

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Committee held on Friday 1st November 2013 at 2.00 pm at Darby House, Lawn Central, Telford

PRESENT

Councillors: C Mason (Chair), T Hope, A Mackenzie, R Scammell, J Seymour, J Thompson and C Turley

Officers in attendance: E Griffin – Solicitor, T Reah – Building Control Team Leader and P. Smith - Democratic Services Team Leader

LC-10 MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Licensing Committee meeting held on 18th September 2013 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

LC-11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors R Sloan, M Smith and K Tomlinson

LC-12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

LC-13 RENUMBERING OF EXISTING PROPERTIES AT GLEN COTTAGES, BRICKHILL LANE, KETLEY AND ALLOCATION OF NEW NUMBERS TO NEW DEVELOPMENTS PROPOSED AT BRICKHILL LANE, KETLEY

The Building Control Team Leader presented the report of the Assistant Director: Development, Business & Employment which requested Members to consider a proposed solution in respect of re-numbering and numbering of houses at Brickhill Lane, Ketley to resolve difficulties that would arise as a result of new housing developments.

The Council had statutory powers to deal with the numbering of new properties under the Town Improvement Clauses Act 1847. The Building Control Team Leader referred to the five plans appended to the report which showed the current and proposed situation, along with a proposed solution. Currently, there were properties on one side of the road only – whose numbering already contained anomalies. Four of these dwellings were to be demolished, to be replaced by 9 new properties. In addition, a new large-scale housing development (by a different developer) would surround the existing properties in Brickhill Lane, including the construction of new dwellings on the opposite side of the road. Whilst the Council would normally seek to avoid the need to re-number existing properties, in this instance the problem of allocating 9 new property numbers on one side of the road, and the need to allocate numbers to the new proposed development on the other side, meant that re-numbering of the existing properties was unavoidable if there was to be a logical

solution. A proposed solution was shown on Plan 5, which would result in numbering on both sides of Brickhill Lane, and avoid further re-numbering when the remaining phases of the larger development came through.

Consultation had taken place on the proposed changes, and three objections had been received from residents of existing properties. One objector was particularly concerned about the loss of "Glen Cottages" from his address, and it had subsequently been agreed that all properties on that side of the road could retain Glen Cottages as part of their address. Another respondent had indicated that they did not object to the re-numbering, provided that the Council accepted responsibility for any charges they may incur from obtaining new documents from organisations such as the Passport Office and the DVLA following a change of address. A representation from the applicants, Sanctuary Housing Group, in support of the proposed solution was tabled. The Solicitor reported that one of the main objectors was unable to attend the meeting due to illness, but had reiterated his opposition as well as the issue of costs that would be incurred by residents as a result of the re-numbering.

Mr and Mrs Parry of 10 Glen Cottages, Brickhill Lane were present, and the Chair invited Mr Parry to address the Committee. Mr Parry stated that he had not previously objected because he had only recently become aware of the proposed re-numbering. The Building Support Team Leader explained how the proposed re-numbering would work (with odd numbers on one side of the road and even numbers on the other), and that Mr and Mrs Parry's property would change to 43 Glen Cottages, Brickhill Lane. Mr Parry stated that he personally did not understand the need for change, and was against the re-numbering.

Members then considered the information that had been presented to them, and the representations that had been received. In response to questions, the Building Control Team Leader further explained the siting of proposed new properties in the vicinity (including where letterboxes would be located) and the access arrangements. In relation to the potential costs that existing residents might face as a result of re-numbering, it was advised that the Council did not have a budget to pay for such costs. A request had been made to the developer to contribute towards any expenses incurred by residents, but they had declined. In response to a question, the Solicitor advised that the Council did not have any powers to require developers to meet these costs.

Members had some sympathy for the residents who would be affected by the re-numbering, but having viewed all the plans and considered the different options, it appeared that the proposal of having consecutive odd numbering for the left hand side of Brickhill Lane was the only practical solution.

RESOLVED - that authority be delegated to the Development Manager to approve the re-numbering and numbering of the properties identified on Plan 5 appended to the report with the numbers 1-43 Glen Cottages, Brickhill Lane, Ketley.

The meeting closed at 2.31 pm.

Chairman:

Dated: