

Folkestone Town Council

Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Thursday 29 May 2025 at the Town Council Offices, The Town Hall, 1-2 Guildhall Street, Folkestone.

PRESENT: Councillors Charles Bain Smith, Laura Davison, John Renshaw, Jane Darling, Bridget Chapman, Christine Dickinson.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Georgina Wilson (Corporate Support Officer), Jennifer Griffin (Administration Officer)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Davison abstained from comment on Application 25/0831/FH.

3. PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

The Committee was asked to receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 24 April 2025 and to authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign them as a correct record.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 24 April 2025 be received and that the Chair of the meeting be authorised to sign them as a correct record.

Proposed: Councillor Christine Dickinson

Seconded: Councillor Charles Bain Smith

Voting: F: 6, Ag: 0; Ab: 0

4. WEEKLY LIST

Councillors noted the comments sent to Folkestone & Hythe District Council via the Weekly Lists dated 23 April 2025 and 2 May 2025.

5. CHANGE IN MEETING SCHEDULE

The Committee were asked to consider altering the Meetings of the Planning Committee to three weekly to better align with Planning Application closing dates.

Councillor Laura Davison declared to the Committee that they would be leaving the Committee.

RESOLVED: That the Meetings of the Planning Committee change to three weekly to better align with Planning Application closing dates.

Proposed: Councillor Jane Darling

Seconded: Councillor John Renshaw

Voting: F: 6, Ag: 0; Ab: 0

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application no	25/0590/FH
Location	Flat C, 98 Bouverie Road West
Proposal	Replacement of windows from timber to UPVC at the front elevation.
Closing date	05/06/2025
Comment	Object. The Committee's previous comment still stands – UPVC is not an appropriate material as it is not recyclable, nor does UPVC preserve or enhance the character of the conservation area. UPVC is not necessary to use when there are timber alternatives available.
Application no	25/0877/FH
Location	1 Grimston Gardens
Proposal	Situated in a Conservation Area - T1 Bay- crown reduce all around by 1-2 meters. T2 Holly- reduce in height by approx. 3-4 meters. G1 and G2 mixed species shrubs- to be cut pruned and shaped all around by 1-2 meters and to be crown lifted off the footpath to a height of 3m.
Closing date	03/06/2025
Comment	No Objection
Application no	25/0831/FH
Location	Flat 1, 30 Grimston Gardens
Proposal	Retrospective application for timber office pod in front garden. (Resubmission of planning application 24/0875/FH).
Closing date	04/06/2025
Comment	No Objection
Application no	25/0876/FH
Location	104 Sandgate Road
Proposal	Advertisement consent for 1no. new internally illuminated projecting hanging sign and 1no. new internally illuminated fascia sign.
Closing date	09/06/2025
Comment	No Objection
Application no	25/0911/FH
Location	2 Broadfield Road
Proposal	Works to trees subject to TPO No 13 of 1991, T1 Common Beech, Cut back 2 metres side growth. Cut back the drive side by the same amount and shape into the canopy. T2 Silver Birch, fell to ground level.

Closing date	08/06/2025
Comment	Object. This would engender the loss of a fine, mature silver birch tree which contributes greatly to the street scene and character of the conservation area. The Committee do not object to the works on the beach tree.
Application no	25/0878/FH/TCA
Location	2 Albion Villas
Proposal	Works to trees in a Conservation Area comprising of T1 Holm Oak crown reduce by approx. 3-4 metres, T2 Magnolia fell to ground level, T3 Bay fell to ground level & T4 Laburnum reduce all around by approx. 1 metre.
Closing date	09/06/2025
Comment	Object. There is no justification for felling two trees that contribute to the character of the conservation area.
Application no	25/0896/FH
Location	1 Broadview
Proposal	Erection of a combined rear extension and replacement garage.
Closing date	09/06/2025
Comment	No Objection
Application no	25/0825/FH
Location	St Peter's Church, The Durlocks
Proposal	Alterations to the fleche
Closing date	12/06/2025
Comment	Object. While the Committee do not disagree with the principle of changing the materials to make the fleche weatherproof but there are no reassuring details as to how this will be done. Proposals appear to cut off ventilation to the timber structure which would be important. Given the Churches importance as a landmark, and since it is Grade 2 Listed, the Committee wishes to ensure this is done properly. A Listed Building Application needs to be made.

PREMISES LICENCE

Application no	PR202505-116564
Location	Pomus Folkestone, 53 Tontine Street
Proposal	Recorded Music, Alcohol ON & OFF Sales
Closing date	09/06/2025

Comment	There are no details available, however the Committee wishes to note its strong objection to the loss of a community space where young artists were able to exhibit.
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8. LATE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application no	25/0941/FH
Location	57-59 Sandgate Road
Proposal	Advertisement consent for 1 no. internally illuminated fascia sign.
Closing date	13/06/2025
Comment	No Objection

Application no	25/0745/FH
Location	12 & 12A Bouverie Road West
Proposal	Retrospective application for change of window and rear and side doors.
Closing date	17/06/2025
Comment	Object. UPVC is not an appropriate material as it is not recyclable nor does UPVC preserve or enhance the character of the conservation area. UPVC is not necessary to use when there are timber alternatives available. The form of the proposed windows doesn't even respect the historic shape and opening of the building.

Application no	25/0940/FH
Location	65 to 67 Sandgate Road
Proposal	Change of use from bank (class E) to hot food take away to include air conditioning condensers and extract grilles.
Closing date	17/06/2025
Comment	No Objection

Application no	25/0970/FH
Location	65 to 67 Sandgate Road
Proposal	Advertisement Consent for the installation of 3No. new fascia signs and one internally illuminated projecting sign.
Closing date	17/06/2025
Comment	No Objection

ANY OTHER BUISNESS

Councillor Laura Davison introduced a Special Motion to be signed by the members of the Planning Committee for Councillor Davison to retire from the Committee.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING
Thursday, 19 June 2025 at 7pm.

The meeting concluded at 7:52pm.

..... **Chair**