

STANDARDS COMMITTEE12 MAY 2016

Present:- Councillor R A Heaney (Chairman), Councillor P B Honeywood (Vice-Chairman), Councillor J Broderick, Councillor J A Brown, Councillor F H Nicholls, Councillor A O J Porter, Councillor G D Steady

Also Present:- Councillors Bennison, Bucke, Davis, J Henderson, Hones, McWilliams (item 4 (part) only), Pemberton, Stephenson and Stock

In Attendance:- Chief Executive (Ian Davidson), Monitoring Officer (Lisa Hastings), Senior Democratic Services Officer (Ian Ford), Deputy Management and Members' Support Manager (Lizzie Ridout) and Democratic Services Officer (Katie Sullivan)

Also in Attendance:- John Wolton and Clarissa Gosling (Independent Persons)

(10.02 a.m. - 11.46 a.m.)  
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1.. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

No apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors, as all of the Committee were in attendance.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD ON 14 MARCH 2016

The minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee, held on 14 March 2016, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

4. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

There was submitted a report by the Monitoring Officer (Lisa Hastings) in respect of a failure to comply with the Members' Code of Conduct.

It was reported that three complaints had been received by the Monitoring Officer under the Members' Code of Conduct and Complaints Procedure, following the actions of District Councillor Mick Skeels Snr towards Mr William Hones prior to the Council meeting held on 5 April 2016. Two of the complaints had been received from members of the public, Ms C. Button and Mr J. Freebody and the third from Mr William Hones himself.

Members were informed that the complaints alleged that Councillor Mick Skeels Snr had breached the Tendring District Council Members' Code of Conduct. The alleged breaches related to paragraphs 3.1, 3.2, 3.4(a) and 3.5(b)(ii) of the Code. The complaints all related to the same incident, i.e. the manner in which Councillor Mick Skeels Snr had spoken to Mr William Hones outside the Town Hall prior to the Council meeting. The conversation between the two parties had been captured on film by Mr Hones and was available to view on YouTube. The Complaint Forms were attached as Appendix 2 to the Report of the Monitoring Officer. One of the forms included the link to the video ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3D\\_XDrZLZzU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3D_XDrZLZzU)) which the Standards Committee had been advised contained obscene language, but it was felt necessary for the Committee to

consider the language used by an elected Member.

The Committee was advised that written apologies had been issued by Councillor Mick Skeels Snr and the text of those apologies was contained within the body of the Monitoring Officer's report. In addition, Councillor Mick Skeels Snr had provided written acknowledgement to the Monitoring Officer that his conduct had fallen short of the standards required by the Members' Code of Conduct, and therefore an investigation into the matter had not been required. Under the Complaints Procedure once there was a finding that evidence existed of a failure to comply with the Code of Conduct, there were two options available, namely:

The first option was to consider an informal resolution (paragraph 7.1.1 of the Complaints Procedure). In this matter the Monitoring Officer did not consider that informal resolution was appropriate. It was noted that a formal apology had been given by Councillor Mick Skeels Snr however, due to the position he held on the Council's Cabinet, a referral to the Standards Committee was considered necessary.

The second option available (paragraph 7.1.2) was for the Monitoring Officer to report the outcome of any investigation to the Standards Committee to enable it to conduct a hearing before deciding whether the Member had failed to comply with the Code of Conduct and if so, whether to take any action in respect of the Member. In this case, Councillor Mick Skeels Snr had already admitted that he had failed to comply with the Code of Conduct and therefore the Standards Committee had the power to take action in respect of individual Members as may be relevant and proportionate, and necessary to promote and maintain high standards of conduct. Accordingly, the Standards Committee could consider the sanctions set out in paragraph 8 of the Complaints Procedure.

The Committee was made aware that all parties had had the opportunity to comment on the Monitoring Officer's decision to refer the matter to the Standards Committee to determine the sanction in respect of Councillor Mick Skeels Snr.

In addition, one of the Council's Independent Persons, Mr John Wolton, had been consulted and his comments were as follows:

"The first thing that comes to mind is the acknowledgement to the Monitoring Officer "I accept fully that I should not have reacted to him in the manner I did regardless of any provocation or previous history between the two of us."

Councillor Mick Skeels Snr. having the hindsight of previous history should, or could, have ignored any confrontation with Mr. William Hones.

Also even though having encountered apparent previous provocation Councillor Mick Skeels Snr could have walked straight through into the Town Hall and not reacted. Even if he had been provoked Councillor Mick Skeels Snr should not have acted in the way that he did. A possibility, I personally feel is that all councillors are advised how to deal with a situation for their own protection and behaviour.

I strongly feel that a sanction has to be given if only to alert Mick Skeels Snr and other councillors to be aware of provocation from members of the public and the ease, with new technology to record incidents.

Infringement of Council Members' Code of Conduct: I would suggest that paragraphs 3.2(c) and 3.4(a) are, in my opinion, the most appropriate.

I believe that this incident needs to be carefully considered, not only from the public point of view, but also to alleviate future situations and not allowing them to escalate to a stage where it is accepted that intimidation from all parties is acceptable. To do nothing further,

in my opinion, will bring Tendring District Council into disrepute and open to further challenge”.

