

SUDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PLANNING DEVELOPMENT AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE TOWN HALL ON 6TH NOVEMBER 2023 COMMENCING AT 6.30 PM**

Committee members present: Mr N Bennett - in the chair.

Mr S Hall
Mr A Osborne
Miss A Owen
Mr T Regester
Mr A Stohr
Mr N Younger

Mr C Griffin - Town Clerk
Mrs J Budd - Deputy Town Clerk

1. **Substitutes and Apologies**

An apology was received from Councillor Ms J Carter. Councillor T Regester was substitute.

Councillor Ms J Rawlinson was absent, but no apologies had been received.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors A Osborne, Miss A Owen and T Regester declared that they were Babergh District Councillors and therefore had a non-pecuniary interest in application DC/23/05003.

3. **Declarations of gifts and hospitality**

There were no declarations of gifts or hospitality.

4. **Requests for dispensation**

No requests for dispensation had been received.

5. **Minutes**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 23rd October 2023 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

6. **Actions from previous minutes**

The Town Clerk gave the following updates:

- An email had been sent to Suffolk County Council regarding the drain unblocking schedule – no reply had been received.
- The Road Sweeper was scheduled to be in Sudbury on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
- Shop illuminations – Babergh Enforcement team were investigating the internally illuminated signage at Betfred, Dough & Co and 'A' phone shop.

RESOLVED

That the updates be noted.

7. Planning Applications

DC/23/04964 Proposal: Application for approval of reserved matters following grant of outline planning permission with all matters reserved DC/23/02808 – Submission of details for access, appearance, scale, landscaping and layout for erection of 1No dwelling including details for Condition 9 (surface water drainage details) and Condition 10 (Construction Management Plan).

Location: Land at the junction of Church Street and Friars Street, Sudbury, Suffolk.

RESOLVED – To recommend refusal on the grounds that the Construction Management Plan did not pay enough attention to the risk to children crossing the road to school and to other pedestrians.

Concern was raised over the proposed height of the perimeter wall creating a blind spot.

The design of the dwelling was not in keeping with the buildings around it and did not contribute to the historical content of the conservation area.

DC/23/04970 Proposal: Full planning application – Retention of the existing railing and flat roof terrace (retrospective) and installation of a secondary railing.

Location: The Bay Horse, 61-65 Melford Road, Sudbury. CO10 1JS.

RESOLVED – To recommend approval.

DC/23/05003 Proposal: Full planning application – Erection of café and toilet block including outdoor seating area (following demolition of existing toilet block).

Location: Belle Vue Park, Newton Road. Sudbury. CO10 2RG.

RESOLVED – To recommend approval. However, members recommended that measures be taken to ensure that the air source heat pump was protected from vandalism.

8. Acton Neighbourhood Plan

An email had been received from Babergh District Council informing the Town Council that the formal consultation on the draft Acton Neighbourhood Plan was underway and inviting comments.

Members took note of the proposals for housing and how Acton village wished to maintain its distinct and separate rural identity and prevent its physical coalescence with neighbouring settlements.

The planning committee did not feel any of the proposals would adversely affect Sudbury.

RESOLVED

That members noted the contents of the Acton Neighbourhood Plan.

9. Planting of additional trees

An email had been received from Councillor Melanie Barrett regarding replacing two trees in York Road, and the consideration of planting more trees in Sudbury.

The trees missing in York Road were the responsibility of Babergh District Council. The grates in the footpath were still in situ.

RESOLVED

That Babergh District Council be asked to replace the two trees in York Road.

That Councillor Melanie Barrett be invited to attend the next planning meeting to discuss her proposals for additional trees in Sudbury.

10. Enhanced Bus Partnership

Suffolk County Council had been granted £1.8million to spend each year in 2023/24 and 2024/25 on enhancements to the current passenger transport network. Some of this would be going to the bus companies in order to support existing services, and some would be going into design work on bus priority schemes to get them ready for delivery when Suffolk County Council were able to secure capital funding. With the remainder of the grant Suffolk County Council want to support new or improved services at a local level where demand could be proven.

Suffolk County Council were now asking Parish and Town Councils, Bus Companies and other groups to submit ideas and suggestions for these improvements.

The funding and the allocation process would be the main topic covered at the next Enhanced Bus Partnership Passenger Group meeting. This would be held online via MS Teams at 2pm on 14th November.

Members were requested to nominate a Councillor to attend this meeting and to suggest any ideas to use the funding.

RESOLVED

That a possible proposal could be to extend the bus service from Sudbury to Bury St Edmunds to later in the evening, and to provide a service on Sundays.

Local parish councils surrounding Sudbury should be asked if this was a proposal they would support. If support was found, then Councillor T Register would attend the meeting.

11. Highways list

No new items had been added to the highways list, but it was noted that Councillor Hall had submitted photos of the internally illuminated shop fronts. All three were now being investigated by the Babergh enforcement team.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm

Signed
Chairman