

SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

Tuesday 28 November 2006 at 6.00 p.m.

In the Council Chamber at the Council House Walsall

Present

Councillor Mike Bird (Chairman)
Councillor Leslie Beeley (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Dennis Anson
Councillor Mohammed Arif
Councillor Clive Ault
Councillor Brian Douglas-Maul
Councillor Anthony Harris
Councillor Cath Micklewright
Councillor Jon Phillips
Councillor Melvin Pitt
Councillor Rob Robinson
Councillor John Rochelle
Councillor David Turner
Councillor Angela Underhill
Councillor Mohammad Yasin

1261/06 Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillors Arthur Bentley, Rose Burley, John Cook, Bill Madeley and Zahid Ali.

1262/06 Declarations of Interest

No matters of interest were declared.

1263/06 Deputations and Petitions

There were no deputations introduced or petitions presented at this meeting.

1264/06 **Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)**

Resolved

There were no items on the agenda for the meeting in respect of which the Committee considered that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business.

1265/06 **Application No. 06/1450/OL/W1 – Outline application for a mixed use scheme, including leisure offices, retail apartments and associated multi-storey parking (consisting of 12 buildings, 7 of which are submitted as reserved matters) (excluding landscape proposals) on land to the south of Wolverhampton Street, Walsall**

The report of the Head of Planning, Regeneration was submitted:-

(see annexed)

The Committee then received a presentation by Nathan Cornish of Urban Splash.

Nathan outlined many of the key aspects of the proposal highlighting the fact that it was a huge decision, not only for Walsall, but for them as a company too.

He proceeded to give a history of Urban Splash, making reference to other developments such as Fort Dunlop and the Rotunda in Birmingham. He explained that an estimated 965 jobs would be created in the first phase of the development for Walsall. The architectural design of the buildings and proposed new public spaces were detailed and the future of the Wharf Bar was touched upon. It was estimated that, if approved, work would commence in 2007 with a view to completing all works in 5 years.

Bob Scrivens then proceeded to provide the background to the report.

There then followed a period of questioning by Members in relation to the estimated number of jobs created and leisure provision in the area. Car parking, the design of the buildings and the future of the Wharf Bar were debated.

Further questions were received regarding traffic implications for Junction 10 and the impact of the development on the nearby foundry.

Members then considered the application in detail.

Members considered the application and it was **moved** and duly **seconded**:-

That application no. 06/1450/OL/W1 be approved, subject to the conditions as contained in the report, and the material in the supplementary paper now submitted and subject to a Section 106 Agreement.

The motion, having been put to the vote, was declared **carried**; with 11 Members voting in favour and 2 against.

Resolved

That planning application no. 06/1450/OL/W1 be approved, subject to the conditions as contained in the report, and the material in the supplementary paper now submitted and subject to a Section 106 Agreement.

Councillors Dennis Anson and Jon Phillips requested that their name be recorded as voting against the application.

Councillor Underhill arrived late at the meeting, did not take part or vote on this application.

Termination of Meeting

The meeting terminated at 7.30 p.m.

Chairman:

Date: