

Decision on Planning Application reference P/2019/0250 - 7th October 2019
The Old Post Office, Halton, Chirk, Wrexham

INTRODUCTION

My client Tony Evans submitted a planning application for the erection of one dwelling at the above site. It was refused by WCBC Planning Committee on 7th October 2019.

The video of the meeting is available as a webcast on the Council's website at :-

https://wrexham.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/446774

TRANSCRIPT OF EVENTS

After the debate on the application, there was an unsuccessful vote to defer the application for a site visit.

The Chairman then took a vote on the Officer's recommendation to refuse the application.

The video clearly shows that the Committee votes by 7 votes to 6 NOT to refuse the application, with 3 abstentions – a total 16 votes cast.

The Chairman (who voted for refusal) can then be heard whispering to the Clerk **"where do we go on that then?"**

The Clerk replies to him in a whisper **"7 against"**.

The Chairman then pauses and says to the Committee **"Are you all clear on how you voted now?"**

After another short pause, he then says **"Are you sure?"**

There is NO response from any of the Councillors to either of these two prompts from the Chairman – clearly indicating that NONE were unsure how they had voted.

The Chairman then says "There was a bit of a waiver" and "Shall we take that again then?"

A Councillor immediately raises a point of order, and says the vote has already been taken.

The Chairman replies **"We are struggling because we are near enough even"**.

The Chairman then takes the vote again, and the Officer's recommendation to refuse is tied at 7 votes to 7. He then casts the Chairman's vote to refuse.