

MINUTE
of
PLANNING APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Minute of virtual meeting held at 2.00pm on 1 September 2021.

Present:

Councillor Angela Convery
Councillor Stewart Miller

Councillor Jim McLean
Councillor Jim Swift

Councillor Miller in the Chair

Attending:

Graham Shankland, Planning and Building Standards Manager; Alan Pepler, Principal Planner; Derek Scott, Planner, Eamonn Daly, Democratic Services Manager; Sharon McIntyre, Committee Services Officer, and Liona Allison, Assistant Committee Services Officer.

Apologies:

Councillors Ireland (Chair), Cunningham (Vice Chair), and Provost Fletcher.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

1731. In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair it was agreed that Councillor Miller Chair the meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1732. There were no declarations of interest intimated.

APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

1733. The committee considered a report by the Director of Environment on the following application for planning permission (retrospective) requiring consideration by the committee.

2021/0226/TP - Installation of 1x Broadband PCP Cabinet measuring 2430mm x 370mm x 1210mm (retrospective) at Opposite 1-1A Polnoon Street, Eaglesham.

Councillor McLean expressed concerns regarding the retrospective nature of the planning application. He highlighted the concerns of local residents with regards to the positioning of the Broadband PCP Cabinet and sought justification for the receipt of the retrospective planning application. This was echoed by Councillor Convery who noted the numerous variations of similar planning applications put to the committee.

The Planning and Building Standards Manager advised that the applicant had submitted supporting information and photographic evidence that indicated that a third party electric cable ran under the site for the cabinet that was approved under reference 2019/0767/TP and that that site cannot therefore be used. The information submitted also indicated that the location at the corner of Polnoon Street and Gilmour Street was best operationally and to move the cabinet elsewhere in Eaglesham would result in slower broadband speeds for residents of the village. The information also stated that broadband would be discontinued during any relocation. Consequently a retrospective planning application was submitted as the PCP cabinet could not be relocated to the approved position.

Elected Members questioned the validity of the evidence provided. The Planning and Building Standards Manager, Planning Officer and Democratic Services Manager advised that in the absence of any contrary information the evidence provided by the applicant needed to be taken as accurate.

Councillor McLean expressed further concern regarding the broadband facilities of local residents and that access to these services would be affected should planning permission for the retrospective application not be granted. In these circumstances he felt that there was almost no option but to approve the application. This was supported by other Members.

In response to comments about the way the application had been progressed, the Planning and Building Standards Manager confirmed that if the committee was minded he could write to the applicant to express the committee's displeasure and emphasising the need for the applicant to follow the proper planning procedures for any future applications.

The committee:-

- (a) approved the application for retrospective planning consent subject to conditions as outlined in the report; and
- (b) agreed that the Planning and Building Standards Manager issue a letter to the applicant to express the displeasure of the committee and to note the requirement to follow correct procedures in the future.

VALEDICTORY – GRAHAM SHANKLAND, PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS MANAGER

1734. Councillor Miller advised the committee that this would be the last meeting attended by Graham Shankland, Planning and Building Standards Manager who was retiring. On behalf of the committee he thanked Mr Shankland for his contribution to East Renfrewshire Council over the years and wished him a long and happy retirement. This was echoed by other members of the committee.

Mr Shankland responded in suitable terms.

CHAIR

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
AS AMENDED BY THE PLANNING ETC (SCOTLAND) ACT 2006
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

Index of applications under the above acts considered by Planning Applications Committee on
01.09.2021

Reference No: 2021/0226/TP

Ward: 5

Applicant:

Openreach
Rutland House
5 Allen Road
Livingston
Scotland
EH54 6TQ

Agent:

Robin Arscott
Rutland House
5 Allen Road
Livingston
Scotland
EH54 6TQ

Site: Opposite 1-1A Polnoon Street Eaglesham East Renfrewshire

Description: Installation of 1x Broadband PCP Cabinet measuring 2430mm x 370mm x 1210mm (retrospective)

Decision: Granted

