

TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY PANEL - 27 JUNE 2016

REFERENCE FROM THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING OF 25 MAY 2016

Minute Item 244: Planning Applications Received

244. Planning Applications Received

In accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, the Addendum was admitted late to the agenda as it contained information relating to various items on the agenda and was based on information received after the despatch of the agenda. It was admitted to the agenda in order to enable Members to consider all information relevant to the items before them for decision.

RESOLVED: That authority be given to the Head of Planning to issue the decision notices in respect of the applications considered.

1/02 - WHITCHURCH PLAYING FIELDS, WEMBOROUGH ROAD, STANMORE

REFERENCE: P/4910/15

DESCRIPTION: The Erection Of A Three Storey Building For Use As A School With Detached Sports Hall/Community Changing Block, Hard And Soft Landscaping, Sports Pitches And Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGA), Hard And Soft Play Areas, Parking, Bin Storage And Boundary Treatment .

Councillor Pritesh Patel left the room during consideration of this item.

The Chair emphasised that the Committee had unanimously agreed to grant the application at its meeting of 17 February 2016 subject to the completion of a section 106 Planning Obligation, the School Travel Plan (STP) and the Community Use Agreement being referred back to the Committee for further consideration.

Following questions from Members, an officer advised that:

- the coaches to be used by the school had a 50 seat capacity and it was anticipated that the coaches would transport 150 pupils both in the morning and in the afternoon, with each journey likely to be charged at £7.50. The existing service was over-subscribed and a waiting list was in operation. However, the planned increased in pupil numbers would likely lead to economies of scale which would bring down costs;

- the Council's travel planners and Highways officers were working closely with Avanti House School to ensure that the provisions contained in the STP would be met and it was important to note that the school had a good past record with in relation to implementing its STP. Nevertheless, the Council could not impose any penalties if the STP provisions were not met, but it would be in the interests of the school to ensure this was the case.

Members made the following additional comments:

- it was important to ensure that the STP measures were achievable and that local public transport provision would be able to cope with the likely increase in demand following the school's expansion;
- the school was located in an accessible location and he was in favour of the application in principle. However, in his view, the STP and any mitigating measures would require further specialist consideration and he proposed a motion to defer the application and for a Reference to be sent from the Planning Committee to the Traffic and Road Safety Advisory Panel (TARSAP) to further discuss and scrutinise the application and report back to the next meeting of the Planning Committee;
- the Chair added that there were a number of complex traffic management issues to be resolved with regard to the application, namely:
 - whether the S106 mitigation measures were adequate;
 - whether the plans for the roundabout to the West of the school required further discussions with TfL;
 - the possible implementation of staggered start and finish times by the three schools located in close proximity, namely, Stanburn, Whitchurch and Avanti House.

He added that TARSAP was best placed to provide comments on the above matters. He proposed sending a Reference to TARSAP, requesting that a Special meeting of the Panel be convened to consider the application and that TARSAP's findings be reported to the 29 June 2016 meeting of the Planning Committee.

DECISION: DEFERRED, pending further consideration at a special meeting of the Traffic and Road Safety Advisory Panel to take place before the end of June 2016.