

Report of:	Meeting	Date	Item No.
Cllr Paul Moon Chairman of the Planning Committee	Council	6 September 2018	8

Planning Committee: Periodic Report

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To enable myself as Chairman of Planning Committee to inform the Council of the current position on issues being dealt with by the Planning Committee.

2. Scheme of Delegation

- 2.1 The scheme of delegation set out in the council's Constitution allows for the Head of Planning Services to determine all planning applications. However, that delegation is conditioned by paragraph 1. This allowed for any Member to call a planning application to Committee for determination. To do so, the member must make the request in writing within ten working days of the date of distribution of the weekly list of planning applications, upon which the planning application in question appeared. Members should be aware that all such requests are public documents and will form part of the application file.

3. Applications Determined by the Planning Committee

- 3.1 Whilst most planning applications are decided under the delegated powers, applications of most strategic or local significance or which are or most likely to be controversial are brought to the Planning Committee for a decision as well as those which have been subject to a request in accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation. Over the year from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018, 99% of all applications have been decided under delegated powers. Looking at individual months throughout the period the figure has varied between 96% and 100%.
- 3.2 Between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018, a total of 1239 applications of all types were received and 1119 applications determined. 77 applications were withdrawn. The Planning Committee have considered 22 planning applications.
- 3.3 Of the 22 applications considered by the Planning Committee, 18 (81%) were subject to a member request under the provisions of the Scheme of Delegation, although it is considered that 11 of these would have been

brought to the Committee in any event due to their strategic nature or by reason of their planning history. Two applications were brought to Committee because the applicant was a senior officer of the council or a councillor. Of all applications determined by the Planning Committee, 16 were granted planning permission and six were refused (or minded to refuse). Four (18%) were decided contrary to the recommendation of the Head of Planning Services. Of these, one was granted planning permission contrary to the recommendation and three were refused contrary to recommendation.

4. Appeals

4.1 Between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018, a total of 27 appeals were lodged and 26 appeals decided. 40% of appeals on major applications and 33% of appeals on other applications have been allowed. From 1 April 2017 to the present date two out of four appeals relating to applications refused (or minded to be refused) contrary to officer recommendation have been allowed, one was withdrawn, and one was dismissed. The appeal withdrawn related to 16/00407/OUTMAJ – Fleetwood Pier - Outline application for the erection of 15 apartments for persons aged 55 and over together with retail unit and car parking. Those allowed include 16/00650/OUTMAJ – Land off Copp Lane, Great Eccleston – outline application for up to 93 dwellings, and 17/00745/FULMAJ – Land off Laidleys Walk, Fleetwood - Erection of a three storey residential care home for use within Use Class C2. This appeal was against non-determination although the Planning Committee were minded to refuse planning permission. The appeal dismissed related to 17/00069/FUL - Part retrospective application for the erection of a detached dwelling (Resubmission of 16/00356/FUL), rear of former Saracens Head Hotel, 200 Park Lane, Presall.

5 Other Matters for Information

Member Training

5.1 During the year the Planning Committee (and other councillors) have had two externally provided training courses on planning matters. The first, provided by training consultants appointed by the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) was on Tuesday 16 May 2017, and the subject was 'Making Defensible Decisions'. The second event was provided by specialist planning training consultants Trevor Roberts Associates on 14 March 2018 and was on 'The role of Councillors in planning: Propriety and Good Practice'.

6. In accordance with Procedure Rule 13.4, any Member of Council will be able to ask me a question or make a comment on the contents of my report or any issue, which falls within my area of responsibility. I will respond to any such questions or comments in accordance with Procedure Rules 13.5.

List of appendices

None