In summary the Monitoring Officer's conclusions were as follows:

“From viewing the video footage, it is clear that the actions of Councillor Mick Skeels Snr do breach various elements of the Code of Conduct. It is noted that apologies have been issued by Councillor Mick Skeels Snr and since the complaints were received he has acknowledged that his actions fell short of the standard of behaviour expected of the Code of Conduct, which Members sign up to upon their election as members of Tendring District Council.

The Leadership Principle of Public Life requires holders of public office to exhibit the other principles in their own behaviour and actively promote and robustly support the principles. The language used and the offer of violence towards a member of the public questioning the Councillor's elected position clearly brings the Council into disrepute. There is some history between the member of the public and the Councillor, however, Members are expected to promote high standards of conduct and not disrespect others based on their behaviours or views. The member of the public feels there may have been a breach of data protection with regards to his health and work situation. However, the Monitoring Officer has seen an email which the member of the public sent to all District Councillors and others sharing this information beforehand, therefore there was no evidence of Councillor Mick Skeels Snr using Council resources to gain details, which would not be shared with the Councillor in any event due to the protection and security of personal data. It is not considered proportionate to consider this element of the complaint any further as the Monitoring Officer can assure the Standards Committee of the Council's Information Governance procedures in this regard.

It is necessary for the Standards Committee to determine the level of the acknowledged breach as against the Principles of Public Life and Code of Conduct and their power to take action in respect of individual Members as may be relevant and proportionate, and necessary to promote and maintain high standards of conduct.”

The Committee, then retired to deliberate and reach its decision. The Monitoring Officer also accompanied them to advise on any legal points raised and to record the decision. The Independent Persons also accompanied the Committee during its retirement to comment upon any sanctions being considered by the Committee.

Following such deliberations the hearing resumed.

It was moved by Councillor Heaney, seconded by Councillor J A Brown and unanimously:

RESOLVED that the Committee:

- (a) notes that three complaints have been received by the Monitoring Officer concerning the conduct of Councillor Mick Skeels Snr towards an individual outside of the Town Hall on 5 April 2016 prior to the meeting of full Council;
- (b) notes that this conduct was filmed, is available for the public to view and has received media interest;
- (c) notes that written apologies have been issued by Councillor Mick Skeels Snr to the individual himself and all Councillors;
- (d) welcomes the acknowledgement by Councillor Mick Skeels Snr that he has breached the Code of Conduct;
- (e) endorses the referral to the Committee to consider the sanctions; and
- (f) in determining the sanctions available to them, is appalled by the disgraceful behaviour of an elected member of the Council, which was unnecessary and exhibited a lack of self-control. Those actions brought the Council into disrepute and the positions of all Portfolio Holders are very important. The Committee therefore recommends to the Leader of the

Council that Councillor Mick Skeels Snr is removed from the Cabinet and all outside bodies connected with the Council with immediate effect; and  
(g) instructs the Monitoring Officer to report the outcome of the findings of the Committee to Council and to publish this decision on the Council's website.

5. DISCUSSION TOPICS AND/OR UPDATES FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER

Quarterly Complaints Update

The Monitoring Officer circulated to the Committee the quarterly schedule, which gave general details of complaints received, without providing any names, and went through it with the Committee. The Monitoring Officer also highlighted a number of other matters which included:

(1) There had been an increase in the number of complaints received from members of the public against District and Parish Councillors, however, there had been no cause for concern as no re-occurring theme existed.

(2) Requests for a Dispensation had been received from Councillor I Henderson and also Councillor J Hones. Both requests had been granted.

(3) The Monitoring Officer informed Members that a Councillor had asked if the Standards Committee would consider recommending to Council that Group Leaders should be allowed to sit on the Standards Committee.

Following discussion by the Committee, it was moved by Councillor Heaney, seconded by Councillor Baker and RESOLVED that the Committee does not agree to recommend to Council that Group Leaders should be allowed to sit on the Standards Committee.

(4) During a discussion between the Committee on recent Political Group changes the Monitoring Officer informed Members that the Council would soon be using modern.gov and that District Councillors' profiles would show the Political Group they belonged to on the Council and only the Political Party they stood for when elected.

Members asked questions and raised concerns in regards to those District Councillors who were not part of a Group being put into the category 'Others', as the term 'Independents' which was used by other authorities had been used for a Political Group.

Following discussion by the Committee, it was moved by Councillor Heaney, seconded by Councillor Honeywood and RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that:

'In order to clarify/reduce confusion with members of the public, all District Councillors who are not part of a Group on this Council should no longer be put into the category 'Others' and instead there should be a category with the name 'Non-Aligned' for those'.

6. DISCUSSION TOPICS AND/OR UPDATES FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER

Quarterly Complaints Update

The Monitoring Officer circulated to the Committee the quarterly schedule, which gave general details of complaints received, without providing any names, and went through it with the Committee. The Monitoring Officer also highlighted a number of other matters which included:

(1) Two additional training sessions had been delivered to Town and Parish Councils covering matters such as Code of Conduct, declarations of interest, decision making, dispensations and access to information. Both had been well-attended with positive

feedback;

(2) In addition to the circulated list above, there had been instances, where an individual had contacted the Monitoring Officer to raise concerns about decision making and had requested a Complaint Form and a copy of the Procedure had been provided, but not returned. There had also been discussions with individuals who were aggrieved with a decision made at a Parish level rather than relating to Code of Conduct matters and those had not been progressed;

(3) No requests for a Dispensation had been received;

(4) A Parish Council Clerk had requested a Declaration of Interest 'flowchart'. The Monitoring Officer felt that such a document would be very useful for all interested parties and she undertook to produce a 'flowchart' which would be submitted for the Committee's comments at a future date.

