

Regulatory Committee

Tuesday, 4 August 2020

Minutes

Attendance

Committee Members

Councillor Mark Cargill (Chair)
Councillor Neil Dirveiks (Vice-Chair)
Councillor John Cooke
Councillor Bill Gifford
Councillor Anne Parry
Councillor David Reilly
Councillor Clive Rickhards
Councillor Jill Simpson-Vince
Councillor Adrian Warwick
Councillor Dave Shilton

Officers

Jasbir Kaur, Planning Manager
Ian Marriott, Legal Service Manager
Matthew Williams, Senior Planning Officer
Paul Wilcox, Senior Planner

1. General

The Committee held one minute's silence for Councillor Bob Stevens who sadly passed away on 31 July 2020.

(1) Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Caroline Phillips, Councillor Kate Rolfe and Councillor Chris Williams. Councillor Dave Shilton replaced Councillor Chris Williams for this meeting.

(2) Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests.

None.

(3) Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2020 were agreed as a true and accurate record. There were no matters arising.

4. Minutes from the meeting on 23 July 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 July 2020 in relation to the appointment of the Chair and Vice-Chair were agreed as a true and accurate record.

2. Delegated Decisions

None.

3. Planning Application SDC/20CC003

Jasbir Kaur, Strategic Planning and Development Manager presented the report to the Committee confirming that the application included the creation of two ponds and a butterfly bank.

The Committee noted that the development would be funded by the Offset Scheme; funds paid by developers after the loss of ecology due to development that are to be used elsewhere to mitigate the loss. It was confirmed that Warwickshire County Council, who manages the offset fund, look for sites close to the original development but that this is not always possible. It was confirmed that the Council maintains a list of willing landowners for offset scheme developments. Following a request from the Committee it was agreed that information in relation to the identification of sites where the fund could be used will be circulated to members of the Committee.

The following points were highlighted to the Committee –

- The topsoil from the creation of the two ponds will be used to form a new community orchard
- The ponds will support the development of a positive environment for great crested newts
- The development is in accordance with Green Belt development
- The site will enhance biodiversity in the area
- The application complies with all planning related policies at Stratford District Council and Warwickshire County Council

Paul Wilcox, Senior Planner (contractor) confirmed that the site would initially be managed by Warwickshire County Council before being handed over to the charity Forrest of Hearts once the establishment period is complete. Following a question from the Chair it was agreed that the long-term action plan for the application site will be circulated to members of the Committee.

Councillor Anne Parry stated that the site was part of her division and that she sat on Snitterfield Parish Council (SPC). SPC feel that the application is positive and welcome the biodiversity that it will bring to the area.

The recommendation was proposed by Councillor John Cooke and was seconded by Councillor Anne Parry. A vote was held, and the Committee voted unanimously in favour of the recommendation to grant planning permission.

Resolved

That the Regulatory Committee authorises the grant of planning permission for the creation and management of 2 no. wildlife ponds and butterfly bank on farmland as part of the Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull great crested newt conservation strategy at Forest of Hearts, Gospel Oak Lane, Pathlow, Stratford upon Avon, subject to the conditions and for the reasons within the Appendix B.

The meeting rose at 11:05am

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Chair