

## PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL

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15<sup>th</sup> July 2015

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Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend a **MEETING** of the **PLANNING & HIGHWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**, to be held in the **EASTON METHODIST CHURCH HALL, EASTON, PORTLAND**, on **WEDNESDAY, 22<sup>ND</sup> JULY 2015** commencing at **7.00 pm**, when the business set out below will be transacted.

It is the Council's intention that all meetings of the Council and its Committees be recorded aurally.

Yours faithfully

Ian Looker  
Town Clerk

## AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest** – to receive any declarations from Councillors or Officers of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests regarding matters to be considered at this meeting, together with a statement on the nature of those interests
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015** (attached)
4. **Planning Officer's Report and Other Matters Arising**
5. **Neighbourhood Plan** – to receive an update on progress
6. **Consultation on Planning Applications notified by Weymouth & Portland Borough Council**  
Standard List of Planning Applications (attached)
7. **Planning Contravention Issues**
8. **Consultation on Planning Applications etc. notified by Dorset County Council**
9. **Borough Council Planning Support** – to consider options if support is withdrawn (see attached)
10. **Date of Next Meeting**  
The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> August 2015, commencing at 7.00 pm.

# ***PTC Applications***

For applications registered between 17/6/2015 and 14/7/2015

<b>Date Valid</b>	<b>App. No</b>	<b>Location &amp; Proposal</b>	<b>Agent &amp; Applicant's Name</b>
24/6/2015	15/336/FUL	32 Grangecroft Road  Erect two-storey side extension and single-storey front and rear extensions to include annexe accommodation	Mrs M Clarke
<b>PTC Recommendation</b> .....			
28/5/2015	15/388/FUL	1 Martinscroft Road  Erection of dwelling to side of property	Phil Laming and Sons Ltd  Steven Jones Plan Design
<b>PTC Recommendation</b> .....			
9/7/2015	15/390/COU	Admiralty Buildings, Castletown  Change of use of western section of Admiralty House to Local Heritage Centre	Phoenix Properties  Richard Burgess Associates Ltd
<b>PTC Recommendation</b> .....			

24/6/2015      15/453/FUL      Hut 23, Field 766, access track to Fields 758 and 767 – 769  
Portland Bill

Renewal of permission to site beach hut

Mr J Rosling

**PTC Recommendation.....**

19/6/2015      15/454/FUL      Hut 6, Field 765, access to Fields 737, 739, 760 and 761  
Portland Bill

Mr H Legg

Replacement beach hut

Mr R Burgess

**PTC Recommendation.....**

19/6/2015      15/455/FUL      Hut 5, Field 765, access to Fields 737, 739, 760 and 761  
Portland Bill

Mr H Legg

Replacement beach hut

Mr R Burgess

**PTC Recommendation.....**

19/6/2015      15/456/FUL      Hut 18, Field 765, access to Fields 737, 739, 760 and 761  
Portland Bill

Mr H Legg

Replacement beach hut

Mr R Burgess

**PTC Recommendation.....**

19/6/2015      15/457/FUL      Hut 20, Field 761, access to Fields 737, 739, 760 and 765  
Portland Bill      Mr H Legg

Replacement beach hut      Mr R Burgess

**PTC Recommendation.....**

19/6/2015      15/458/FUL      Hut 1, Field 765, access to Fields 737, 739, 760 and 761  
Portland Bill      Mr H Legg

Replacement beach hut      Mr R Burgess

**PTC Recommendation.....**

## **BOROUGH COUNCIL PLANNING SUPPORT**

For as long as I am aware the Borough Council has provided a planning officer to attend our Planning Committee meetings, bring drawings for the applications under discussion and generally advise members. Indeed a planning officer has also provided training that our Councillors may better understand the planning process and make informed decisions on applications that come before them.

All this service has been provided by the Borough free of charge and one might be excused for taking it for granted. However such a service is very much the exception rather than the rule. Normally parish and town councils are left to make their planning choices unaided.

Now, as might be expected, the Borough is reviewing this service as a potential financial saving and it could well be withdrawn.

The agenda item is therefore brought to anticipate just such a decision. Of course the Borough may decide to continue with the service on the same basis. On the other hand it may just send the documentation to the meeting, as happens if no planning officer is available. In such a case the clerk deputises for the planning officer, but plainly the expertise is missing.

There is also the suggestion that the Planning Committee be left to view the associated documents online. This presents various logistical problems. A computer would have to be brought from the meeting and whether a connection to the Internet is possible is highly questionable. Given that this is possible, there remain the difficulties involved in a whole group of Committee members gathered round one small lap-top screen, only able to view one image at a time and perhaps miss some detail hidden in the small print. The advantages of paper documents over their digitised equivalents seem numerous.

Finally members might consider the option of paying the Borough for the planning officer service, if they think it provides value for the money residents pay in Council Tax.