

RESOLVED that the Head of Planning and Transport Strategy be authorised that the application be deferred pending further information
77. APPLICATION NO. 03/01672/FUL - Triangle Field, Priory Road, Hungerford
The Sub-Committee considered a report (Agenda Item 4) concerning Planning Application 03/01672/FUL relating to alterations and extensions to existing sports pavilion including addition of an upper floor to form club room with bar, kitchen, meeting room and balcony, and single storey extensions for storage and recreational use. Formation of additional car and coach park and alterations to access.

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, Supporter Mr Steve Mills, the Applicant's Agent Mr Chris Strang and Ward Members Councillor James Mole and Councillor Denise Gaines addressed the Sub-Committee on the foregoing application.

Mr Chris Strang in addressing the Sub-Committee raised the following points; The application required striking a balance between a development in the AONB and the need for recreation in Hungerford There had been no objection lodged by residents in the area The proposed works did not harm the AONB and should not be considered as sited in the countryside but on the edge of Hungerford town Had offered to lower ridge height of building by 1 metre to lessen impact of building The advantage the application would bring to the community outweighs the impact to the AONB The development of Hungerford's Town Band and Rugby Club had been impeded due to lack of resources; the application would overcome that by providing facilities and a base for the band to practice and a social venue for the rugby club It would allow further development of cultural events and sports at the ground including football and junior teams It would meet the needs of Hungerford

Supporter Mr Steve Mills in addressing the Sub-Committee raised the following points: He was the President of the Rugby Club

In the wake of the England Rugby World Cup victory, politicians had been encouraging the development of the sport; this application would support that The development would benefit Hungerford Similar developments had helped Tadley and Marlborough clubs to develop The new facilities would:

allow for the development of mini rugby
allow the sport to be developed in Hungerford, currently people are directed to Newbury enable the club to fulfil its social role in providing hospitality to visiting clubs; an important part of rugby culture as part of its business plan, the new facilities would allow the development of youth rugby that to date, they had been unable to do due to lack of facilities

In response to questions from the Sub-Committee, Mr Mills responded that: the club did not have formal ties with the local schools but were hoping to build those links in future the rugby club did not intend to hire out the venue to outside bodies regarding the costs partaking in the sport, the new facilities would provide a base from which the club could obtain funding in the form of sponsorship and loans expansion at ground floor level was considered but discounted due to the close proximity of the car park and

playing fields to the building

The Ward Member Councillor Denise Gaines in addressing the Sub-Committee, raised the following points: Wanted to support application but there were several areas of concern: the works would result in a high building and could spoil the landscape the road leading to the sports pavilion was a road used by residents to the area, school children and clients of the leisure center; it would be very busy during the peak hours there would be light pollution as a result of the development

The Ward Member Councillor James Mole in addressing the Sub-Committee, raised the following points: It was a balance of the needs of the community against the disadvantages to the AONB To safeguard the interest of the Town Council regarding financing the application, the financial figures should be made known The application should be supported but the following needed to be accounted for: control regarding the use of the function room the terms of use of the pavilion by the band for rehearsals the design features of the building should be controlled the construction of a path for pedestrians to the pavilion and adequate safety fencing

In discussing the application, the Sub-Committee viewed that the facility would be appropriate for the playing fields in the area and would encourage the development of the Town Band. The design was considered an improvement on the current pavilion and on balance, the community needs of Hungerford outweighed the impact of the building in the area of AONB.

RESOLVED that the application be deferred so that officers could draw up a list of appropriate planning conditions in consultation with the District ward members, and negotiate changes in the design of the building with the applicants.

APPLICATION NO. 03/01994/FUL - The Mission Hall, High Street, Compton
The Sub-Committee considered a report (Agenda Item 5) concerning Planning Application 03/01994/FUL relating to the demolition of the Mission Hall and redevelopment with 2 No. 2-bed flats

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Parish Representative Mrs Kathleen Howells, Objector Mr David Golby, Applicant Mr Steven Wizesinski and the Ward Member Councillor Barbara Alexander addressed the Sub-Committee on the foregoing application.

Mrs Kathleen Howells in addressing the Sub-Committee raised the following points; The Mission Hall was a historic site in the village;

the site was acquired for the church from 1890 to 1920

the current building was built in 1900

its past history had been as a reading room for the Temperance Society

it had been the village school

The proposed development would impact on the area for the following reasons:

it was a two storey building

had an increased numbers of window that would overlook adjoining properties

on the edge of a conservation area

There was concern relating to the close proximity of the entrances of the

flats to the High Street There was inadequate parking within the new development

The nearby lay-by was primarily for the use of the bus, mobile library,

surgery patients and should not be considered an alternative parking area for