

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOUTHERN LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 22 APRIL 2008 AT 1000 HOURS IN
OCHILTREE COMMUNITY CENTRE, 45 MAIN STREET, OCHILTREE**

PRESENT: Councillors Drew Filson, Jim Sutherland, Eric Jackson, Jimmy Kelly, Neil McGhee, Jim Roberts, William Crawford, Kathy Morrice, and Elaine Dinwoodie.

ATTENDING: Hugh Melvin, Principal Planning Officer; Craig Young, Solicitor; and Stuart Nelson and Lynn Young, Administrative Officers.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Barney Menzies and Eric Ross.

CHAIR: Councillor Drew Filson, Chair.

HEARING PROCEDURE

1. The Administrative Officer confirmed that the hearing procedure was understood by all participants.
2. **APPLICATION NO: 07/1013/FL: JOHN O'DONNELL: PROPOSED ERECTION OF 36 FLATS AT WELLWOOD STREET, MUIRKIRK**

There was submitted an executive summary sheet and report dated 7 March 2008 (both circulated) by the Head of Planning and Economic Development on a full planning application for the erection of 36 flats at Wellwood Street, Muirkirk.

2.1 Consideration of Item

The Principal Planning Officer reported a correction to page 16 of the report in that the application referred to the larger shaded area of the map only; that 28 objections had been received, details of which were contained within the report; summarised the planning considerations in respect of the application; and gave the recommendation of the Head of Planning and Economic Development; approval, subject to the conditions, and for the reasons, detailed in the report.

2.2 Planning Hearing

The Committee heard Mrs Catherine Blake on behalf of her own objections and those of Muirkirk Community Council; Mr Jim Currie, on behalf of the objection from Muirkirk Enterprise Group; and Mr John Howells, on behalf of the objection from Muirkirk Elderly Forum. Members asked questions of the objectors who responded to the issues raised, all in accordance with the Hearing procedure.

The Committee then heard Mr Jim Struth, agent for the applicant, in support of the application. Members asked questions of the agent for the applicant, all in accordance with the Hearing Procedure.

Councillor Jackson joined the meeting at this point and did not participate in the determination of the application.

The Chair closed the Hearing.

2.3 Determination of Application

Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Roberts, moved that the application be refused on the grounds that the proposal of 36 flats would result in over development of the site, and would therefore be detrimental to the residential and visual amenity of the area in which it is located.

Councillor Dinwoodie, seconded by Councillor Neil McGhee, moved as an amendment, that the application be approved, subject to the conditions, and for the reasons detailed in the report.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 6 votes to 2.

3. APPLICATION NO: 07/1052/FL: THE GREAT STEWARD OF SCOTLAND'S DUMFRIES HOUSE TRUST: CHANGE OF USE FROM HOUSE TO NON RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTION VISITOR ATTRACTION, TOURIST FACILITY WITH INTERNAL ALTERATIONS, FORMATION OF CAR PARKING AND COACH PARKING WITH UPGRADED FOOTPATHS AND ASSOCIATED ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS AT DUMFRIES HOUSE AND ESTATE, CUMNOCK.

There was submitted an executive summary sheet and report dated 7 April 2008 (both circulated) by the Head of Planning and Economic Development on a full planning application for the change of use of the Mansion House to a non residential institution as a visitor attraction and tourist facility, including internal alterations to the Mansion House to provide access for the disabled, public toilet facilities, staff facilities, administrative offices and a shop and tea bar at Dumfries House and Estate, Cumnock.

The Principal Planning Officer reported that no objections had been received; summarised the planning considerations in respect of the application; and gave the recommendation of the Head of Planning and Economic Development; approval, subject to the conditions, and for the reasons, detailed in the report.

It was agreed to approve the application subject to the conditions, and for the reasons detailed in the report.

The meeting terminated at 1039 hours.