

SUDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PLANNING DEVELOPMENT AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE TOWN HALL ON 8TH APRIL 2024 COMMENCING AT 6:30 PM**

Committee members present: Mr N Bennett - in the chair.
Ms J Carter
Mr S Hall
Mr A Osborne
Mrs J Osborne - ex-officio
Miss A Owen
Mr A Stohr

Officers in attendance: Mr C Griffin - Town Clerk

1. **SUBSTITUTES AND APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Mr N Younger and there were no substitutes.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Ms J Carter, Mr A Osborne and Miss A Owen declared that they were Babergh District Councillors.

Councillor Ms J Carter declared that she was a Suffolk County Councillor.

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 25th March 2024 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

6. **ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The Town Clerk covered the following points:

- Residential Parking Schemes – These would be considered by the full council on the following evening.
- Drains – The problems with blocked drains had been reported on the Suffolk Highways website after the previous meeting.

7. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

DC/24/01366 **Proposal:** Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area – Re – pollard 1 No. group of Lime Trees (G10) the previous points. Fell 1 No. Apple (T1), Fell 2 No. Holly (T2 and T3)

Location: 30 Market Hill, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 2EN

RESOLVED – To recommend approval, with a request that the three trees to be felled be replaced with new trees.

DC/24/00589 **Proposal:** Application for Listed Building Consent – Replacement of 2 No. Windows

Location: 18 Friars Street, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 2AA

RESOLVED – To recommend approval.

DEVELOPMENT

8. **TO DISCUSS THE LATEST DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT NIGHT FLIGHTS CONSULTATION**

Members discussed the Department for Transport (DfT) consultation on the “Night Flight Restrictions at Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted Airports from October 2025”. The consultation proposed extending the current restrictions – i.e. maintaining the status quo – at Heathrow and Gatwick until (at least) October 2028. However, for Stansted, the DfT was seeking views on three different options:

- Option 1 – Removal of all Government night controls in October 2026, thereafter relying solely on local planning conditions.
- Option 2 – Same as Option 1, but removing Government night controls in October 2025, whilst maintaining a quota count (QC) limit, but not a numerical limit.
- Option 3 – Government night controls to remain (i.e. as per Heathrow and Gatwick).

Members were concerned that an increase in the number of night flights over the Sudbury area would increase the noise nuisance to residents. Only option 3 would avoid this.

RESOLVED

That Sudbury Town Council respond to the Department for Transport (DfT) consultation on the “Night Flight Restrictions at Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted Airports from October 2025” and say that they support Option 3 (that Government night controls to remain as they are now for Stansted Airport).

9. **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON BABERGH CABINET MEETING ON PARKING CHARGES**

Cllr J Carter briefed members on the discussion and vote at the Babergh District Council cabinet meeting earlier that day. The proposal to increase the parking charges in Sudbury had been approved by a majority vote and was likely to be implemented in the autumn. A rebate scheme for Roys and the Kingfisher users’ parking charges had been included. Separate

NAB

arrangements had been discussed for doctors' and dentists' surgeries, but the details of these in Sudbury were not yet clear.

There had been discussion of 'devolution' and 'CIC' but again the details were not clear. These options seemed to involve the Sudbury Chamber of Commerce doing an investigation and possibly taking on some responsibility.

RESOLVED

That the Sudbury Chamber of Commerce be invited to discuss their ideas for a community interest company (CIC) with the committee.

10. Highways List

No new items had been added to the highways list prior to the meeting but members raised the following points;

- The road resurfacing schedule for Sudbury for the next 12 months had been provided by Cllr J Carter and was discussed with members.
- An elector at the Annual Meeting of the Town had requested a 20mph speed limit on the A131 between Church Street and Plough Lane as this road was very narrow and cars had crashed on the sharp bend. Discussions with Suffolk Highways had established that there was a section of the A14 in Felixstowe that was a 20mph zone and so it should be possible to have a section of the A131 as a 20mph zone.
- Junction lines were required to control traffic turning from The Close into Banham Drive. Suffolk Highways were requested to repaint the lines as the lack of these lines caused danger to older people walking across the road.
- Some building work had been observed at the top of Clermont Avenue but members confirmed that there had been no planning application for this area. It seemed likely that the machinery was only clearing the land.
- Signage had been requested for the play areas on Clermont Avenue but Public Realm had investigated and did not consider that this was necessary. If there were more complaints from the public, this might be reassessed.
- The drains at the bottom of Newman's Road appeared to be completely blocked and Newman's Road was not being properly cleaned. Parked cars would need to be moved before the road could be properly swept. Previous attempts to ask drivers to move their cars in Melford Road in advance of sweeping had not been that successful.
- The drain outside the Christopher Centre in Gainsborough's Street continued to flood every time there was heavy rain. The insurance company had informed the Christopher Centre that future claims for flooding would not be paid out unless this drain was working properly. This was currently marked with a green flag on the Suffolk Highways reporting tool which said that the report had been cleared as 'Works already ordered'.

The meeting closed at 7:17 pm

Signed
Chairman



