



# Battle Town Council



Minutes of the **PLANNING & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE** held on  
**TUESDAY, 8<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2022 at 7.30pm. The Almonry, High Street, Battle**

**Present:** Cllrs M Howell (Chairman), V Cook, C Davies, M Kiloh, A Russell, D Wheeler.

**In attendance:** Cllr S Burton, Cllr D Russell, five members of the public, C Harris (Town Clerk)

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – None.**

1. **Apologies for absence:** None.
2. **Disclosure of Interest:** None.
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022 were approved and duly signed by Cllr Howell.**

#### 4. **Presentation on 20 is Plenty**

Kevin Moore(KM) of 20's Plenty for East Sussex was welcomed to the meeting.

KM highlighted the success in reduction of the number of people killed in several areas following the reduction to 20 mile per hour speed limit. He quoted that in Wales there has been a saving of £100m in costs of accidents against an investment of £35m. The reluctance of East Sussex County Council(ESCC) to pursue the speed reduction was reported; although the Department for Transport acknowledge the benefits. It was suggested that Council should consider specific areas in Battle that would benefit from a 20mph speed limit.

A copy of the presentation was requested and the Clerk was asked to put this on the Agenda for next month.

Mr Moore was thanked for his presentation.

*Two members left the meeting.*

#### 5. **Clerk's report**

- Rother District Council(RDC) response on:
  - the lack of consultation on **non 'P' planning matters**, particularly tree works, suggests that the matter is being reviewed and an update will be produced when a decision has been made. District Cllr Cook was asked to take this matter forward;
  - **training on RDC's decision making process** confirms that they hope to progress this soon;
  - the **discharge of S106 matters** confirms that they are not a public consultation matter as they are not planning applications in the normal sense. The planning reference is for their recording purposes only;
  - the online location of "**discharge of conditions**" applications reports that they may be found under the original planning application reference number.
- As there has still been no response from the Rother Association of Local Council's Secretary in relation to the appropriate lamp posts for the **Black Cat device**, Council representatives have been asked to take this to the next meeting.
- A discussion with ESCC in relation to the proposed **safe crossing at Battle Hill** has been arranged for 9<sup>th</sup> November. All Councillors are invited.
- Confirmation from ESCC that further **bus fare reductions** across the county are planned. These will be advertised on their social media platforms and webpages.

#### 6. **Finance**



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- a) The **Budget Report to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022** was noted, as attached. It was suggested that the Neighbourhood Plan EMR (355) should be renamed NP IMR.

## 7. Planning applications received to date

[RR/2022/2480/P](#) & **Telham High Farm, Telham Lane, Battle TN33 0SN**  
[RR/2022/2481/L](#)

Proposed Storage Barn & New Solar Panels to Existing Annexe Roof.

**Comments:** No objection to this, unanimously.

[RR/2022/2492/P](#) **Paygate, Whatlington Road, Battle TN33 0NA**

Erection of extension and internal alterations.

**Comments:** No objection subject to the vertical cladding be replaced with horizontal as identified in the Battle Design Guidelines: HD4 Quality of Design and the High Weald Design Guide.

[RR/2022/2472/P](#) **72a High Street, Battle TN33 0AG**

Change of use from office to residential, proposing a new three-bed maisonette.

**Comments:** No objection to this, unanimously.

[RR/2022/2527/P](#) **Ferncroft, 17 North Trade Road, Battle TN33 0HB**

Demolition of existing flat roof attached garage and rear conservatory. Erection of two storey side and single storey rear extension which includes ancillary/overspill living accommodation for family/friends.

**Comments:** It was noted that this is close to the boundary of the plot and doubles the footprint. This is contrary to the Battle CP Neighbourhood Plan Design Guidelines on pages 34/35:

Household Extensions

- The original building should remain the dominant element of the property. The newly built extension should not overwhelm the building from any given point.
- Extensions should not result in a significant loss to the private amenity area of the dwelling.
- Designs that wrap around the existing building and involve overly complicated roof forms should be avoided.
- Extensions should demonstrate an intelligent understanding of the materials, architectural features, window sizes, and proportions of the existing building in order to match and complement the built environment.

Members unanimously support a refusal of this application.