7. ORAL UPDATE TO REPORT TO MEMBERS ON THE STANDARDS SEMINAR FOR TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2010 IN ORDER TO FACILITATE DISCUSSION ON THE WORK OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Chairman updated the Committee on the Standards Seminar held on 9 December 2010 for Town and Parish Councils and advised that the key points arising from that session were as follows:-

1. That there was general consensus on the principle of mediation.
2. There was a recognition that there needs to be some overseeing body to refer cases to as required.
3. These matters need to be pursued by further discussion.

It was noted that the Monitoring Officer had agreed to make any training literature available to Town and Parish clerks on request, following any Code of Conduct training which takes place after the May 2011 elections.

8. TO REVIEW THE NEW ITEMS RELEVANT TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE CONTAINED IN FORWARD PLAN NO. 109 IN ACCORDANCE WITH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULE 12.

The Committee noted the new item relevant to the terms of reference of the Committee contained in Forward Plan No. 109.

9. FORWARD PLAN

The Committee reviewed, and noted, the new items relevant to the terms of reference of the Committee, contained in the Forward Plan 174, in accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 13.

10. ANY NEW ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE WORK PROGRAMME

There were none other than discussed in the item Review of the Year 2015/16 and Work Programme for the year 2016/17.

11. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee noted the items on the forward work programme and discussed the items

which were due to be considered at the meeting of the Committee, scheduled for 28 January 2013. It was reported that the full Tourism and Regeneration Strategy was unlikely to be available for the meeting and the Chairman expressed his concern at the delay in bringing this matter before the Committee.

12. ANY OTHER ITEMS THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

There were none.

The meeting was declared closed at 10.03 p.m.

13. (A) PLANNING APPLICATION 11/00042/FUL AND (B) LISTED BUILDING CONSENT 11/00043/LBC

The Committee had before it the published Officer report containing an appraisal of the key planning issues, relevant planning policies, planning history, any response from consultees, written representations received and a recommendation of approval with a summary of recommended conditions. The recently published update sheet was also considered by the Committee and explained by officers at the meeting.

Mr Anthony Edwards, local resident, spoke against the application.

Councillor J Mathews, on behalf of Wix Parish Council, spoke against the application,

Councillor Patten, as Ward Member, spoke against the application.

Mr Russell Forde, the applicant's agent, spoke in support of the application.

It was moved by Councillor McLeod, seconded by Councillor Simons and:-

RESOLVED – (a) That application 11/00042/FUL be approved subject to an informative being attached to the permission regarding retention of the Cockpit and subject to conditions providing:-

Conditions

- Standard three year time limit
- List of approved plans
- Parking to be provided prior to occupation
- Details of boundary treatments
- Landscaping
- New and replacement window and door details
- Method of reinstatement of rear wall following demolition of rear extension
- Samples of construction materials

Reason for approval

The change of use to a single dwelling, including internal and external alterations, is considered to be in accordance with the development plan policies listed. The public house has been adequately marketed and there is another public house within 800 metres of the site. The proposed alterations blend with the scale, form and design of the listed building, and respect its setting. Furthermore, owing to siting, scale and fenestration layouts, the proposed alterations would not reduce the amenities enjoyed by occupants of neighbouring properties, would not result in the loss of any significant trees and are acceptable in terms of highway safety and convenience.

RESOLVED – (b) That application 11/00043/LBC be approved subject to conditions providing:-

Conditions

- Standard three year time limit
- List of approved plans
- Details of boundary treatments
- Landscaping
- New and replacement window and door details
- Method of reinstatement of rear wall following demolition of rear extension
- Samples of construction materials

Reason for approval

The change of use to a single dwelling, including internal and external alterations, is considered to be in accordance with the development plan policies listed. The proposed alterations blend with and compliment the scale, form and design of the listed building, and respect its setting.

14. PLANNING APPLICATION 11/00984/FUL

The Committee had before it the published officer report containing an appraisal of the key planning issues, relevant planning policies, planning history, any response from consultees, written representations received and a recommendation of refusal with reasons.

Councillors Candy and G V Guglielmi declared a personal interest in the application as Ward Members and remained in the meeting.

Councillor G V Guglielmi, as Ward Member, spoke in support of the application.

The applicant, Mr Neil Ellis, spoke in support of the application.

It was moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Turner and:-

RESOLVED – That application 11/00984/FUL be approved contrary to the officers' recommendation subject to such conditions as the Temporary Head of Planning considers appropriate in consultation with the Chair or Vice-Chairman and the Planning Portfolio Holder.

Conditions: (decided subsequent to the meeting in accordance with the above resolution)

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

Reason - To comply with the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

2. The development hereby permitted shall not be carried out except in complete accordance with the details shown on the submitted drawings numbered NE/002/02 Revised, NE/002/04 Revised and NE/003/05 Revised.

