

**Bishop Auckland Town Council**  
**Planning Committee**  
**26 April 2022**  
**Minutes**

**In attendance:**

Councillor Chappell (Chairman)

Councillor Balmer-Howison (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors Siddle, Wilson, A. Zair, and L. Zair

Also in attendance: Sarah Harris, Town Clerk, Vicki Booth Assistant Town Clerk, and a representative from Escomb House Independent School

**PC06/22 Apologies for Absence** – No Apologies received.

**PC07/22 Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Chappell noted that whilst not a direct neighbour an application to demolish a property had been received on the estate where they live.

**PC08/22 - Public Participation** – A representative from Escomb House Independent School attended to advise Members that their organisation are in talks with the owners and the Escomb Road Annex near the hospital with the plans to create an independent special school for up to 25 young people with EHC (Education Health Care Plan). It would be the first school of its kind in Bishop Auckland. The organisation wanted to approach the Town Council before they submitted any planning applications etc as they wanted the Council to be aware of their intentions. They invited the Committee Members to a site visit.

**Resolved:** That Members would attend the site visit to learn more about the plans. They also thanked the representative for speaking to them in advance of any pre-planning consultation.

**PC09/22 - Durham County Council: Planning Applications. Members considered the report.**

**Resolved:** That the report be noted, but moving forward a response for each application to be sent to DCC to state that the Town Council had no objections.

Cllr Chappell whilst not a main interest stepped aside and Cllr Balmer-Howison took the chair, whilst Members commented that the application on Dene Hall drive, had caused lots of community concerns and therefore the Council should request that DCC do consider the significant impact upon neighbours. (ref [DM/22/00746/FPA](#))

**PC010/22 - Durham County Council: Under Delegated Authority** – Members considered the report.

**Resolved:** That the report be noted That the report be noted, but moving forward a response for each application to be sent to DCC to state that the Town Council had no objections.

**PC010/22 - Durham County Council: Supplementary Planning Documents Consultation**

**Resolved:** That the report be noted and that the Clerk prepare responses to the Consultation in collaboration with the planning committee.