

Meeting	Area Planning Sub-Committee
Date	9 April 2015
Present	Councillors Watson (Chair), Galvin (Vice-Chair), Douglas, Cuthbertson, Hyman, Fitzpatrick, Gunnell, Looker, McIlveen, Merrett and Watt

Site	Visited by	Reason for visit
National Railway Museum, Leeman Road, York. YO26 4XD	Councillors Galvin, Watson and Watt	As the proposed development would result in harm to the setting of a listed building.

53. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, Members were asked to declare any personal, prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests not included on the Register of Interests that they might have had in respect of the business on the agenda.

Councillor Cuthbertson declared a personal non prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 3b) (National Railway Museum, Leeman Road, York. YO26 4XD) as a patron and trustee of York Theatre Royal. York Theatre Royal intended to use the events tent.

Councillor Fitzpatrick also declared a personal non prejudicial interest in the same item as a trustee of York Theatre Royal.

Councillor Watt declared a personal non prejudicial interest in the same item as he had recently been accepted as a volunteer miniature railway driver at the National Railway Museum.

No other interests were declared.

54. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

55. Plans List

Members considered a schedule of reports of the Assistant Director (Development Services, Planning and Regeneration) relating to the following planning applications outlining the proposals and relevant policy considerations and setting out the views of consultees and Officers.

55a) Royal Masonic Benevolent Institute - Connaught Court, St Oswalds Road, York YO10 4QA (13/03481/FULM)- DEFERRED

This application was withdrawn from consideration before the meeting on the advice of the Monitoring Officer, and in consultation with the Chair, as it was not considered appropriate for a decision to be made prior to the elections (during the purdah period).

55b) National Railway Museum, Leeman Road, York YO26 4XD (14/02862/FULM)

Members considered a major full application by Fiona Grimshaw for the erection of an events tent to accommodate events for a temporary period of 3 years following the removal of an elevated platform structure.

In an update to the Officer's report, Members were informed that there had been no objections received from the City Archaeologist, and that an additional condition regarding Noise Impact Assessment mitigation measures could be added to permission, if Members were minded to approve the application.

Some Members raised concerns that by granting permission on temporary basis, this might lead to a permanent request. They suggested that it might be better to amend the proposed condition 1 to remove the reference to the renewal of the permission. Officers advised that planning permission would be required to retain the event tent for longer than 3 years and any application to do so would be considered on its merits at that time. They also questioned what the tent's use would be after three years and whether it would just turn into an accessory to the museum. Other Members felt that this was immaterial.

Resolved: That the application be approved with the following additional condition;

3. The mitigation measures set out in paragraphs 5.07 and 6.01 of the Noise Impact Assessment (ref NIA/5825/15/5602/v1/NRM Events Tent received 20 March 2015) shall be in place prior to the first use of the tent and shall be retained for as long as the tent is in place.

Reason: To protect the amenity of neighbouring residents from noise from the proposed events area.

Reason: The proposed development would result in harm to the setting of the listed building, the harm should be afforded significant weight together with the desirability of preserving the building's setting, and features of special architectural or historic interest. The public benefits of the temporary relocation from the Theatre Royal (which is currently undergoing improvements) in addition to the works being reversible and its temporary nature are considered to outweigh the harm even when affording considerable importance and weight to that harm in the planning balance.

Chair's Comments

The Chair offered his thanks to Members of the Committee and Officers for all their work over the past year.

Councillor B Watson, Chair
[The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 2.10 pm].