



Ashington Parish Council

Planning Committee Meeting

Minutes of Ashington Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 16th May 2012

Present: Councillors D. Harbour, N Carver, T Kearney, B Norton, K Wood
Parish Clerk K Dare

Members of the public: None

Declarations of Interest: None.

Apologies received from: Councillors J Stillwell & M Woolley (both personal)

Public Adjournment:

Nothing

Planning applications

DC/12/0880 Change of use of building to 1 x 2-bedroom dwelling with associated car parking – Post Horses, London Road.

The Parish Council OBJECT to the application for the following reasons:

1. Loss of a Retail Unit – the building was first used as a retail unit in the 1950's and has a long history of continuous trading by a wide variety of retailers. It is only in the last year or two that the premises has been empty. There is no evidence that the retail business is not needed (as claimed by the applicant), there are many reasons why the premises is not currently occupied. All of the existing retail premises in Ashington are located on London Road and this property is no exception. It is difficult to see where other retail units could be constructed in the village if this unit is lost.
2. Lack of Need – there is currently no evidence of need for additional residential properties in the village.
3. The building is not suitable as a residential dwelling and the submitted plans are of poor design.
4. Lack of amenity – there is virtually no amenity space for the property. The garden areas would be tiny and unusable. No bin storage is shown.
5. Road safety – the close proximity to the mini-roundabout would give rise to access/turning issues and consequent road safety hazard.

Meeting finished at 7.15pm

Signed.....

Date.....