

AT A MEETING of the REGULATORY COMMITTEE of HAMPSHIRE COUNTY
COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber at The Castle, Winchester on
Wednesday 23 April 2014

PRESENT:

Chairman:

p Councillor R.C. McIntosh

Vice-Chairman:

p Councillor G Hockley

Councillors:

p C Carter

p C Choudhary

p M Cooper

a J Frankum

p C Greenwood

p K House

p R Humby

p R Huxstep

p P Latham

p F Pearce

p R Price

p T Rolt

p D Simpson

p S Wheale

p C Connor

***The order of the agenda at this meeting was as follows:
Items 1-5, 7, 6***

89. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Frankum, who withdrew from the meeting in order to speak as a local Member on Item 7. Cllr Connor attended the meeting on Cllr Frankum's behalf as a formal deputy.

90. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter considered at the meeting they must declare that interest at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard to the circumstances described in Part 3 Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Non-Pecuniary Interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 2 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

91. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2014 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

92. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced that Councillor Choudhary had joined the Committee as a Full Member.

93. DEPUTATIONS

The Committee were advised that nine deputations had been received for this meeting and the deputation process was explained.

94. THE WESTGATE SCHOOL CHERITON ROAD WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE SO22 5AZ (APPLICATION NO. 14/00368/HCS) (SITE REF: WRE006)

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment (Item 6 in the minute book) regarding a proposal for the extension of an existing netball court and re-surfacing to provide Multi Sports Games Area (MSGA) with 4m high weldmesh fencing at Westgate School.

The officer introduced the item and showed the Committee an aerial photo of the local area and the current surroundings at the site and plans showing the existing layout and the proposed layout and details. It was confirmed that no objections had been received to the application, and it was coming to Committee due to the size of the site. It was confirmed that the car park would remain in use throughout the development and that the existing netball court would continue to be available for use for overflow parking when necessary.

RESOLVED:

Planning permission to extend the existing netball court and re-surface to provide Multi Sports Games Area (MSGA) with 4m high weldmesh fencing at The Westgate School and Rotherly House, Cheriton Road, Winchester, Hampshire SO22 5AZ (14/00638/HCS) was granted subject to the conditions listed in Integral Appendix B.

Voting:

Favour: 16 (unanimous)

95. MERTON COUNTY INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS ROMSEY ROAD BASINGSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE RG24 9HB. (APPLICATION NO. 14/00465/CC3) (SITE REF: BAE063)

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment (Item 7 in the minute book) regarding a proposal for a 1 FE Extension, Internal Alterations and External Works at Merton County Infant and Junior Schools.

The officer introduced the item, showing the committee a location plan, aerial photos of the site, existing and proposed elevations and the catchment area of the schools. The Committee received four deputations on this item. Nigel Elmes, a local resident, told the Committee how he and his wife supported the extension of the school, but had concerns over parking outside their house, particularly with the proposals for Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) along Romsey Close, which meant that they would no longer be able to park at the bottom of their driveway. Mr Elmes proposed the yellow 'Keep Clear' markings being made white to allow flexibility for residents or even "residents only" parking being introduced for the limited bays available. Mr Elmes also suggested the introduction of a table top traffic calming feature to deter drivers from speeding to and from the school.

Larissa James and Helen Palmer, Head Teachers at Merton Infant and Junior Schools respectively, told the Committee how the works would give both schools an opportunity to raise standards further together and that it was important for pupils at the school to enjoy being there. There would also be financial benefit to the school in having more pupils attend, which would mean improvements all round, including to outdoor learning.

Steve Mathews, Senior Architect in Property Services explained to the Committee how the estate was designed when there was less reliance on cars and therefore pedestrian access had always taken precedent. In adding the extension, the school would be given a 'middle', which would serve as hub/focal point. Parking would be improved at the school and above the minimum requirement and a new additional entrance would provide easier access for the new housing development to the north of the site.

Finally the local Member, Councillor Frankum agreed that the parking and highways issues were of real concern to local residents, but the majority of residents are supportive of the extension itself. Cllr Frankum confirmed that she had met with officers many times and was pleased that the TRO's were still being looked at as a separate issue

During questions of the deputations, the following points were clarified:

- Some residents close to the school had been approached regarding Mr Elmes proposed changes to the TRO's and those that lived closer to the crossroads probably wouldn't support the table top ramp because of the noise of vehicles going over it.
- It was anticipated that there would be approximately 21 covered spaces to park scooters and 10 for bicycles, although the final location of these within the site was yet to be decided
- Three parking areas had been identified outside of the vicinity of the school for 'Park & Stride'
- There were other roads in the area that could be used for parking
- There is a subway underneath Popley Way, but the usage of this and possible alternatives are something that would no doubt need to be looked at in the future.

The officer confirmed that TRO's were part of a separate procedure, which would include further consultation with residents, the parking issues at Romsey Road could be addressed as part of this procedure.

It was agreed by the Committee that an advice note be attached to the conditions, which recommended a liaison group be set up with local residents concerning the traffic and parking issues in Romsey Road. It was also considered that scooter and bicycle facilities be made available and details required by a condition.

RESOLVED:

Planning permission for a 1 form entry extension building, internal alterations with external works, landscaping and parking at Merton County Infant and Junior Schools, Romsey Close, Basingstoke was granted subject to the conditions listed in Integral Appendix B.

Voting:

Favour: 16 (unanimous)

Councillor R McIntosh
Chairman
27 May 2014