Reason - For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

3. Unless otherwise agreed by the Local Planning Authority, development other than that required to be carried out as part of an approved scheme of remediation must not commence until conditions (1) to (4) have been complied with. If unexpected contamination is found after development has begun, development must be halted on that part of the site affected by the unexpected contamination to the extent specified by the Local Planning Authority in writing until condition 4 has been complied with in relation to that contamination.

#### (1) Site Characterisation

An investigation and risk assessment, in addition to any assessment provided with the planning application, must be completed in accordance with a scheme to assess the nature and extent of any contamination on the site, whether or not it originates on the site. The contents of the scheme are subject to the approval in writing of the Local Planning Authority. The investigation and risk assessment must be undertaken by competent persons and a written report of the findings must be produced. The written report is subject to the approval in writing of the Local Planning Authority. The report of the findings must include:

(i) a survey of the extent, scale and nature of contamination;

(ii) an assessment of the potential risks to:

- human health,
- property (existing or proposed) including buildings, crops, livestock, pets, woodland and service lines and pipes,
- adjoining land,
- groundwaters and surface waters,
- ecological systems,
- archaeological sites and ancient monuments;

(iii) an appraisal of remedial options, and proposal of the preferred option(s).

This must be conducted in accordance with DEFRA and the Environment Agency's 'Model Procedures for the Management of Land Contamination, CLR 11'.

#### (2) Submission of Remediation Scheme

A detailed remediation scheme to bring the site to a condition suitable for the intended use by removing unacceptable risks to human health, buildings and other property and the natural and historical environment must be prepared, and is subject to the approval in writing of the Local Planning Authority. The scheme must include all works to be undertaken, proposed remediation objectives and remediation criteria, timetable of works and site management procedures. The scheme must ensure that the site will not qualify as contaminated land under Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 in relation to the intended use of the land after remediation.

#### (3) Implementation of Approved Remediation Scheme

The approved remediation scheme must be carried out in accordance with its terms prior to the commencement of development other than that required to carry out remediation, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The Local Planning Authority must be given two weeks written notification of commencement of the remediation scheme works.

Following completion of measures identified in the approved remediation scheme, a verification report (referred to in PPS23 as a validation report) that demonstrates the



effectiveness of the remediation carried out must be produced, and is subject to the approval in writing of the Local Planning Authority.

#### (4) Reporting of Unexpected Contamination

In the event that contamination is found at any time when carrying out the approved development that was not previously identified it must be reported in writing immediately to the Local Planning Authority. An investigation and risk assessment must be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of condition (1), and where remediation is necessary a remediation scheme must be prepared in accordance with the requirements of condition (2), which is subject to the approval in writing of the Local Planning Authority.

Following completion of measures identified in the approved remediation scheme a verification report must be prepared, which is subject to the approval in writing of the Local Planning Authority in accordance with condition (3).

#### (5) Long Term Monitoring and Maintenance

A monitoring and maintenance scheme to include monitoring the long-term effectiveness of the proposed remediation over a period of 2 years, and the provision of reports on the same must be prepared, both of which are subject to the approval in writing of the Local Planning Authority.

Following completion of the measures identified in that scheme and when the remediation objectives have been achieved, reports that demonstrate the effectiveness of the monitoring and maintenance carried out must be produced, and submitted to the Local Planning Authority.

This must be conducted in accordance with DEFRA and the Environment Agency's 'Model Procedures for the Management of Land Contamination, CLR 11'.

Reason - To ensure that risks from land contamination to the future users of the land and neighbouring land are minimised, together with those to controlled waters, property and ecological systems, and to ensure that the development can be carried out safely without unacceptable risks to workers, neighbours and other offsite receptors in accordance with policy COM10 of the adopted Tendring District Local Plan (2007).

4. Notwithstanding the submitted details, no development shall be commenced until precise details of the manufacturer and types and colours of the external facing and roofing materials to be used in construction of the dwellings and garages have been submitted to and agreed, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority. Such materials as may be agreed shall be those used in the development.

Reason - The site is publicly visible and therefore quality materials are an essential requirement. Insufficient information has been submitted within the application for full consideration of these details.

5. No development shall take place until there has been submitted to and approved, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority a scheme of hard and soft landscaping works for the site, which shall include any proposed changes in ground levels and also accurately identify spread, girth and species of all existing trees, shrubs and hedgerows on the site and indicate any to be retained, together with measures for their protection which shall comply with the recommendations set out in the British Standards Institute publication "BS 5837: 2005 - Trees in Relation to Construction."

Reason - To ensure that the development compensates visually for the loss of open area and soft landscaping and to ensure that the site has a satisfactory appearance in the

interest of visual amenity, in accordance with Policies QL9 and QL11 of the Tendring District Local Plan.

6. All changes in ground levels, hard landscaping, planting, seeding or turfing shown on the approved landscaping details shall be carried out during the first planting and seeding season (October - March inclusive) following the commencement of the development or in such other phased arrangement as may be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Any trees or shrubs which, within a period of 5 years of being planted die, are removed or seriously damaged or seriously diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species, unless the Local Planning Authority agrees in writing to a variation of the previously approved details.

Reason - To ensure that the development compensates visually for the loss of open area and soft landscaping and to ensure that the site has a satisfactory appearance in the interest of visual amenity, in accordance with Policies QL9 and QL11 of the Tendring District Local Plan.

7. No development shall take place until precise details of the provision, siting, design and materials of screen walls and fences have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved screen walls and fences shall be erected prior to the hereby approved dwelling being occupied and thereafter be retained in the approved form.

