

Minutes

London Thames Gateway Development Corporation

Planning Committee Meeting

Thursday 12 February 2009, 6.30pm

Old Town Hall Stratford, 29 The Broadway, Stratford E15 4BQ

Present: Cllr Conor McAuley (Chair)
Alan Clark
Cllr Mick McCarthy
Richard Turner
Dru Vesty

In Attendance: John Allen (Director of Planning)
Adele Williamson (Planning Development Officer)
Nigel Hewitson (Norton Rose)
Angela Flanagan (Committee Clerk)

1. **Apologies, Announcements and Declaration of Interest**

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Bob Lane.
- 1.2 The Chair advised that John Worthington had retired from the Corporation's Board and Planning Committee and asked for it to be noted that the Committee thanked John Worthington for his regular attendance and sent him their good wishes for the future.
- 1.3 Mick McCarthy was welcomed to the meeting as a new member to the Planning Committee.
- 1.4 There were no declarations of interest.

2. **Minutes of Planning Committee Meeting 8 January 2009**

LTGDC/09/PC04

- 2.1 The Committee **AGREED** the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 8 January 2009. There were no matters arising.

3. Riverside Sewage Treatment Works, Ferry Lane North, Off Lamson Road, Rainham, Essex LTGDC-08-094-FUL LTGDC/09/PC05

- 3.1 John Allen introduced this report recommending approval of the application by Thames Water Utilities Ltd for a new sewage sludge advanced digestion facility, including refurbishment of existing digesters at their Riverside Sewage Treatment Works (STW) in Rainham.
- 3.2 An addendum report was also tabled providing updated comments from the London Borough of Havering and the GLA, along with amendments to the recommendation, list of conditions, and informatives set out in the report (LTGDC/09/PC05).
- 3.3 John Allen advised that there were some issues surrounding odour as there are residential uses north of Riverside STW. However, a number of conditions were suggested to address the odour issues, which had been seen and approved by the Corporation's legal advisers. He also advised that there was an issue between Thames Water and LB of Havering regarding the footpath link as Thames Water wanted the footpath to be permissive whereas LB of Havering wanted a public right of way. This would be delegated to the Director of Planning to negotiate with Thames Water.
- 3.4 Dru Vesty asked for the location of the footpath. Adele Williamson advised that it was located at the eastern boundary of the site, and that it would link to other pathways.
- 3.5 Richard Turner asked about the odour consultation. John Allen confirmed that technical and legal advice had been sought as necessary for all the conditions as the Corporation was keen to ensure the odour impacts were monitored and enforceable.
- 3.6 Nigel Hewitson added that advice had been sought from two barristers and he was confident that the conditions were lawful, reasonable and enforceable.
- 3.7 The Committee by unanimous vote **AGREED** that the application be delegated to the Director of Planning to APPROVE subject to:
- a) any direction from the Mayor of London, and
 - b) the revised conditions listed in full at Section 5 of the addendum report (with any amendment that might be necessary up to the issue of the decision), and
 - c) the completion of a s106 agreement covering the issues set out in the report.

4. Quarterly Planning Performance Report

LTGDC/09/PC06

- 4.1 John Allen introduced the regular quarterly report which advises the Committee of the performance of the Corporation's development control function. The headline result was that over the last year, 48% of applications had been determined within the 13 week target period while the figure was 50% if measured over the three quarters so far for the year 2008-09.
- 4.2 Dru Vesty asked for an update on the revised agreements the Corporation has with the Boroughs. John Allen advised that there had been a slight improvement.
- 4.3 The Committee **NOTED** the contents of the report.

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 12 March 2009, 6.30pm

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