

Crawley Borough Council

Minutes of Planning Committee

Monday, 27 April 2020 at 7.30 pm

Councillors Present:

S Malik (Chair)

T McAleney (Vice-Chair)

L M Ascough, A Belben, J Hart, I T Irvine, K L Jaggard, G S Jhans, J Purdy and P C Smith

Officers Present:

Ann-Maria Brown Head of Legal, Democracy and HR

Jean McPherson Group Manager (Development Management)

Chris Pedlow Democratic Services Manager

Clem Smith Head of Economy and Planning

Jess Tamplin Democratic Services Support Officer

Apologies for Absence:

Councillor M Mwagale

1. Introduction by the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal, Democracy and HR

The Monitoring Officer and Head of Legal, Democracy and HR provided the Committee with a summary of the Council's new Virtual Committee Procedure Rules. It was noted that at this meeting, a recorded vote would be taken on each item on the agenda.

2. Disclosures of Interest

No disclosures of interests were made.

3. Lobbying Declarations

No lobbying declarations were made.

4. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 10 March 2020 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5. Planning Application CR/2019/0904/TPO - Amenity Land to the Front of 99/101 Worth Road, Pound Hill, Crawley

The Committee considered report [PES/332a](#) of the Head of Economy and Planning which proposed as follows:

Acer – crown radius reduction of up to 1.5m and reduction in height by up to 0.75m to appropriate growth points.

Councillors A Belben, Jaggard, Purdy, and P Smith declared they had visited the site.

The Group Manager (Development Management) provided a verbal summation of the application. The proposed maintenance works had been publicised through a site notice and letters to nearby neighbours and no responses had been received. The tree was a mature specimen, but the works would not be detrimental to the health of the tree.

The Committee then considered the application.

A recorded vote was taken on the recommendation in accordance with the Council's Virtual Committee Procedure Rules. The names of the Councillors voting for and against the recommendation, along with any abstentions, are recorded as set out below:

For the recommendation to consent:

Councillors Ascough, A Belben, Hart, Irvine, Jaggard, Jhans, Malik, McAleney, Purdy, and P Smith. (10)

Against the recommendation to consent:

None.

Abstentions:

None.

RESOLVED

Consent subject to conditions set out in report [PES/332a](#).

6. Planning Application CR/2019/0906/TPO - Amenity Land to the Front of 105/107 Worth Road, Pound Hill, Crawley

The Committee considered report [PES/332b](#) of the Head of Economy and Planning which proposed as follows:

Robinia – reduce height and crown radius by 1.5m. Remove epicormic growth up to crown break.

Councillors A Belben, Jaggard, Purdy, and P Smith declared they had visited the site.

The Group Manager (Development Management) provided a verbal summation of the application. The proposed maintenance works had been publicised through a site notice and letters to nearby neighbours and no responses had been received.

The Committee then considered the application.

A recorded vote was taken on the recommendation in accordance with the Council's Virtual Committee Procedure Rules. The names of the Councillors voting for and against the recommendation, along with any abstentions, are recorded as set out below:

For the recommendation to consent:

Councillors Ascough, A Belben, Hart, Irvine, Jaggard, Jhans, Malik, McAleney, Purdy, and P Smith. (10)

Against the recommendation to consent:

None.

Abstentions:

None.

RESOLVED

Consent subject to conditions set out in report [PES/332b](#).

7. Planning Application CR/2019/0907/TPO - Amenity Land to the Front of 51/53 Worth Road, Pound Hill, Crawley

The Committee considered report [PES/332c](#) of the Head of Economy and Planning which proposed as follows:

Robinia – clear holly/yew from around base. Crown radius reduction of up to 2m and reduction in height by up to 1m to appropriate growth points. Removal of basal/epicormic growth.

Councillors A Belben, Jaggard, Purdy, and P Smith declared they had visited the site.

The Group Manager (Development Management) provided a verbal summation of the application. The proposed maintenance works had been publicised through a site notice and letters to nearby neighbours and no responses had been received. The trees to be removed around the base of the trunk of the robinia were not protected by any Tree Preservation Orders.

The Committee then considered the application. Clarification was sought that the removal of the smaller trees would not damage the roots of the robinia tree.

A recorded vote was taken on the recommendation in accordance with the Council's Virtual Committee Procedure Rules. The names of the Councillors voting for and against the recommendation, along with any abstentions, are recorded as set out below:

For the recommendation to consent:

Councillors Ascough, A Belben, Hart, Irvine, Jaggard, Jhans, Malik, McAleney, Purdy, and P Smith. (10)

Against the recommendation to consent:

None.

