

**CHRISTCHURCH TOWN COUNCIL**

**EXTRAORDINARY PLANNING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 December 2020 at 6.00pm via Zoom conferencing facilities

Present:-

Chairman: Cllr D Jones

Vice-Chairman: Cllr F F T Neale

Present: Cllr J Abbott, Cllr Cox, Cllr L Dedman, Cllr S Fotheringham, Cllr G R Jarvis, Cllr T Lane and Cllr M J Tarling.

Also in attendance: Cllr V Charrett, Cllr A Coulton and Cllr S Spittle

Officers present: Daniel Lucas, Town Clerk  
Susan Roxby, Administrative Support Officer

Members of the Public present: 29

Members of the Press present: None present

**164. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

Cllr Neale joined the meeting at 6.02pm.

**165. Public Participation**

Mr Richmond and Mr Peter Fenning spoke in objection to Planning application: 08/20/0966/ADV.

**166. Public Questions**

There were no questions from the public on this occasion.

**167. Planning Applications:**

Members were asked to consider the application listed below and that the following comments be forwarded to Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council:

**Application: 08/20/0966/ADV River Course at River Avon, South of Castle Street, Christchurch. BH23 1DX.**

Erection of single, double sided sign within the river course.

Mr Richmond gave a deputation to the committee in objection to Planning Application 08/20/0966/ADV River Course at River Avon, South of Castle Street, Christchurch. A copy of which appears as appendix 'A' to these minutes in the minute book.

Mr Fenning spoke in objection to Planning Application 08/20/0966/ADV River Course at River Avon, South of Castle Street, Christchurch and raised the following concerns:

- The site is in a conservation area and the sign is an ugly intrusion to the backdrop of the bridge which is surrounded by grade 1 listings and contrary to HE1 of the Core Strategy - valuing and conserving our historic environment.
- Contrary to BE4 of Town Planning Policy.
- The application states that the sign was erected by Southern fisheries who lease the land from the environment agency which Mr Fenning believed is incorrect.
- Bournemouth Water has ownership and in turn South West Water leases the fishing rights to Southern Fisheries which is the applicant.
- The river at this location is a tidal waterway and should be free to all watercraft to navigate at their will.
- The Public has a right of way.

Cllr Spittle joined the meeting at 6.13pm.

The Town Clerk advised that the sign was an 'advert', and that the Council should consider the amenity and public safety only. The Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements)(England) Regulations 2007 regulation 3 was drawn to Members attention as the main legal framework.

Cllr Cox proposed a motion that this application be objected to due to the amenity and setting, and also public safety due to people trying to enforce the sign and causing a Public Safety issue as the wording on the sign was incorrect. Cllr Dedman seconded this proposal.

The Town Clerk advised that the general criminal law deals with matters of overzealous enforcement and that it was not really for the planning system to try and control.

The proposer and seconder were happy to amend the motion so that public safety only concentrated on the lesser issue of detritus, weed rafts possibly collecting, snagging around the pole and that objection be raised contrary to policy HE1 of the Core Strategy and saved policy BE4 of the Christchurch Local Plan 2001.

The Chairman raised that the Town Clerk be delegated to send the objection to the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman on the following grounds:

**OBJECTION raised:**

- 1) The proposal has a detrimental impact due to its prominent location in an historic setting when considering its proximity to listed heritage assets contrary to HE1 of the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Plan – Part 1 Core Strategy and contrary to saved policy BE4(1),(3) and (4) of the Christchurch Local Plan 2001**
- 2) The proposal to a lesser extent has an impact upon public safety in that weed and river detritus may possibly collect around the pole.**

Voting: unanimous

The meeting ended at 6.47pm

CHAIRMAN