## 8. Footpath matters

The Chairman reported that **Mr Marks had resigned his position as Footpaths Advisor**. It was highlighted that he had been a valuable asset to the Committee and would be missed. Cllrs Howell and Cook agreed to thank Mr Marks for his efforts over the years. The Clerk was asked to contact Battle Ramblers to seek a replacement advisor.

The works to **footpath 41** had been congratulated by Mr Marks and the Chairman of Battle Ramblers. Unfortunately, the extreme wet weather had produced a large pool of water at the bottom of the steps. The ESCC Footpaths Officer had confirmed that work carried out was satisfactory but that he would give the area further consideration. It was suggested that planting at Mountjoy and a request to adjoining properties not to drop grass cuttings onto the footpath area might be beneficial.

## 9. Correspondence and Communications

- a) An email of concern for the proposed development at **Normanhurst Estate, Catsfield** was noted.



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Councillors had attended the proposed developer's open day and found it unhelpful. Members felt that the development would not be to the advantage of Catsfield or neighbouring villages. Council agreed to look out for the planning application.

b) Notification of **Temporary Road Closures** were noted:

- **High Street** (from the roundabout with North Trade Road and the A2100 to Upper Lake), **Upper Lake and Lower Lake** (from Upper Lake to Station Approach) from **18.00 to 24.00** on **5<sup>th</sup> November 2022**;
- **Market Road & High Street** for **Remembrance Parade** on from **10.15 to 10.45 & 12.00 to 12.15** on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2022**;
- **Market Road and High Street** (from the roundabout with the North Trade Road and the A2100 to Abbey Green) between **13.50 and 14.30** and for a short parade. **Abbey Green** (from the High Street to Battle Abbey) between **13.00 and 18.00** of **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2022**, for **Christmas Switch on Events**

*Cllr Burton expressed her interest in the following item, as a resident of Saxonwood Road.*

- c) Concerns at lack of parking for visitors due to yellow lines in **Saxonwood Road** regarding **yellow lines**. It was noted that this is an ESCC Highways matter and the Clerk had passed it to them for comment.
- d) Notification of **drainage installation and footway construction works in Harrier Lane** was noted.
- e) Information from GTR stakeholder team regarding **free rail travel for Remembrance events for serving military personnel and veterans** was noted.
- f) The **Community Speed Watch Sussex Monthly Update September 2022** was noted, as attached.
- g) The Clerk was asked to circulate a doodle poll to complete the **East Sussex County Council consultation** [East Sussex Local Transport Plan 4 - East Sussex - Citizen Space](#) prior to the closing date of 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022.
- h) Members noted the request from **Southeastern Railway** to comment on overall performance, engagement during the evolving post Covid situation and understand any change in trends / perceptions and suggested that individuals complete this.
- i) **Decisions received** and noted:

**Approved**

- **RR/2022/1330/P**                      **Blackfriars – Land at, Battle**  
Variation of Condition 1 imposed on planning permission RR/2020/2307/P to allow alterations to the elevations and floor plans of the dwellings, alterations to the access and parking for the development and materials. Variation of outline permission RR/2019/604/P to phase construction of the development.
- **RR/2022/1537/P**                      **3 St Marys Villas, Battle**  
Removal of garage in rear garden and installation of close boarded fence to create open vehicle access.
- **RR/2022/1937/P**                      **Stonehouse, Kent Street, Battle**  
Erection of 2 storey timber barn including first floor balcony and dormer windows, alternative to approved application RR/2005/2437/P
- **RR/2022/1948/P**                      **Tanglewood, Netherfield Hill, Netherfield, Battle**  
First floor extension and alterations to front entrance porch.
- **RR/2022/1952/P**                      **41 Hastings Road, Libra Cottage, Battle**  
Construction of first floor rear side extension with rear dormer, ground floor rear extension and the rebuild of existing timber frame side structure.
- **RR/2022/2050/P**                      **Saxonbury House, Caldbec Hill, Battle**  
Proposed minor external changes and internal re-configurations including revised front entrance area, revised utility area and revised rear bay windows.