Reason - The site is publicly visible and therefore quality materials are an essential requirement. Insufficient information has been submitted within the application for full consideration of these details.

8. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 3, Schedule 2, Part 1 Classes A and B of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any Order revoking and re-enacting that Order with or without modification), no enlargement, improvement or other alteration to the dwelling shall be erected or carried out except in accordance with drawings showing the siting and design of such enlargement, improvement or other alteration which shall previously have been submitted to and approved, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason - In the interests of the amenities of the occupants of neighbouring properties.

9. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 3, Schedule 2, Part 1 Class E of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any Order revoking and re-enacting that Order with or without modification), no provision of buildings, enclosures, swimming or other pool shall be erected except in accordance with drawings showing the design and siting of such building(s) which shall previously have been submitted to and approved, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason - In the interests of the amenities of the occupants of neighbouring properties.

10. Prior to the occupation of the proposed development, the access to the existing and proposed dwelling shall be provided in strict accordance with the details shown in drawing number NE/002/02/REVISED and shall be provided with an appropriate dropped kerb vehicular crossing of the highway verge.

Reason: To ensure that all vehicles using the private drive access do so in a controlled manner and to ensure that opposing vehicles may pass clear of the limits of the highway, in the interests of highway safety and Policy DM 1 of the Highway Authority's Development Management Policies February 2011.

11. Prior to the proposed access being brought into use, vehicular visibility splays of site

maximum by 2.4m by site maximum, as measured along, from and along the nearside edge of the carriageway, shall be provided on both sides of the centre line of the access and shall be maintained in perpetuity free from obstruction clear to ground.

Reason: To ensure adequate intervisibility between drivers of vehicles using the proposed access and those in the adjoining highway, in the interests of highway safety Policy DM 1 of the Highway Authority's Development Management Policies February 2011.

12. The development shall not be occupied until such time as the car parking area, indicated on the approved plans has been hard surfaced. The car parking area shall be retained in this form at all times and shall not be used for any purpose other than the parking of vehicles related to the use of the development.

Reason: To ensure that on-street parking of vehicles in the adjoining streets does not occur, in the interests of highway safety and Policy DM 1 and 8 of the Highway Authority's Development Management Policies February 2011.

13. No unbound materials shall be used in the surface treatment of the proposed vehicular access within 6m. of the highway boundary.

Reason: To ensure that loose materials are not brought out onto the highway, in the interests of highway safety and Policy DM 1 of the Highway Authority's Development Management Policies February 2011.

14. Prior to commencement of the proposed development, a vehicular turning facility, of a design which shall be approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, shall be provided within the site and shall be maintained free from obstruction at all times for that sole purpose.

Reason: To ensure that vehicles using the site access may enter and leave the highway in a forward gear, in the interests of highway safety and Policy DM 1 of the Highway Authority's Development Management Policies February 2011.

15. All new driveways and parking areas shall be made of porous materials, or provision shall be made to direct run-off water from the hard surface to a permeable or porous area or surface within the curtilage of the dwelling.

Reason - In the interests of sustainable development and to ensure that run-off water is avoided to minimise the risk of surface water flooding.

Reason for approval:

This site lies outside of any defined settlement limits in the Tendring District Local Plan (2007) where planning permission for new residential development would not normally be permitted being contrary to the guidance in PPS1 (Delivering sustainable Development), PPS3 (Housing), PPS4 (Planning for sustainable economic growth), PPS7 (Sustainable Development in Rural Areas) and Local Plan policies that seek to secure sustainable development and protect the amenities and character of the countryside. Policy QL9 requires that all new development relates satisfactorily to its surroundings in terms of siting, appearance in the locality and relationship with neighbouring properties.

However, the site lies within a line of loosely spaced residential development along the Clacton Road that forms the hamlet of Horsley Cross Street. The proposed development, would, therefore, not be isolated from existing residential development. The application site comprises the car park of the adjacent public house that has planning permission for conversion to residential use. The proposals would, therefore, bring about material improvements to the street scene and to the environment within the local area. Having

regard to this pattern of existing development and the improvements the development would bring about the local planning authority considers that, on balance and subject to compliance with the conditions attached to this permission the development is acceptable. Furthermore, the proposal would not reduce the amenities enjoyed by occupants of neighbouring properties and would not have a materially adverse impact upon the character of the surrounding area or be detrimental to highway safety.

15. PLANNING APPLICATION 11/00628/FUL

The Committee had before it the published Officer report containing an appraisal of the key planning issues, relevant planning policies, planning history, any response from consultees, written representations received and a recommendation of approval with a summary of recommended conditions.

Councillor Nicholls declared a personal interest in the application as one of the Ward Members and remained in the meeting.

It was moved by Councillor Candy, seconded by Councillor Simons and:-

RESOLVED – That application 11/00628/FUL be approved subject to conditions regarding:-

- Time Limit
- Materials
- Soft Landscaping Scheme Implementation
- Hard Landscaping Submission
- Porous Driveway
- Access Layout
- Pedestrian Visibility Splays
- Unbound Materials
- Siting of Gates
- Front Hedgerow Siting
- Contaminated Land Survey
- Trees Protection Measures
- Protected Species Mitigation Measures
- Approved Plans

Reason for Approval

In approving this application the local planning authority has taken account of the development plan policies and/or proposals listed above. The quality of the design, the enhancement to the setting to the adjacent listed building and the significantly reduced intensive use of the site outweighs the fact the site is located outside of the defined development boundary. Residential development on this plot would not seriously undermine the council's housing settlement policies and would not set a harmful precedent for the surrounding area. Furthermore, neighbouring amenity is not adversely affected and the impact on highway safety is acceptable.

