At a meeting of the DEVELOPMENT CONTROL (HETTON, HOUGHTON AND WASHINGTON) SUB-COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on TUESDAY, 27th NOVEMBER, 2018 at 5.45 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Scullion in the Chair

Councillors Blackett, M. Dixon, Jackson, Lauchlan, Porthouse, Speding, and P. Walker

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were given on behalf of Councillors Essl, Hodson, Rowntree, Scaplehorn and Williams

Applications made under the Town and Country Planning Acts and Regulations made thereunder

The Executive Director of Economy and Place submitted a report and late sheets (copies circulated), which related to Hetton, Houghton and Washington areas, copies of which had also been forwarded to each Member of the Council, upon applications made under the Town and Country Planning Acts and Regulations made thereunder.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

18/00684/FUL – Change of use and extension of former Shiney Row Community Library to retail food store (Amended plans and external plant specification received 17.10.18) at Shiney Row Branch Library, Chester Road, Shiney Row, Houghton le Spring, DH4 4RB

The representative of the Executive Director of Economy and Place presented the application advising the Committee of the key issues to consider in determining the application in relation to the principle of the development, residential and visual amenity, highways matters and environmental health considerations.

Councillor Speding advised that he spoke on behalf of the constituents of his ward, Shiney Row, and their concerns around the application being granted permission. He raised the issue of the increase in traffic this development would cause in an area which already suffered from the lack of adequate parking.

Councillor Speding commented that he understood that the planning application met the necessary requirements but advised the Committee that there had been a petition submitted with regards to the issue around parking and vehicular access to the development site and asked if the highways officers could look at what could be introduced to improve the problems in the area.

The Highways Officer advised that they have to consider every planning application on its own merit and that the parking facilities provided were appropriate for the demand associated with a unit of this size. He advised that they also considered the traffic generated by the development, the parking provision to the rear of the property and the drop kerb short stay parking which would remain for customers and it was felt that having taken all of this into account the application should be supported.

The Highways Officer advised that he could look to speak with Councillor Speding outside of the meeting to discuss any alternative measures that could be introduced to help with traffic issues in the area which were outside the remit of this planning application.

Members having no further questions and having fully considered the application and representations, it was unanimously:-

1. RESOLVED that the application be approved for the reasons as set out within the report and late sheet and subject to the nine conditions detailed therein.

18/01938/MAW – Installation of a water tank and associated pump house/plant room, fuel tank and the change of use to existing wood bays to vehicle wash bay (Resubmission) at Veolia ES (UK) Ltd, 1 Monument Park, Washington, NE38 8QU

The representative of the Executive Director of Economy and Place presented the application advising the Committee of the key issues to consider in determining the application.

Members were advised that the representation from the Coal Authority had now been received and having fully considered the application, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the application be approved given that the time for receipt of representations had passed and the representation from the Coal Authority had been received for the reasons as set out within the report and subject to the three conditions detailed therein.

Items for Information

Members having fully considered the items for information contained within the matrix, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the items for information as set out in the matrix be received and noted.

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

(Signed) A. SCULLION, Chairman.