

**At a meeting of the PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on TUESDAY, 27<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 2009 at 5.00 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor T. Martin in the Chair

Councillors Blackburn, Fletcher, D. Forbes, M. Forbes, E. Gibson, Howe, Miller, O'Connor, Scaplehorn, J. Scott, Tate, Wakefield, J. Walton, Wares, Wood and A. Wright

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Chamberlin, I. Cuthbert, Fletcher, G. Hall, Snowdon, Tye, S. Watson, A. Wilson and D. Wilson

**Minutes**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of this Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2008 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**Report of the Meeting of the Development Control (North Sunderland) Sub-Committee**

The report of the meeting of the Development Control (North Sunderland) Sub-Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2009 (copy circulated) was submitted.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

2. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Report of the Meeting of the Development Control (South Sunderland) Sub-Committee**

The report of the meeting of the Development Control (South Sunderland) Sub-Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2009 (copy circulated) was submitted.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

3. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Report of the Meeting of the Development Control (Hetton, Houghton and Washington) Sub-Committee**

The report of the meeting of the Development Control (Hetton, Houghton and Washington) Sub-Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2009 (copy circulated) was submitted.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Subject to the inclusion of Councillor I. Cuthbert being in attendance at the meeting and in relation to application 08/03879/OUT the Director of Development & Regeneration's representative being asked to confirm whether the subsequent reserved matters application(s) would be referred to a future Committee meeting, it was:

4. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Thornholme Road, Ashbrooke, Objection to Proposed Traffic Calming Measures**

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report (copy circulated) to inform the Planning and Highways Committee of objections that have been received to traffic calming proposals on Thornholme Road, Ashbrooke.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Allan Calvert, Traffic Manager presented the report.

Councillor Wood queried the difference between speed humps, speed tables and speed cushions. Mr Calvert advised that a speed hump straddles the width of the road whereas speed cushions are designed so that wide-axle vehicles, such as ambulances, can travel unimpeded but cars are slowed. Speed tables are raised platforms with a flat top that are built across the whole width of the road often near a crossing with ramps to allow the traffic to drive over it.

Councillor Wood welcomed the proposals for St Michaels Ward.

Councillor Miller asked what implications the proposals would have on the relocation of bus stops. Mr Calvert advised that bus stops would only be relocated if it was essential to do so.

5. RESOLVED that the Committee support the proposed scheme and that the formal objection received during the statutory consultation process from a local resident opposed to the introduction of speed cushions is not upheld.

### **Sunderland City Council Local Development Framework: Annual Monitoring Report 2007/2008**

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report to inform the Committee of progress on the Council's Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for 2007/ 08.

Neil Cole, Planning Policy Manager presented the report.

Councillor M. Forbes commented that the Housing Allocations element of the Development Plan Documents appeared to be at a disadvantage due to the number of demolitions taking place. Councillor Forbes queried whether the sites where demolition has taken place would be subsequently redeveloped for housing.

Mr Cole advised that Gentoo were carrying out the majority of the demolition work in the city with approximately 566 demolitions undertaken to date. Following demolition, Gentoo have a rebuild programme in which the Council has an input into the submission plans.

Councillor Forbes then queried whether there was a time limit imposed on Gentoo to replace the housing on the demolished sites as this may impact upon the City's performance figures. Mr Cole advised that while the Council had no direct control in planning terms over the number of replacement houses Gentoo built per annum they were working closely with them on the Masterplan.

Councillor Forbes also referred to the numbers of conversions from residential use contained within the AMR which seemed high and queried whether there was an emerging pattern regarding this type of housing. Mr. Cole advised that there was no particular pattern to these conversions and therefore it would be difficult to plot a trend.

6. RESOLVED that the contents of the Annual Monitoring Report be received and noted.

The Chairman closed the meeting having thanked everyone for their attendance.

(Signed) T. Martin  
Chairman.