

KILMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT 7.00 P.M.ON TUESDAY 4TH MARCH 2008****IN THE HITCHCOCK PAVILION, WHITFORD ROAD, KILMINGTON.**

1. **PRESENT** : Cllr. M. Collier (Chairman), Cllr. C.H. Bolton (Vice-chairman), Cllr. P.W.A. Dare, Cllr. G. R. Davie, Cllr. S.R. Hodges, Cllr. G.H. Hurford, Cllr. S.A. Huscroft, Cllr. S.J. Newbery, Cllr. R. I. Penzer, Dist. Cllr. Chubb and the Clerk were present. There were 10 members of the public present.

2. **APOLOGIES** : none.

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS** : approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 26th February 2008 was deferred until the meeting scheduled for 1st April 2008.

4. **PUBLIC FORUM**: the Chairman proposed that public comment be taken as each application was considered rather than at this point. Agreed.

APPLICATIONS

08/0249/L.B.C.

Mr. J. Martell, 2, Whitehayes Cottages, Kilmington, Devon. EX13 7RP

Replacement of two window frames and doorway of extension with pvcu double glazed units at 2, Whitehayes Cottages.

CLLR. BOLTON DECLARED A PERSONAL INTEREST AS BEING A FRIEND OF THE APPLICANT AND DID NOT VOTE ON THIS ITEM.

AS A FORWARD THINKING PARISH COUNCIL, KILMINGTON PARISH COUNCILLORS SUPPORT THIS APPLICATION. THE PROPOSED REPLACEMENT PVCU DOUBLE GLAZED WINDOWS ARE VISIBLE ONLY FROM ONE OTHER PROPERTY, WHOSE OWNERS HAVE RAISED NO OBJECTIONS, AND ARE NOT VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD. ALSO, THEY ARE IN A MODERN EXTENSION TO THE ORIGINAL HISTORIC BUILDING. FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS THEY DO NOT DETRACT FROM ITS INTEGRITY AND WOULD MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS IMPROVING THE INSULATION OF THE PROPERTY IN LINE WITH CENTRAL GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES.

08/0369/FUL

Mr. Baksh, Koppers, Kilmington, Devon. EX13 7RJ

Erection of conservatory at Koppers.

It was known from the internet that the Conservation Officer was minded to approve this application subject to certain specified conditions.

COUNCILLORS, WHILE WELCOMING THE FACT THAT IT WAS A CONDITION THAT DETAILS WERE SUBMITTED, PRIOR TO USE, OF THE MATERIALS TO BE USED IN CONSTRUCTION, FELT THAT THE QUALITY OF THE DESIGN FELL SHORT OF WHAT THEY CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA, PARTICULARLY GIVEN THAT THE CONSERVATORY WOULD BE READILY VISIBLE TO PUBLIC VIEW FROM PASSING PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICULAR TRAFFIC ON WHITFORD ROAD AND FROM THE CHURCHYARD

08/0479/FUL

Mr. J. Wilson, Studhayes Barn, Kilmington, Devon. EX13 7DR

Extension to barn conversion to provide garden room at Studhayes Barn.

SUPPORT

08/0480/FUL

Mr. S. Littley, Hills Farm, Whitford Road, Kilmington, Axminster, Devon. EX13 7NS

Wind turbine and solar panels at Hills Farm.

There was considerable discussion about this application. Councillors expressed support for the principle of renewable energy options. However, Councillors had little experience or detailed knowledge regarding alternative energy systems in a planning context. Various individuals in the area who had such experience had been approached for guidance and reference had been made to the East Devon Local Plan.

In general, the photovoltaic cell panels, which were not in a prominent location, were supported, subject to there being a condition imposed that the structures be screened by suitable planting.

The wind turbine was not supported. It was felt that it would be too prominent a feature in the A.O.N.B. landscape and that it's proposed position was such that it would be unlikely to operate at maximum efficiency, thus representing poor value for the applicant and predisposing him to increase the number of turbines to achieve his target production. It was regretted that no information had been submitted to illustrate the appearance of the turbine within the local landscape. Reports from an experiment at Seaton Primary School indicated in other than ideal locations performance can fall far short of expectations. In addition to concerns about the visual impact of the turbine and its ability to deliver the level of power desired, it was felt that the noise pollution from the swish of the turbine blades would be unacceptable to local residents.

ALTHOUGH THE COUNCIL SUPPORTS RENEWABLE ENERGY, THE EAST DEVON LOCAL PLAN REFERS TO "AREAS OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY...WHERE SINGLE TURBINES ARE UNLIKELY TO BE ACCEPTABLE. AS THE PROPERTY IS A LISTED BUILDING IT IS CONSIDERED TO BE EVEN MORE SENSITIVE TO THE APPLICATION FOR A WIND TURBINE. THE COUNCIL FEELS THAT THE HEIGHT OF THE WIND TURBINE WOULD DOMINATE. IT IS ALSO UNDERSTOOD THAT THE PROPOSED LOCATION MIGHT HAVE A POOR WIND SOURCE. THE BENEFIT OF THE PROPOSED WIND TURBINE MAY NOT THEREFORE JUSTIFY ITS DEVELOPMENT. THE COUNCIL FEELS THAT THERE IS A LACK OF DETAILED INFORMATION NOT ONLY IN RESPECT OF ITS PROVEN EFFICIENCY BUT ALSO IN RESPECT OF NOISE POLLUTION AND WONDER IF THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT BETTER BUILDING ENERGY PERFORMANCE COUPLED WITH AN INCREASED USE OF PHOTOVOLTAIC MIGHT ACHIEVE THE SAME BENEFITS. THE COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THE SOLAR/PHOTOVOLTAIC PANELS AT GROUND LEVEL, SUBJECT TO SATISFACTORY SCREENING SO AS NOT TO BE TOO VISIBLE. IT RECOMMENDS REFUSAL OF THE WIND TURBINE IN ACCORDANCE WITH PPS22 ETC.

08/0482/LBC

Mr. J. Wilson, Studhayes Barn, Kilmington, Devon. EX13 7DR

Extension to barn conversion to provide garden room at Studhayes Barn

SUPPORT. COUNCILLORS COMMENDED THE QUALITY OF DESIGN FOR THIS ADDITION TO A LISTED BUILDING

DECISIONS

GRANTS

Appeals Lodged

Appeals Upheld

Appeals Dismissed

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Signed Chairman. Date