
- It was asked whether the new installation was of a sufficient size to accommodate any further residential building that could take place in the area. In response it was stated that although the details were not available at the meeting, the proposal was designed to take account of further building in the local area.
- Members emphasised that the benefits of the proposal outweighed the remaining objection and raised concerns that such issues could not be dealt with under delegated authority.

Resolved: - that the following be referred to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration under his emergency delegated powers:-

That the application be approved for the reasons stated in the report and in accordance with the conditions outlined.

242. Other Business

The Chairman accepted the following item as urgent business in view of the need to inform the Committee of action that had already taken place under authority delegated to the relevant officer.

Harrogate Town Football Club – Safety Certificate Pursuant to the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975

Jo Bouflower, Head of Business and Consumer Services, provided a verbal update on this issue, outlining the following:-

The ground capacity on the Harrogate Town Football Club safety certificate was reduced to zero for the Harrogate Town v Sunderland match on Saturday 24 July as a consequence of unacceptable safety risks at the stadium. On Saturday morning, the club submitted a revised risk assessment and stewarding plan for the match to be held behind closed doors with a capacity of 107 (teams and staff), and that was agreed. Work has continued with the club throughout this week, and following the completion of some building work and an improved stewarding plan agreement was reached that a home crowd of 1,000 could attend on Sunday 1 August for a friendly match against Doncaster Rovers. No away fans attended. Work continues with the club and it is hoped to be able to allow a restoration to full capacity of 5,021 with home and away fans for the first league match against Rochdale on 7 August.

Members discussed the verbal update and the following issues were raised:-

- It was noted that should the full requirements of the Safety Certificate had to be met for the ground to be able to operate at full capacity, and there was an added incentive for the Club to meet the safety requirements outlined to them, as the English Football League were likely to impose a financial penalty unless the ground could offer maximum capacity.
- It was emphasised that the Safety Certificate was still valid, this related to ensuring that a number of factors were being met appropriately and to the satisfaction of the relevant authorities. The Club was working hard to address these issues and monitoring would continue to ensure these were met.

Resolved -

That the update be noted.

The meeting concluded at 10.45 am

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