16. PLANNING APPLICATION 11/00823/FUL

The Committee had before it the published officer report containing an appraisal of the key planning issues, relevant planning policies, planning history, any response from consultees, written representations received and a recommendation of refusal with reasons.

Councillors Candy and G V Guglielmi declared a personal interest in the application as Ward Members and remained in the meeting.

Mr Tim Snow, the applicant's agent, spoke in support of the application.

It was moved by Councillor McLeod, seconded by Councillor Bragg and:-

RESOLVED – That application 11/00823/FUL be approved contrary to the officers' recommendation subject to such conditions as the Temporary Head of Planning considers appropriate in consultation with the Chair or Vice-Chairman and the Planning Portfolio Holder.

Conditions: (decided subsequent to the meeting in accordance with the above resolution)

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

Reason - To comply with the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

2. The development hereby permitted shall not be carried out except in complete accordance with the details shown on drawing no. 652/04A and 652/03A.

Reason - For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

3. The site shall only be open for deliveries or for the movement of goods into and out of storage between the hours of 8:00am and 17:30pm Monday to Saturday and no working on Sundays or Public Holidays. The hereby permitted sales use shall only operate between the hours of 09:00am and 17:30pm Monday to Saturday and 11:00am to 16:00pm on Sundays and Public Holidays.

Reason - In the interests of neighbouring residential amenity.

4. This permission shall only authorise the use of the premises in the manner described in the application and no sub-division of the premises to form additional units shall be carried out without the express consent of the Local Planning Authority first having been obtained on an application made in that behalf.

Reason - To ensure the development is satisfactory in relation to the premises and its surroundings and neighbouring residential amenity.

5. No floodlighting or external illumination shall be installed unless details of the illumination scheme have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Development shall only be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason - In the interests of amenity to reduce the impact of night-time illumination on the character of the area and upon residents living close to the site.

6. No development shall be commenced until precise details of the manufacturer and types and colours of the external facing and roofing materials to be used in construction have been submitted to and agreed, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority. Such materials as may be agreed shall be those used in the development.

Reason - The application site is publicly visible and therefore suitable materials are required in order to maintain the character and appearance of the countryside location of the site.

7. Notwithstanding the submitted details, no development shall take place until there has been submitted to and approved, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority a scheme of hard and soft landscaping works for the site, which shall include any proposed changes in ground levels and also accurately identify spread, girth and species of all existing trees, shrubs and hedgerows on the site and indicate any to be retained, together with measures for their protection which shall comply with the recommendations set out in the British Standards Institute publication "BS 5837: 2005 - Trees in Relation to Construction."

Reason - The site lies in the countryside and it is considered an essential part of the development to retain and reinforce landscaping of the site to safeguard the countryside character.

8. All changes in hard landscaping, planting, seeding or turfing shown on the approved landscaping details shall be carried out during the first planting and seeding season (October - March inclusive) following the commencement of the development or in such other phased arrangement as may be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Any trees or shrubs which, within a period of 5 years of being planted die, are removed or seriously damaged or seriously diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species, unless the Local Planning Authority agrees in writing to a variation of the previously approved details.

Reason - To ensure that the approved landscaping scheme is provided and maintained for an appropriate period in the interests of the visual amenity and character and appearance of the countryside.

9. Prior to the commencement of the proposed development, details of an on site parking facility for construction workers and vehicles, a loading and unloading area for demolition and construction materials and a turning facility suitable for the largest vehicle attracted to or generated by the sites activities during the demolition and construction phases being provided entirely clear of the limits of the highway, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason - To ensure that on-street parking of these vehicles in the adjoining streets does not occur, in the interests of highway safety.

10. Prior to the commencement of the proposed development, details of a wheel and underbody cleaning facility within the site and adjacent to the egress onto the highway shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and that facility shall be maintained during the periods of demolition / construction.

Reason - To ensure that loose materials and spoil are not brought out onto the highway, in the interests of highway safety.

11. Prior to commencement of the proposed development, loading, off-loading and manoeuvring facilities for service and delivery vehicles, the details of which shall be approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, shall be provided within the site and shall be maintained free from obstruction at all times for that sole purpose.

Reason - To ensure that the adjoining highway is not obstructed by servicing activity, in the interests of highway safety.

12. Prior to commencement of the proposed development, car parking facilities for employees and visitors, in accordance with a scheme to be approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, shall be provided and maintained for that sole purpose.

Reason - To ensure that on-street parking of vehicles in the adjoining streets does not occur, in the interests of highway safety.

13. Unless otherwise agreed by the Local Planning Authority, development other than that required to be carried out as part of an approved scheme of remediation must not commence until conditions (1) to (4) have been complied with. If unexpected contamination is found after development has begun, development must be halted on that part of the site affected by the unexpected contamination to the extent specified by the Local Planning Authority in writing until condition (4) has been complied with in relation to that contamination.

