



Leicester
City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

Held: TUESDAY, 1 APRIL 2008 at 5:30 pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Shelton - Chair

Councillor Bayford	Councillor Bhavsar
Councillor Mrs Chambers	Councillor Chowdhury
Councillor Clair (For Cllr Desai)	Councillor Follett
Councillor Hall	Councillor Joshi
Councillor Patel	Councillor Potter
Councillor Wann	

In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution (A4, Rule 42) the following Councillors attended the meeting and with the sanction of the Committee spoke on the items indicated, but did not vote.

Councillor Connelly	20071861	31 15-17 Braunstone Gate
Councillor Gill	20071861	31 15-17 Braunstone Gate
Councillor Mugglestone	The Leicester (Consolidation) Traffic Regulation Order 2006 (Amendment) Columbine Road Order 2008.	
Councillor Shah	The Leicester (Consolidation) Traffic Regulation Order 2006 (Amendment) Columbine Road Order 2008.	

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130. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Desai and Suleman.

131. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were requested to declare any interests that they had in the business to be discussed on the agenda, including under the Council's Code of Practice for Development Control Decisions and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them.

Under the Code of Conduct Councillor Patel declared a prejudicial interest in applications 20080111, Adjacent 7 Cooper Street and 20080112, Adjacent Cooper Street as he wished to speak as Ward Councillor in favour of the applications.

Under the Code of Practice for Development Control Decisions, the following declarations were made:

Councillor Bayford declared that he had received representations in respect of application 20071861, 13, 15-17 Braunstone Gate and Item 5, "The Leicester (Consolidation) Traffic Regulation Order 2006 (Amendment) Columbine Road Order 2008."

Councillor Bhavsar declared that he had received representations in respect of application 20071861, 13, 15-17 Braunstone Gate.

Councillor Mrs Chambers declared that she had received representations in respect of application 20071861, 13, 15-17 Braunstone Gate and Item 5, "The Leicester (Consolidation) Traffic Regulation Order 2006 (Amendment) Columbine Road Order 2008."

Councillor Clair declared that he had received representations in respect of application 20071861, 13, 15-17 Braunstone Gate.

Councillor Chowdhury declared that he had received representations in respect of application 20071861, 13, 15-17 Braunstone Gate and Item 5, "The Leicester (Consolidation) Traffic Regulation Order 2006 (Amendment) Columbine Road Order 2008."

Councillor Follett declared that he had received representations in respect of application 20071861, 13, 15-17 Braunstone Gate and Item 5, "The Leicester (Consolidation) Traffic Regulation Order 2006 (Amendment) Columbine Road Order 2008."

Councillor Hall declared that he had received representations in respect of application 20071861, 13, 15-17 Braunstone Gate, 20080243, 321 Aikman Avenue, 20072365, Bath Lane (Former Friars Mill) and Item 5, "The Leicester (Consolidation) Traffic Regulation Order 2006 (Amendment) Columbine Road Order 2008."

Councillor Joshi declared that he had received representations in respect of application 20071861, 13, 15-17 Braunstone Gate, 20080111, Adjacent 7 Cooper Street, 20080112, Adjacent 8 Cooper Street and Item 5, "The Leicester (Consolidation) Traffic Regulation Order 2006 (Amendment) Columbine Road Order 2008."

Councillor Patel declared that he had received representations in respect of application 20071861, 13, 15-17 Braunstone Gate.

Councillor Potter declared that she had received representations in respect of application 20071861, 13, 15-17 Braunstone Gate and Item 5, "The Leicester (Consolidation) Traffic Regulation Order 2006 (Amendment) Columbine Road Order 2008," in which she also declared a personal interest, as she wished to speak on the item as Ward Councillor.

Councillor Shelton declared that he had received representations in respect of

applications 20071861, 13, 15-17 Braunstone Gate, 20072365, Bath Lane (Former Friars Mill) and Item 5, “The Leicester (Consolidation) Traffic Regulation Order 2006 (Amendment) Columbine Road Order 2008.”

Councillor Wann declared that he had received representations in respect of applications 20071861, 13, 15-17 Braunstone Gate, 20080243, 321 Aikman Avenue, 20072365, Bath Lane (Former Friars Mill) and Item 5, “The Leicester (Consolidation) Traffic Regulation Order 2006 (Amendment) Columbine Road Order 2008.”

The following Councillors who were not members of the Committee attended the meeting and spoke with regard to a specific application and declared the following interests in line with the Code of Practice for Member Involvement in Development Control Decisions.

Councillor Shah declared a personal interest in respect of Item 5 “The Leicester (Consolidation) Traffic Regulation Order 2006 (Amendment) Columbine Road Order 2008,” as she was a local resident.

Councillor Connelly declared a personal interest in respect of application 20071861, 13, 15-17 Braunstone Gate as he was Ward Councillor, lived locally and knew the area well.

Councillor Gill declared a personal interest in respect of application 20071861, 13, 15-17 Braunstone Gate, as he used to serve on the National Executive of a trade organisation that represented the interests of Hackney Carriage drivers and he also had relatives who worked as Hackney Carriage drivers.

134. THE LEICESTER (CONSOLIDATION) TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER 2006 (AMENDMENT) COLUMBINE ROAD ORDER 2008

The Corporate Director, Regeneration and Culture, submitted a report concerning a proposed Traffic Regulation Order for Columbine Road and that enabled the Committee to give their views for Cabinet to take into account when considering the report. It was explained that the grounds for the order concerned the amenity of the area.

The Chair invited Councillor Shah to speak on the proposal and she gave details of various discrepancies within the report. The points raised covered consultation, response from Ward Councillors, a denial that emergency access only had been suggested and a proposed re-routing of the bus service. She also stated that land registry searches had identified Columbine Road as a “no through road”. She explained that the campaign to close the road had always been on the grounds of safety, particularly for users of the bridleway.

The Chair invited Councillor Mugglestone to speak on the proposal and he stated that the main concern was safety and that the road was not originally intended as a through road, according to the East Hamilton Planning Brief Section 7.4. He recognised the finely balanced arguments on both sides, but stated that the road was opened without Members’ approval. He asked the

Committee to approve the closure as he felt that it was the safe and right solution to the problem.

Councillor Potter spoke as Ward Councillor and stated that reasons for keeping the road open included safety of children walking to school over longer distances, a bus route for elderly and disabled residents and that she had not been sufficiently consulted. She asked, in the interests of fairness to residents on both sides of the argument, that further detailed consultation take place.

Members considered the level of consultation that had taken place and felt that ward councillors may not have been sufficiently involved. They raised concern about the safety of people crossing the cycle way and asked if there was an alternative to the current layout.

Officers reiterated that the Order concerned amenity only and the road narrowed to one lane at the cycle way crossing to ensure safety. Any changes would involve a further design process, on which officers could consult.

Councillor Wann, seconded by Councillor Joshi, proposed that officers develop proposals for addressing safety at the cycle way crossing and that a further full consultation be carried out by the Council to identify residents' views on the proposals. Upon being put to the vote the motion was CARRIED.

RESOLVED:

That the Planning and Development Control Committee recommend to Cabinet that they instruct officers to develop proposals for addressing safety at the cycle way crossing, and that a further full consultation be carried out by the Council to identify residents' views on the proposals.

