

Crawley Borough Council

Minutes of Planning Committee

Monday, 3 July 2023 at 7.00 pm

Councillors Present:

S Pritchard (Chair)

J Bounds, J Charatan, K L Jaggard, K Khan, Y Khan and A Nawaz

Officers Present:

Siraj Choudhury	Head of Governance, People & Performance
Jean McPherson	Group Manager (Development Management)
Clem Smith	Head of Economy and Planning
Jess Tamplin	Democratic Services Officer
Hamish Walke	Principal Planning Officer

Apologies for Absence:

Councillors Z Ali and M Mwagale

Absent:

Councillors M Morris and S Mullins

1. Disclosures of Interest

No disclosures of interests were made.

2. Lobbying Declarations

No lobbying declarations were made.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 24 April 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Planning Application CR/2023/0198/TPO - Milton Mount Lake, Pound Hill, Crawley

The Committee considered report [PES/431a](#) of the Head of Economy and Planning which proposed as follows:

Yew 9166 - crown reduction all round of 1.5 to 2 metres.
Yew 9154 - crown reduction all round of 1.5 to 2 metres.

The Group Manager (Development Management) provided a verbal summation of the application, which sought consent for containment pruning to two yew trees in order to prevent encroachment into nearby residential gardens.

The Committee then considered the application.

RESOLVED

Consent subject to the conditions set out in report PES/431a.

5. Proposed Deed of Variation to Planning Application Cr/2020/0588/OUT relating to Nos. 42 and 44 Brighton Road, Southgate, Crawley

The Committee considered report [PES/433](#) of the Head of Economy and Planning which proposed a change by way of a Deed of Variation to the Section 106 Agreement relating to planning application CR/2020/0588/OUT – Nos. 42 and 44 Brighton Road, Southgate, Crawley.

The Principal Planning Officer provided a verbal summation of the application, which sought the Committee's agreement to make a Deed of Variation to retrospectively amend the completed S106 Agreement in order to allow for the provision of 100% affordable housing (20 units), rather than the previously secured 10% (2 units).

The Committee then considered the application. In response to a query from a Committee member, officers confirmed that Crawley Borough Council was in the process of purchasing the land at the site and that the Deed of Variation would facilitate that process.

RESOLVED

That the Committee agrees to the making of a proposed Deed of Variation to reflect the changes as set out in paragraph 5.1 of report PES/433.

6. Objections to the Crawley Borough Council Tree Preservation Order Oak Trees Located Between 92 Gales Drive and 139 Three Bridges Road - 02/2023

The Committee heard that it was proposed that report [PES/432](#) of the Head of Economy and Planning be deferred to the next meeting of the Planning Committee. Further information had arisen since the publication of the agenda, and it was advised that the item would be able to be considered more fully if it were to instead be deferred.

RESOLVED

Defer to the next meeting of the Planning Committee.

7. Section 106 Monies - Q4 2022/23

The Committee considered report [PES/434](#) of the Head of Economy and Planning, which summarised all the Section 106 (S106) monies received, spent and committed to project schemes in quarter four of the financial year 2022/23.

In response to a query from a Committee member regarding the funding of bus shelters, the Head of Economy and Planning confirmed that the next quarterly S106 report to the Committee could include a breakdown of spending on bus shelters.

A Committee member raised a concern that those wards with less developable areas saw fewer major planning applications, which meant the generation of less S106 money and less spending on projects within those wards. In response, the Head of Economy and Planning confirmed that it was not a requirement that S106 monies were spent within the same ward as the planning application that provided them; however the purpose of the funding was to offset the impact of new development on the local area. These wards did occasionally see the benefits of S106 funding from other wards.

RESOLVED

That the update on S106 monies received, spent and committed in quarter four of the financial year 2022/23 was noted.

Change to Start Time of Future Planning Committee Meetings

A Committee member proposed amending the start time of future Planning Committee meetings to 7:30pm for the remainder of the 2023/24 municipal year. The Committee discussed the advantages and disadvantages of changing the start time and, following a vote, the Committee agreed to change the start time to 7:30pm.

The Chair then sought the Committee's permission to revert the start time of any Planning Committee meeting to 7:00pm on occasions when the agenda is large and there are numerous applications to be considered, in consultation with officers and the Vice-Chair. The Committee was in agreement with this proposal.

Closure of Meeting

With the business of the Planning Committee concluded, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.21 pm.

S Pritchard (Chair)