#### (1) Site Characterisation

An investigation and risk assessment, in addition to any assessment provided with the planning application, must be completed in accordance with a scheme to assess the nature and extent of any contamination on the site, whether or not it originates on the site. The contents of the scheme are subject to the approval in writing of the Local Planning Authority. The investigation and risk assessment must be undertaken by competent persons and a written report of the findings must be produced. The written report is subject to the approval in writing of the Local Planning Authority. The report of the findings must include:

- (i) a survey of the extent, scale and nature of contamination;
- (ii) an assessment of the potential risks to:
  - human health,
  - property (existing or proposed) including buildings, crops, livestock, pets, woodland and service lines and pipes,
  - adjoining land,
  - groundwaters and surface waters,
  - ecological systems,
  - archaeological sites and ancient monuments;
- (iii) an appraisal of remedial options, and proposal of the preferred option(s).

This must be conducted in accordance with DEFRA and the Environment Agency's 'Model Procedures for the Management of Land Contamination, CLR 11'.

#### (2) Submission of Remediation Scheme

A detailed remediation scheme to bring the site to a condition suitable for the intended use by removing unacceptable risks to human health, buildings and other property and the natural and historical environment must be prepared, and is subject to the approval in writing of the Local Planning Authority. The scheme must include all works to be undertaken, proposed remediation objectives and remediation criteria, timetable of works and site management procedures. The scheme must ensure that the site will not qualify as contaminated land under Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 in relation to the intended use of the land after remediation.

#### (3) Implementation of Approved Remediation Scheme

The approved remediation scheme must be carried out in accordance with its terms prior to the commencement of development other than that required to carry out remediation,

unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The Local Planning Authority must be given two weeks written notification of commencement of the remediation scheme works.

Following completion of measures identified in the approved remediation scheme, a verification report (referred to in PPS23 as a validation report) that demonstrates the effectiveness of the remediation carried out must be produced, and is subject to the approval in writing of the Local Planning Authority.

#### (4) Reporting of Unexpected Contamination

In the event that contamination is found at any time when carrying out the approved development that was not previously identified it must be reported in writing immediately to the Local Planning Authority. An investigation and risk assessment must be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of condition (1), and where remediation is necessary a remediation scheme must be prepared in accordance with the requirements of condition (2), which is subject to the approval in writing of the Local Planning Authority.

Following completion of measures identified in the approved remediation scheme a verification report must be prepared, which is subject to the approval in writing of the Local Planning Authority in accordance with condition (3).

#### (5) Long Term Monitoring and Maintenance

A monitoring and maintenance scheme to include monitoring the long-term effectiveness of the proposed remediation over a period of 2 years, and the provision of reports on the same must be prepared, both of which are subject to the approval in writing of the Local Planning Authority.

Following completion of the measures identified in that scheme and when the remediation objectives have been achieved, reports that demonstrate the effectiveness of the monitoring and maintenance carried out must be produced, and submitted to the Local Planning Authority.

This must be conducted in accordance with DEFRA and the Environment Agency's 'Model Procedures for the Management of Land Contamination, CLR 11'.

Reason - To ensure that risks from land contamination to the future users of the land and neighbouring land are minimised, together with those to controlled waters, property and ecological systems, and to ensure that the development can be carried out safely without unacceptable risks to workers, neighbours and other offsite receptors in accordance with Policy COM10 of the adopted Tendring District Local Plan (2007).

Reason for approval:

This proposal is for a new building to replace existing buildings that have lawful use for business purposes, including retail sales. The main policy considerations are QL9, QL11, ER7 and EN1 of the Tendring District Local Plan (2007) and the guidance in PPS4. The proposed building would have some impact on the locality, but having taken into account the poor condition and appearance of the existing buildings and the lawful use of the site for car breaking and repairs, and the quality and design of the proposed building the Local Planning Authority considers, on balance, that the proposal is acceptable subject to compliance with the conditions attached to this permission. The proposal will protect existing employment and create further employment opportunities in this rural location and would accord with the principles for economic development set out in PPS4. The development would also extinguish an un-neighbourly use that has significantly greater adverse impact on the countryside and is not subject to planning controls over its



operation.

17. URGENT ITEM

PLANNING APPLICATION 11/00037/FUL – LAND ADJ. 142 HARWICH ROAD, MISTLEY – CONSTRUCTION OF 15 AFFORDABLE RURAL DWELLINGS WITH ASSOCIATED PARKING, CARPORTS, CYCLE STORES AND NEW VEHICULAR ACCESS

The Committee was informed that a further extension of time for completion of a legal agreement was required until 18 November 2011 (minute 22, 28/6/11 and minute 51, 23/8/11 referred).

It was moved by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor McLeod and:-

RESOLVED – That the time be extended accordingly.

18. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

There were none.

19. SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE LICENSING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEES AND THEIR CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN

To avoid the need for formal meetings of the Licensing and Regulatory Committees to be held to appoint their Sub-Committees and the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of those Sub-Committees:-

It was moved by Councillor Stock, duly seconded and:-

RESOLVED – (a) That the Appeals Sub-Committee be, and is, hereby appointed and that the members thereof for the 2011/2012 Municipal Year be as follows:-

Councillor Aldis  
Councillor Bragg  
Councillor S A Honeywood  
Councillor Nicholls  
Councillor Platt  
Councillor Simons

(b) That Councillor S A Honeywood be elected Chairman of the Appeals Sub-Committee for the 2011/2012 Municipal Year.

