THE MORAY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE THREE MEETINGS OF THE LOCAL REVIEW BODY THURSDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2010

COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN

REQUEST FOR REVIEW: WARD 4: FOCHABERS LHANBRYDE

PRESENT

Councillors J Hogg (substituting for Councillor J Mackay), P Paul R Shepherd.

IN ATTENDANCE

R Gunn, Principal Solicitor (Litigation & Licensing) Legal Adviser, M Cross, Principal Planning Officer (Planning & Development) Planning Adviser, V Valiente, Solicitor and the Senior Committee Services Officer, Clerk to the meeting.

1. CHAIR

It was agreed that Councillor Paul take the Chair.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In terms of Standing Order 20 the meeting noted that there were no declarations of interest in regard to Case 002.

3. CASE 002 PLANNING APPLICATION 09/00963/OUT : FORM 2 PRIVATE HOUSE PLOTS AT WALKERS CRESCENT (KIRKHILLHEAD) LHANBRYDE

The Local Review Body (LRB) considered a request, on behalf of the applicant, Robertson Homes Limited, seeking a review of the decision of the Appointed Officer, in terms of the Scheme of Delegation, to refuse outline planning consent for the formation of 2 private house plots at Walkers Crescent, Lhanbryde.

Prior to considering the request for review the meeting agreed to homologate the actions of the Clerk taken in consultation with the LRB's Legal Adviser and the Applicant's Agent, to approve an informal extension of time for interested parties to respond to the grounds for review given the special circumstances pertaining over the Christmas period.

During discussion advice was sought on the LRB obtaining details of a previous application on the site, referred to in the application history in the Report of Handling, which was granted consent on 20 February 2007. The Legal & Planning Advisers advised that as this was considered planning advice on a matter of fact, part of the planning application history, it could be provided to the LRB and not considered to be further information in terms of Regulation 15 nor new evidence in terms of Regulation 17.

It was also agreed, on the advice of the Legal & Planning Advisers, that the Transportation Assessment submitted by the Applicant's Agent, in support of the grounds for review (Document 5 of the supporting papers) be treated as 'New Evidence' in terms of Regulation 17 and to treat the new evidence under the 'Written Submission' procedure.

During further discussion the possibility of seeking independent advice/survey from a Specialist Adviser on number of children walking in the area was also raised.

Following consideration the LRB agreed that there was insufficient information in order to proceed to determine the request for review and agreed:-

- (i) that an accompanied site inspection be undertaken, the purpose of which being to view access roads, relative road junctions, access to the private driveway, road widths, sign posted route, position of Primary School relative to the development site, visibility and site layout. It was also agreed that the Legal & Planning Advisers be in attendance;
- (ii) that details relating to planning application 06/02562/OUT, granted planning consent on 20 February 2007 for one house plot on the current application site be provided to the LRB;
- (iii) to seek the views on the new evidence (applicant's Transport Assessment submission) from the Applicant, the Appointed Officer and Interested Parties, in terms of Regulation 15, on:-
 - (a) the substance of the document; and
 - (b) whether they are aware of any facts or circumstances which would preclude the applicant from meeting the statutory test for the consideration of new evidence ie 'new material will only be permitted where the party can demonstrate that it could not have been introduced earlier in the process, or that it arises as a consequence of exceptional circumstances'
 - (iv) that consideration of the possibility of seeking independent advice/survey from a Specialist Adviser on number of children walking in the area be continued to the next meeting of the LRB following the site inspection.