

## TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL

### PLANNING COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held at the Council Chamber, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1RS, at 6.30 pm on Wednesday, 6 March 2024

**Present: Councillor Godfrey Bland (Chair)**

**Councillors Johnson, Le Page, Moon, Neville, O'Connell, Osborne, Patterson, Pope and White**

**Officers in Attendance:** Lucinda Roach (Development Manager), James Taylor (Planning Officer) and Emer Moran (Democratic Services Officer)

**Other Members in Attendance:** Councillor Pound

#### CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

PLA261/23 The Chair opened the meeting, introduced Committee members and officers in attendance, and outlined procedural matters of the meeting.

#### APOLOGIES

PLA262/23 Apologies were received from Councillors Britcher-Allan and Fitzsimmons.

#### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

PLA263/23 No declarations of interest were made.

#### DECLARATIONS OF LOBBYING (IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROTOCOL FOR MEMBERS TAKING PART IN THE PLANNING PROCESS, PART 5, SECTION 5.11, PARAGRAPH 6.6)

PLA264/23 No declarations of lobbying were made.

#### SITE INSPECTIONS

PLA265/23 Members had not undertaken any site visits.

#### TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING DATED 7 FEBRUARY 2024

PLA266/23 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting dated 7 February 2024 be recorded as a correct record.

#### REPORTS OF HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES (ATTACHED)

PLA267/23

#### APPLICATION FOR CONSIDERATION - 24/00009/LBC ASSEMBLY HALL THEATRE CRESCENT ROAD ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS KENT TN1 2LU

PLA268/23 **Planning Report and Presentation** – The Head of Planning Services submitted a report in respect of application PLA268/23 Assembly Hall Theatre Crescent Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent and this was

summarised at the meeting by James Taylor Planning Officer and illustrated by means of a visual presentation.

**Updates and additional representation – None.**

**Registered Speakers –** There were no speakers that registered in accordance with the Council's Constitution (Planning Committee Procedure Rules)

**Matters of clarification by Officers and Committee Members' questions to Officers included:**

- i. The report was taken as read.

**Committee Member debate and Officer clarification included:**

- i. Members expressed that they felt that the architect would be proud that the Council was maintaining the building as it was designed.

**Decision/voting –** On the basis that members were satisfied that all relevant planning considerations had been covered within the report, a motion was proposed by Councillor Le Page, seconded by Councillor Osborne and a vote was taken to approve the application in line with the officer recommendation.

**RESOLVED –** That application PLA268/23 be granted subject to the plans, conditions and informatives as set out in the agenda report.

**APPLICATION FOR CONSIDERATION - 23/03322/FULL THE GRANARY, SWIGS HOLE FARM, YEW TREE GREEN ROAD, HORSMONDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT**

PLA269/23 **Planning Report and Presentation –** The Head of Planning Services submitted a report in respect of application PLA269/23 The Granary, Swigs Hole Farm, Yew Tree Green Road, Horsmonden, Tonbridge, Kent and this was summarised at the meeting by James Taylor Planning Officer and illustrated by means of a visual presentation.

**Updates and additional representation – None.**

**Registered Speakers –** There were no speakers that registered in accordance with the Council's Constitution (Planning Committee Procedure Rules)

**Matters of clarification by Officers and Committee Members' questions to Officers included:**

- i. It was confirmed that the reason the application was before Members was that the applicant was an elected Member of the Council.

**Committee Member debate and Officer clarification included:**

- i. The point was raised about the application being retrospective. Officers addressed this and confirmed that

each application should be judged on its own merits and the fact that it was retrospective should not influence Members decisions.

**Decision/voting** – On the basis that members were satisfied that all relevant planning considerations had been covered within the report, a motion was proposed by Councillor Patterson, seconded by Councillor Pope and a vote was taken to approve the application in line with the officer recommendation.

**RESOLVED** – That application PLA269/23 be granted subject to the plans, conditions and informatives as set out in the agenda report.

#### **APPEAL DECISIONS FOR NOTING 29 JANUARY 2023 TO 26 FEBRUARY 2024**

PLA270/23 **RESOLVED** – That the list of appeal decisions provided for information, be noted.

#### **URGENT BUSINESS**

PLA271/23 There was no urgent business for consideration.

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

PLA272/23 The next Planning Committee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 27 March 2024.

NOTE: The meeting concluded at 6.52 pm.