

Michaelston-Y-Fedw Community Council

Clerk Claire Dixon – 8, Druidstone House, Druidstone Road, Cardiff, CF3 6XF

Phone: 01633 680506

Minutes of an extraordinary meeting held at Michaelston-Y-Fedw village hall on Wednesday 22nd September, 2004 to discuss planning application CONEX 04/0857.

Members Present

Councillor Dr C C Rowlands
Councillor Mr G Davies
Councillor Mrs A Huckle
Councillor Mr C Walford
Councillor Mr S Tyler
Councillor Mr D Philips
Clerk Mrs C Dixon

Apologies for absence

Councillor Mrs T Clifford

Agenda Item and Comments

03/21/272 Planning

CONEX: 04/0857 – Construction of Noise Attenuation Bund at 5 Oaks, Michaelston-y-fedw.

This planning application was rejected at the July AGM of the Community Council, and the following letter sent to the planning department:

1. Original letter of objection

Re: CONEX/04/0857

I have been instructed by the Community Council to inform you that they have the following objections to the above planning application.

Although the Community Council appreciates the problem of noise from the M4 on this property, it believes the size of bund is excessive, and would cause a huge amount of disruption to the local community. In particular,

- a. Access problems to and from the site along rural roads.
- b. Excessive wear and tear of local roads that are already poorly maintained.
- c. Excessive mud deposits on rural roads, creating skidding hazards for motorist.

We would be grateful if you could let us know if this application receives approval, despite our objections.

2. Summary of on-site meeting held on Saturday September 11th, 2004

Mr Simons of 5, Oaks, Michaelston-y-fedw phoned Councillor Davies seeking an explanation as to why his planning application had been rejected by the Community Council. He requested that Councillors attend an on-site meeting whereby he could explain further why he had requested a noise reduction bund. At the on-site meeting attended by Councillors Walford, Tyler, Davies and Philips, Mr. Simons explained that the application had gone before the planning committee, with the approval of the Highways Department and the Planning Officer, and that the Community Council were the only party objecting to the application. The planning committee had deferred their final decision on his application.

Mr. Simons anticipated that the bund would require 160,000 tonnes of earth, which would be carried in by lorries over a 3 year period. He assured the Councillors that there would be no more than 50 lorries a day travelling to and from the property and that he would take measures to limit the mess on local roads.

Whilst at the meeting the Councillors all noted the excessive noise at the property caused by the adjacent M4, and noted that a bund surrounding the formal gardens and the house would seem appropriate (significantly smaller than the one applied for).

3. Community Council's response to on-site meeting

Following this meeting, it was felt that a letter should be sent to the planning department of Newport Council clarifying the Community Council's position on the application. Four points were agreed to be the basis of the letter:

- a. The Community Council uphold their original objection based on the disruption to local roads.
- b. However, they would have no objection to the current bund if the 160,000 tonnes of material could be brought in from the excavations of the widening of the M4, and not via Coal Pit Lane and other local roads.
- c. In the event of a new planning application being submitted for a smaller bund surrounding the immediate property and formal gardens, then the Community Council would re-consider this new application.
- d. The Community Council is not satisfied that a bund is the sole option for noise abatement.

It was proposed by Councillors Rowlands and Huckle that a separate letter should be sent to Brian Kemp the Head of the Highways Department at Newport Council, seeking a detailed explanation as to why his department had no objection to an anticipated 20-30,000 lorry movements along Coal Pit Lane and adjacent local roads over this 3 year period. It was subsequently proposed by Councillor Tyler that this should also be copied in to the Chief Executive of Newport Council, Chris Freegard, and Councillors Morgan and Pursey.

Councillor Huckle pointed out that a planning proposal of this scale would have a massive impact on the local community, and that procedure should dictate that the community be made aware of it. Councillor Huckle was backed by the other

Councillors in her suggestion of a letter to all households in Michaelston-y-fedw, outlining the planning application, and the reasons the Community Council were objecting to it. It would also recommend that should they have any objection that they write immediately to Newport planning department.

Action for Clerk:

1. Letter to Planning Department.
2. Letter to Brian Kemp, Head of Highways
3. Letter to the Community notifying them of the Planning Application.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 8.20pm. The next meeting is to be held on October 6th, 2004 at the Village Hall, Michaelston-Y-Fedw.