## Other notifications:

- **RR/2022/1841/P**                      **North Trade Road – Land to South of, Battle**  
Application to Re-Discharge Part 1 of Schedule 3 (Landscape Area) of S106 Agreement (Ref:RR/2017/2390/P)

## Minor Amendment Approved

- **RR/2022/2130/MA**                      **North Trade Road – land South of, Battle**  
Minor amendment to RR/2020/2276/P to review drawings to show the omission of carports to plots 21 and 22 due to a proposed diverted sewer situated beneath the proposed structures.

## Tree work – No objection

- **RR/2022/2288/T**                      **88A High Street, Battle**  
T1 (Ash)- Fell to ground level; T2 (Holly) – reduce height by approx. 10ft; T3 (Willow) – Crown lift removing large limb over wall and cut back from surrounding trees; T4 (willow) – Crown lift and cut back from surrounding trees

## Lawful Development Certificate Refused

- **RR/2022/1516/O**                      **Highlands Cottage, Kane Hythe Road, Battle**  
Certificate of Lawfulness for the change of use of the existing stable building to a dwellinghouse.

### j) **Other items:**

- An offer by **Asprey Homes** to have an informal discussion with Council prior to the submission of the formal planning application for **White House Farm**. This was agreed.
- A request by **Sussex Police Community Speedwatch (CSW)** to promote the need for volunteers to form a Battle CSW group.
- Notification that ESCC will be submitting a planning application to **develop Cregg Na Ba, Chain Lane** to provide supported living for adults with a learning disability.

## **10. Neighbourhood Plan Implementation Monitoring & Review Sub Committee**

The Chairman reported that, following the resignation of Mr Marks, N Bishop has been elected Chairman of the SC at the **meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022**. A further resident member will be sought via the forthcoming Newsletter. It was noted that a Referendum would be needed to include a biodiversity and climate policy and that it might be prudent to await the RDC Local Plan. The assets of community value had been discussed and recommendations will be brought to the next meeting. The spreadsheet analysis previously provided will be simplified to emphasise the NP policies quoted.

## **11. Feasibility Appraisal on the Netherfield Footway**

The appraisal document had been circulated, as attached. It was noted that the conclusion indicated that this scheme is unlikely to be delivered due to the many challenges. It was agreed to consult with local residents, school, shop and church in spring 2023 for support to a scheme with this level of impact.

## **12. Steps to Ramp scheme**

The Clerk reported that she had met with RDC's Equalities Officer and ESCC's Shared Services Building Control Manager. They had suggested that this is a complicated project, with uncertain support of landowners/adjacent property owners, which may cause more issues than it will resolve. Their most favoured option would be the zig-zag slope with level landings for passing places and resting which would require a min of 1.8m wide. It was stated that it would cost a "lot of money for little value" and, without significant evidence of need, is not justified. They had recommended the proposal be

revisited in 18 months – 2 years. Members felt that with the additional homes in Lillybank there could be more demand for a safe pedestrian route. It was agreed that a petition should be raised to identify support.

### 13. Road names

Cllr Cook had reviewed the list of road names and removed those that had been duplicated with other roads in the Rother district. The revised list was agreed, as attached.

### 14. Strengthening Local Relationship meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022

The draft minutes were noted as attached.

### 15. Detailed Action Plan for 2022-2023

- Draft a spending programme for CIL monies for agreement by Council
- Undertake a biannual review for possible sources of income
- Work to declassify the A2100 between the Ten Sixty Six roundabout by The Old Courthouse and Queensway - Agree budget
- Review reports from Footpaths Advisor

### 16. Matters for information / future agenda items

Report from **Cycling and Walking Working Group**

It was noted that **vehicles parking on grass verges at Glengorse and Marley Lane** during property works are causing damage. These will be reported to the relevant authorities.

The **drainage problems at A2100 Wattles Wish** was reported. The reinstatement of bollards is awaited. The online ESCC fix my street was highlighted as a useful tool.

### 17. Date of next meeting: 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022

#### EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

For the consideration of sensitive information, Members agreed that the press and public be excluded in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 (1)(2) for the following item.

*Members of the public left the meeting.*

### 18. The updated enforcement list as at 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022 was noted.

The Clerk was asked to confirm that enforcement plans for Fir Tree Cottage have been implemented and to clarify progress on ENF/236/19/BAT.

Training on how enforcement matters are handled is to be requested.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.20.

Cllr M Howell  
Chairman