

CONSERVATION AND PLANNING REVIEW COMMITTEE

16th October, 2013

Present: Mr D Ellis (Chairman)
Ms C Gwyther, Councillor B Kilmister, Councillor Mrs A Lee,
Councillor PJ Morgan

(NPA Offices, Llanion Park, Pembroke Dock: 11.30am – 12.30pm)

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor S Hudson.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on the 19th and 26th June, 2013 were presented for confirmation and signature.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meetings held on 19th and 26th June, 2013 be confirmed and signed.

3. Performance Report for the Period Ending 30th September 2013

The report of the Business and Performance Manager presented performance to date for the Park Direction Team in accordance with the new Corporate Strategy for 2013/14 which had been amended to reduce the number of outcomes from 8 to 4. Each of the actions reported on were shown as red, amber or green in the report, depending on the level of progress made.

The Business and Performance Manager advised Members that at the mid-point of the financial year, most actions were well underway, although staff sickness had caused some delays. He went on to illustrate some of the figures presented graphically using the Ffynnon system, and in some cases this provided an update on the information presented in the report.

Commenting on the Development Management figures for the percentage of applications determined in time in the year to date, this had improved in recent months. In particular 91% of applications had been determined during August when no Development Management Committee had been held and the Business and Performance Manager noted that not holding the Committee had saved 3 or 4 'man days'. This improved performance had meant that in the latest Welsh Government quarterly report the Authority was equal seventh out of all the planning authorities within Wales. Members were delighted to hear these figures and felt that they should be given greater publicity.

Another action in the Development Management section of the report related to improved public perception. One Member asked what progress had been made in the computerisation of applications as it was still not



possible to view planning applications on this Authority's website, but those for Pembrokeshire County Council (PCC) were available. Officers replied that a meeting had recently taken place between officers of the two Authorities to ascertain whether this Authority could make use of systems already in place in PCC, however their mapping was at a less advanced stage than in this Authority and until the two were at the same level, no progress could be made.

Thanking him for his report, Members asked whether it was possible to receive the updates from the Ffynnon system before the meeting. The Business and Performance Manager replied that it should be possible for Members to access the updated 'Dashboard' he had prepared and he would arrange for this to be set up.

It was **RESOLVED** that the report be **RECEIVED**.

4. Presentation on Permitted Development within Article 1(5) land ie National Parks

The Principal Planning Officer reported to Members that as a result of recent changes in planning legislation in Wales, changes had been made to Householder Permitted Development Rights which had come into force on 30th September.

He gave a presentation which set out the main changes that had taken place - these related to extensions, roof extensions, hardstandings, external wall insulation, chimneys, roof lights and the definition of what was a principal elevation. The presentation also highlighted the differences between what was permitted within a National Park and outside of that area. The officer noted that any developments not commenced before 30th September 2013 would need to be reconsidered in light of the changes, however pre-application advice would continue to be offered. Welsh Government had issued a Guide which provided a useful summary of permitted development rights and a copy of this was circulated to the Committee. Members agreed that it would be helpful if this were circulated to all Members of the Authority.

NOTED.

5. Delegation of any issues of concern to the Continuous Improvement Group

Members were concerned about the difference in the availability of information on planning applications between Pembrokeshire County Council and the National Park Authority (see Minute 3 above). Complaints had been received from the public and no timescale for resolution of the issue was available.

It was **AGREED** that these comments be passed to the Continuous Improvement Group.

