

Woodchester Parish Council

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Minutes of the Planning Meeting April 2nd 2009

Present: Cllrs. Lead (Chair), Swait, Brown and one member of the public and Clerk Simon Peirce

1. Apologies for absence from Cllr. Hamilton and Syrett
2. There were no declarations of interest
3. The minutes of the meeting of March 19th 2009 were approved
4. There were no planning decisions received to be considered.
5. To comment on planning applications received:

S.09/0434/FUL 2 Church Villas, Church Road – Demolition of flat roof extension. Erection of 2 storey extension. There were no objections as the plans appeared to meet with planning policies HN16 and GE1

S.09/0421/FUL 14 Berrymore Road, North Woodchester. There were no objections as the plans appeared to meet with planning policies HN16 and GE1

S.09/0433/FUL Friars Orchard, Convent Lane, South Woodchester – Proposed Loft Conversion. There were no objections to the proposal.

S.09/0406/FUL Tower House, South Woodchester – Erection of a wind turbine. Councillors expressed concern regarding the visual impact of such a turbine within the Conservation Area and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. One neighbour living nearby was also concerned about visual impact for similar reasons. Councillors went onto express their support in principle for promotion of sustainable energy and were interested to establish if the applicants had considered the use of photovoltaic cells for generation of power which would seem more suited to the building and location in question. There was also concern expressed about the structural suitability of the Tower to support such a device.

6. To receive update on new planning laws.
Councillor Lead advised of forthcoming changes to the Town & Country Planning Act and associated Regulations. He highlighted the importance of thorough research and scrutiny of planning applications and the imperative to 'get it right first time'. There was also to be no assumption that the prior history of particular sites would be known and therefore the background information provided by the Woodchester Parish Plan and Village Design Statement would take on further Significance in the future.

7. The meeting closed at 7.15pm