Abstentions:

None.

RESOLVED

Consent subject to conditions set out in report [PES/332c](#).

8. Planning Application CR/2019/0908/TPO - Amenity Land to the Front of 57/59 Worth Road, Pound Hill, Crawley

The Committee considered report [PES/332d](#) of the Head of Economy and Planning which proposed as follows:

Robinia – crown reduction – reduce from footpath/road/street lamp by 1.5/2m to appropriate growth points/rebalance crown. Removal of basal/epicormics growth.

Councillors A Belben, Jaggard, Purdy, and P Smith declared they had visited the site.

The Group Manager (Development Management) provided a verbal summation of the application. The proposed maintenance works had been publicised through a site notice and letters to nearby neighbours and no responses had been received.

The Committee then considered the application.

A recorded vote was taken on the recommendation in accordance with the Council's Virtual Committee Procedure Rules. The names of the Councillors voting for and against the recommendation, along with any abstentions, are recorded as set out below:

For the recommendation to consent:

Councillors Ascough, A Belben, Hart, Irvine, Jaggard, Jhans, Malik, McAleney, Purdy, and P Smith. (10)

Against the recommendation to consent:

None.

Abstentions:

None.

RESOLVED

Consent subject to conditions set out in report [PES/332d](#).

9. Planning Application CR/2019/0911/TPO - Amenity Land to the Front of 63/65 Worth Road, Pound Hill, Crawley

The Committee considered report [PES/332e](#) of the Head of Economy and Planning which proposed as follows:

Robinia – reduce crown radius by up to of 2m and crown height by up to 1m to appropriate growth points. Removal of basal/epicormic growth.

Councillors A Belben, Jaggard, Purdy, and P Smith declared they had visited the site.

The Group Manager (Development Management) provided a verbal summation of the application and updated the Committee that a minor change to the wording of the proposal had been made, to read 'Robinia – reduce crown radius by 1.5m to 2m and crown height by up to 1m to appropriate growth points. Removal of basal/epicormic growth'. The proposed maintenance works had been publicised through a site notice and letters to nearby neighbours and no responses had been received.

The Committee then considered the application. In response to a question from a Committee member, it was confirmed that the specimen was regarded as a single five-stemmed tree and the recommended tree works were considered on this basis, rather than as five individual specimens.

A recorded vote was taken on the recommendation in accordance with the Council's Virtual Committee Procedure Rules. The names of the Councillors voting for and against the recommendation, along with any abstentions, are recorded as set out below:

For the recommendation to consent:

Councillors Ascough, A Belben, Hart, Irvine, Jaggard, Jhans, Malik, McAleney, Purdy, and P Smith. (10)

Against the recommendation to consent:

None.

Abstentions:

None.

RESOLVED

Consent in line with the amended wording of the proposal, and subject to conditions set out in report [PES/332e](#).

10. Planning Application CR/2019/0912/TPO - Amenity Land to the Front of 75/77 Worth Road, Pound Hill, Crawley

The Committee considered report [PES/332f](#) of the Head of Economy and Planning which proposed as follows:

Robinia – crown lift by 2m. Reduce crown radius by up to of 2m and reduce crown height by up to 1m to appropriate growth points.

Councillors A Belben, Jaggard, Purdy, and P Smith declared they had visited the site.

The Group Manager (Development Management) provided a verbal summation of the application and updated the Committee that a minor change to the wording of the proposal had been made, to read 'Robinia – crown lift by 2m. Reduce crown radius by 1.5m to 2m and reduce crown height by up to 1m to appropriate growth points'. The proposed maintenance works had been publicised through a site notice and letters to nearby neighbours and no responses had been received.

The Committee then considered the application. In response to a question from a Committee member, it was confirmed that the subject of the application was the tree in the centre of the photograph in the report, rather than the tree at the right of the

photograph. Maintenance was necessary to distance the branches from nearby telephone cables.

A recorded vote was taken on the recommendation in accordance with the Council's Virtual Committee Procedure Rules. The names of the Councillors voting for and against the recommendation, along with any abstentions, are recorded as set out below:

For the recommendation to consent:

Councillors Ascough, A Belben, Hart, Irvine, Jaggard, Jhans, Malik, McAleney, Purdy, and P Smith. (10)

Against the recommendation to consent:

None.

Abstentions:

None.

RESOLVED

Consent in line with the amended wording of the proposal, and subject to conditions set out in report [PES/332f](#).

Closure of Meeting

With the business of the Planning Committee concluded, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.42 pm

**S Malik
(Chair)**