

SUDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PLANNING DEVELOPMENT AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE TOWN HALL MONDAY 13TH MARCH 2023 COMMENCING AT 6.30 PM**

Committee members present: Mr N Bennett - in the chair

Mr T Cresswell

Mr S Hall

Mr T Regester

Mr C Griffin – Town Clerk

Mrs J Budd – Deputy Town Clerk

Due to ongoing issues with the camera, the meeting was broadcast with only the audio.

1. **Substitutes and Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs S Ayres, Ms J Carter, Mr A Osborne and Miss A Owen.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor T Cresswell declared that he was a Babergh District 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 Planning Development and Highways Committee meeting held on the 27th February 2023 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

6. **Actions from previous minutes**

The Deputy Town Clerk reviewed progress on actions from the previous meetings. There were two items requiring actions. A copy of the actions is shown at minute page 133.

RECOMMENDED

That the update be noted.

7. **Planning Applications**

DC/22/03963 **Proposal:** Full planning application – Erection of roof extension and rear balcony
Location: The flat above Mulberry Court Veterinary Surgery, 171 Melford Road, Sudbury. CO10 1JU.

RECOMMENDED – Approve.

DC/22/03902 **Proposal:** Full planning application – Erection of first floor front extension to provide additional accommodation for veterinary surgery and existing residential flat.
Location: The flat above Mulberry Court Veterinary Surgery, 171 Melford Road, Sudbury. CO10 1JU.

RECOMMENDED – Due to the lack of proposed external drawings, members did not consider this application.

DC/23/00835 **Proposal:** Householder application – Garage Conversion to dining room and erection of first floor extension.
Location: The Warren, 19 Deben Drive, Sudbury. CO10 2QH.

RECOMMENDED – Approve.

DC/23/00847 **Proposal:** Householder application – Erection of detached home office and games room (following demolition of existing outbuilding).
Location: 146 Melford Road, Sudbury. CO10 1JZ

RECOMMENDED – Approve.

DC/23/00932 **Proposal:** Planning Application – Erection of 5no dwellings and associated garaging. Alterations to improve existing junction with the highway. (Revised proposal to the approved scheme of four dwellings under application DC/22/05570)
Location: Land south of Highbank, Melford Road, Sudbury. CO10 1XU.

RECOMMENDED – Refuse – Members still have concerns over the visibility for vehicles exiting the site on to the Melford Road. Would still like to see the footpath run parallel to the highway rather than up and along the grass verge.

DC/23/01035 **Proposal:** Application under S73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for DC/20/02165 allowed at appeal App/D3505/W/20/3259784 (1no dwelling) for the variation of condition 2 (approved plans) to regularize works undertaken – Dwelling being sited further forwards.
Location: Colwyn, Acton Lane, Sudbury. CO10 1QW.

RECOMMENDED – Approve.

DC/23/01060 **Proposal:** Householder application – Insertion of French doors to replace windows in extension granted in 1988.
Location: 17 Church Street, Sudbury. CO10 2BJ.

RECOMMENDED – Approve.

DC/23/01061 **Proposal:** Application for Listed Building Consent – Insertion of French doors to replace windows in extension granted in 1988.
Location: 17 Church Street, Sudbury. CO10 2BJ.

RECOMMENDED – Approve.

DC/23/01062 **Proposal:** Application for Works to Trees subject to Tree Preservation Order WS236/G3 – Pollard 1no Lime (T1) to appropriate growth points.
Location: The Granary, 37 Walnut Tree Lane, Sudbury. CO10 1BD.

RECOMMENDED – Approve.

DC/23/01066 **Proposed:** Application for Advertisement Consent -Replacement of external signage.
Location: Weavers Tap, East Street, Sudbury. CO10 2HX.

RECOMMENDED – Approve, subject to the following comments:

- That the lights high up near the fascia boards are controlled so that they do not have a detrimental impact of residents living in the flats.
- That the wall facing into Iceland’s car park is painted to the same standard as the rest of the buildings.

8. Melford Road/York Road junction

An email had been received from Suffolk County Council detailing their plans for the junction of Melford Road and York Road.

