

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE
HELD ON AT GROVE HOUSE
WEDNESDAY 17th NOVEMBER 2021**

Meeting Commenced: 19.06

Meeting Concluded: 20.07

PRESENT: Councillors Jan Holloway (Chairman), Alan Peak, Dot Agassiz, Ray Armstrong, Dave Hitchins, Tim Taylor, Sonia Russe (S)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Malcolm Nicholson (Town Clerk), Julie Smith (Admin Officer).

Prior to the start of the meeting the Chairman welcomed Cllr Mark Canniford who presented a petition relating to the proposed redevelopment of the former Royal Pier site at 55-57 Birnbeck Road Weston-super-Mare to the Committee.

225.	Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes Apologies were received from Cllr Gill Bute, substituted by Cllr Sonia Russe.
226.	Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest received.
227.	To agree the accuracy of the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 20th October 2021 The minutes of the last meeting had been previously circulated with the agenda. PROPOSED BY: Councillor Tim Taylor SECONDED BY: Councillor Dot Agassiz RECOMMENDED: That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.
228.	Matters for Consideration a) Street Trading Applications The Committee noted that there were no street trading applications for consideration. b) Disabled Parking Bay Applications 31 Magnolia Avenue – No Objection 60 Drove Road – No Objection

RESOLVED: To inform North Somerset Council's Streets and Open Spaces department of the Town Council's response.

c) North Somerset Consultation – Weston Stone Walls Article 4 Direction Proposal.

RESOLVED: The Committee noted the proposal for an Article 4 Direction and had No Objection.

d) Preferences for future meetings – to receive feedback from Committee

The Committee discussed whether to hold meetings during the winter months in person or virtually. Members were uncomfortable going to Grove House due to dark evenings but some members were not able to attend daytime meetings.

It was pointed out that the Planning Committee met every 4 weeks, more than twice as often as other committees, thereby increasing the risks to members from Covid -19.

It was felt by the majority that the committee should go back to operating as a working party, holding meetings virtually via Zoom until the 31st March when the clocks change.

PROPOSED BY: Cllr Tim Taylor

SECONDED: Cllr Ray Armstrong

A vote was taken and **carried**. Accordingly, it was:

RESOLVED: To make a recommendation to Full Council asking for the Planning Committee to be made an exception, to go back to operating as a Working Party until the end of March 2022 to enable meetings to be held virtually and to prevent members and officers coming out in the evenings to Grove House during the dark winter months.

e) Green Criteria (deferred from Climate Change 10th November 2021)

The Committee felt it would be beneficial to invite a member of the Climate Change Working Party to attend the next Planning Committee to explain the criteria in more details. Members felt the following were some of the issues which should be followed: -

More cycle paths, footpaths, parklands, solar panels especially on new builds, more public transport, electric car charging points and more trees planted.

RESOLVED:

The Town Clerk would contact Nicola Webb at NSC to get her view on what was most important and to defer this item until the next meeting.

229. Planning Applications and other Planning Matters submitted to the Town Council for consideration.

	<p>The Committee considered applications in respect of the weekly lists provided by North Somerset Council dated: 11th – 17th October, 18th – 24th October, 25th – 31st October and 1st November – 7th November 2021.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Town Council’s comments on planning applications be directly uploaded to ‘Uniform’ website as part of the system of work requirement by North Somerset Council. This information would also be reflected on the Town Council’s website with hyperlink back to North Somerset Council’s website for referral purposes.</p>
	<p>There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.07 pm</p> <p>Signed.....Dated</p> <p>Chairman of the Planning Committee</p>