

SUDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PLANNING DEVELOPMENT AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE TOWN HALL ON 27TH JANUARY 2025 COMMENCING AT 6:30 PM**

Committee members present: Mr N Bennett – the chair.
Mr S Hall
Mr A Osborne
Miss A Owen
Mr T Regester
Mr A Stohr
Mr N Younger (arrived at 6:32pm)

Officers in attendance: Mr C Griffin – Town Clerk

1. **SUBSTITUTES AND APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Councillor Ms J Carter.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Mr A Osborne, Miss A Owen and Mr T Regester declared that they were Babergh District Councillors.

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 13th January 2025 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

6. **ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The Town Clerk updated members on actions from previous meetings.

- Members noted that District Councillor L Smith had asked when the committee would be able to meet the professional neighbourhood plan consultant.
- Councillor S Hall reported that he had not yet received a reply to his enquiry about the new lighting at the B&M store site.

7. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

DC/25/00039 **Proposal:** Application for Listed Building Consent – Replacement of entrance doors to flats A and C
Location: 56 Friars Street, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 2AG

RESOLVED – To recommend approval

DC/24/02656 **Proposal:** Application for Listed Building Consent – Internal and external works as detailed within the Design and Access Statement and Schedule of Works
Location: St Bartholomews Priory, St Bartholomews Lane, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 1XP

RESOLVED – To recommend approval subject to the Heritage Officer being content that the issues they have raised have been satisfactorily addressed.

DEVELOPMENT

8. **TO UPDATE MEMBERS ON BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC HOUSING LAND AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT (SHLAA)**

Councillor T Regester had emailed Babergh District Council asking,

Since the NPPF changes in increases in housing numbers necessitates revisiting the call for sites, possibly identifying new sites, the question is whether they have will have to respond to both the original and any new sites identified in Sudbury at committee, or just to consider only newly identified sites?

The Head of Strategic Planning (Planning Policy and Infrastructure) had responded,

The Councils are continuing to progress the assessment of those sites received through the Call for Sites exercise. This is through the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA), and it is anticipated the Councils may be in a position to publish the SHLAA later in the Spring. This will help those areas undertaking and considering Neighbourhood Plans. Through the plan-making process, new sites will be put forward to the Councils as the Local Plan evolves and these will need to be considered at the appropriate time.

RESOLVED

To note the correspondence between Councillor T Regester and Babergh District Council.

9. TO NOTE THAT BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL ARE LAUNCHING AN ISSUES AND OPTIONS CONSULTATION ON THEIR LOCAL PLAN

Members looked at the Braintree Local Plan Review 2041 Issues and Options document and followed the link on page 21 to SP3 – Spatial Strategy for North Essex, which opened the Braintree District Local Plan 2013 – 2033 which they had adopted in 2022. Page 76 of this document, explained their spatial strategy and their settlement hierarchy. Villages were in three groups with the lowest being the third tier where *‘considering the tests of sustainable development, these will not normally be met by development within a third tier village.’* The villages neighbouring Sudbury, including Bulmer, were listed as third tier villages.

RESOLVED

To note that the Braintree Local Plan would normally have a presumption against unsustainable development in a third tier village such as Bulmer.

HIGHWAYS

10. TO DISCUSS THE HIGHWAYS LIST

Members discussed the following points;

- Loose paving stones behind St Peter’s Church, near the old ladles. Could these be reported to Suffolk Highways for repair. (The Town Clerk reported this on the Suffolk Highways tool as Ref:504670)
- Pothole on the northern by-pass about 100m before the Long Melford roundabout. (This had already been reported on the Suffolk Highway tool as Ref:503431 on 19 January)
- Pothole just before the traffic lights at the bottom of Market Hill. (The Town Clerk reported this on the Suffolk Highways tool as Ref:504671)
- Streetlamp post with no lamp behind St Peter’s Church, near the old ladles. (This is lamp 0315 and the Town Clerk reported it to Suffolk Highways as Ref: WEB068425)
- The pothole on Melford Road was repaired after being report on ‘National Pothole Day’.

The meeting closed at 7:10 pm.

Signed
Chairman