Members requested that an officer from Suffolk County Council attend the next meeting to go through the plans.

RECOMMENDED

That the officer from Suffolk County Council be invited to attend the next meeting of the committee.

9. Highways List

Members discussed the following items –

- Acton Square becoming one way – An email had been received from Suffolk County Council advising that there would be a cost of around £20,000 for this to be implemented. The Town Council would need to fund this. – **Recommended – That the email be noted, and this item removed from the highways list.**
- Strategic Lorry Route – Councillor Hall gave members an update from the latest meeting. A copy of the notes is shown at minute page 134. **Recommended – That the update be noted.**

- Newton Road – Councillor Hall briefed the committee on correspondence that he had received from a resident regarding mobility issues in Newton Road.
 - The first issue was at the junction of Newton Road and Cats Lane. Although there were dropped kerbs on either side of Cats Lane, there wasn't a dropped kerb immediately opposite the footpath coming down from the industrial estate.
Recommended – That this request be forwarded to Suffolk County Councillor responsible for this area.
 - The second issue was the adverse slope of the footpath where the kerb had been lowered near the entrance to the new development at St Leonard's.
Recommended – That this request be forwarded to Suffolk County Councillor responsible for this area..

The meeting closed at 7.43 pm

Signed

Action Plan – 13th March 2023

Item 8 – Weavers Tap – Objection sent to Babergh.

Item 9 – Highways list – 20mph zones - ongoing.

Another email has been sent regarding Harp Close Road.

Acton Lane – Will be discussed further down the agenda.

STRATEGIC LORRY ROUTE MEETING – NOTES -WEDNESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2023 @ 6PM VIA ZOOM.

PRESENT:

Jodie Budd – Deputy Town Clerk, Sudbury Town Council
 Cllr Jessie Carter – Sudbury Town Councillor and Suffolk County Councillor
 Cllr Peter Caulfield – Halstead Town Councillor
 Cllr Steve Hall – Sudbury Town Councillor
 Cllr Malcolm Fincken – Halstead Town Councillor
 Sarah Greatorex – Town Clerk, Halstead Town Council
 Cllr Jackie Pell – Halstead Town Council
 Cllr Chris Siddall – Essex County Councillor & member of the Braintree Highways Panel

NOTES:

Cllr Steve Hall chaired the meeting. He started by giving the history of the meetings. Below are the bullet points from the meeting:

- Both Town Council's are in favour of changing the current route to the A12/A134 via Colchester. This is a much better direct route to Sudbury's Industrial Estates
- The signage on the A12 northbound at Boreham has been changed. This no longer directs traffic off at this junction to Sudbury, however once you approach the local roundabouts, you are encouraged to still continue on the A131 to Sudbury instead of via the A12
- Both Halstead and Sudbury have key pinch points for traffic delay, Head Street in Halstead and Cross Street/Ballingdon Street in Sudbury.
- Suffolk County Council held a strategic review meeting and completely ignored the Town Council's opinions
- Suffolk County Council state they did engage with Essex County Council and that officers weren't aware of any issues
- Cllr Sidall will speak to Lee Scott, Cabinet member for Highways at Essex County Council
- Suffolk County Council are due to carry out a review of signage in Sudbury imminently. Currently HGVs that come through the town are directed incorrectly through narrow roads
- 40-ton lorries coming through Halstead and Sudbury is just not acceptable. Not just because of the amount of traffic, but the increase in air pollution
- Suffolk County Council and Essex County Council need to engage with each other.
- Sudbury Town Council have not involved Babergh District Council
- The main cost for re-routing the lorry route would be the alteration of signage
- Cllr Sidall sits on the Braintree Highways Panel. This matter could be part of their plans for a safer highway, town etc.
- Cllr Sidall will 'do some digging' and discuss this matter with the Cabinet member for Highways at Essex County Council.
- Suffolk County Council seem to be a bit stagnant. Might require some pushing from Essex.

The next meeting was arranged for Wednesday 5th April @ 5.30pm

Thanks were given to all councils for their continued support with this.

Meeting closed @ 6.56pm