(c) That Councillor Platt be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Appeals Sub-Committee for the 2011/2012 Municipal Year.

(d) That the Licensing (General Purposes) Sub-Committee be, and is, hereby appointed and that the members thereof for the 2011/2012 Municipal Year be as follows:-

Councillor Casey  
Councillor De-Vaux Balbirnie  
Councillor Downing  
Councillor Fawcett  
Councillor V E Guglielmi

Councillor Powell  
Councillor Pugh  
Councillor Skeels

(e) That Councillor Downing be elected Chairman of the Licensing (General Purposes) Sub-Committee for the 2011/2012 Municipal Year.

(f) That Councillor Fawcett be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Licensing (General Purposes) Sub-Committee for the 2011/2012 Municipal Year.

(g) That Premises/Personal Licences Sub-Committee 'A' be, and is, hereby appointed and that the members thereof for the 2011/2012 Municipal Year be as follows, with the appointment of a third member from the Labour Group, which appointment to be dealt with by the Chief Executive in accordance with the authority delegated to him to appoint a member at the request of the Group Leader:-

Councillor Downing  
Councillor Powell

(h) That Councillor Downing be elected Chairman of the Premises/Personal Licences Sub-Committee 'A' for the 2011/2012 Municipal Year.

(i) That Premises/Personal Licences Sub-Committee 'B' be, and is, hereby appointed and that the members thereof for the 2011/2012 Municipal Year be as follows:-

Councillor V E Guglielmi  
Councillor G L Mitchell  
Councillor Shearing

(j) That Councillor V E Guglielmi be elected Chairman of the Premises/Personal Licences Sub-Committee 'B' for the 2011/2012 Municipal Year.

(k) That Premises/Personal Licences Sub-Committee 'C' be, and is, hereby appointed and that the members thereof for the 2011/2012 Municipal Year be as follows:-

Councillor De Vaux-Balbirnie  
Councillor Fawcett  
Councillor Platt

(l) That Councillor Platt be elected Chairman of the Premises/Personal Licences Sub-Committee 'C' for the 2011/2012 Municipal Year.

## 20. TENDRING DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN PREFERRED OPTIONS CONSULTATION

Council's approval was sought in respect of the Tendring District Local Plan Preferred Options Consultation.

The Local Plan Committee had considered the consultation document at its meeting held on 9 June 2016 and Council had before it the Committee's recommendations.

Council also had before it a report of the Head of Planning Services which informed Members of major as well as minor changes to the consultation documents in order to make the Plan up-to-date prior to public consultation and to be consistent in not allocating sites for housing which had been refused permission. Some of those changes were a result of decisions made by the Planning Committee at its meeting held on 14 June 2016. The changes had been made to the Plan attached as Appendix A to the report of the Head of

Planning Services and a schedule of those changes was provided in Appendix C thereto.

Members had had circulated to them prior to the commencement of the meeting amended maps in relation to Great Bentley and Frinton, Walton, Kirby-le-Soken, Kirby Cross and Great Holland. Those maps had been altered as a result of the recent refusal of related planning applications.

Councillor Stock, Chairman of the Local Plan Committee, thanked the Members of that Committee and the Officers, particularly the Head of Planning Services (Cath Bicknell) and the Planning & Regulation Manager (Simon Meecham), for their hard work and dedicated effort in getting the Local Plan to its current position. He also thanked the members of the public and representatives of parish councils who had participated in the public speaking scheme at meetings of the Local Plan Committee.

Councillors Stock, Turner, Scott, Winfield, Parsons, Stephenson, Calver, Bray, V E Guglielmi, Howard, G V Guglielmi, Coley, Broderick and M Brown participated in the debate.

It was moved by Councillor Stock, seconded by Councillor Turner and RESOLVED that Council:

(a) approves the content of the Tendring District Local Plan Preferred Options consultation document, attached as Appendix A to the Report of the Head of Planning Services, which incorporates the changes set out in Appendix C thereto and including the amended maps for Great Bentley and Frinton, Walton, Kirby-le-Soken, Kirby Cross and Great Holland, as circulated, for public consultation for a period of eight weeks;

(b) delegates authority to the Head of Planning Services, in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Plan Committee, to make minor amendments to the text of the Local Plan consultation documents up to the point of publication for consultation purposes. Such amendments are to be circulated to all Members of the Council prior to the commencement of the public consultation; and

(c) delegates authority to the Head of Planning Services, in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Plan Committee, to agree the content of the Sustainability Appraisals for the Local Plan Consultation Documents for public consultation for a period of six weeks. The content of the Sustainability Appraisals are to be circulated to all Members of the Council prior to the commencement of the public consultation.

NOTES: (1) in accordance with the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 18.5, Councillors Bray, Broderick, Parsons and Whitmore each requested that they be recorded in the minutes as having voted against the above decisions; and

(2) in addition, Councillor G V Guglielmi requested that he be recorded in the minutes as having abstained from voting on the above decisions.

21. URGENT MATTERS FOR DEBATE

There were none on this occasion.

22. URGENT MATTERS FOR DEBATE

There were none on this occasion.

Chairman