

WOODBIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of an **on-line** meeting of the **PLANNING COMMITTEE** held on **TUESDAY 16TH MARCH 2021**
at **5pm**

Councillors:

Present: S Bale, Lady C Blois (except items 929-932), C Mapey (except items 929-935)
S Miller, E O’Nolan, R Sanders, M Sutton and C Walsh

Apologies: G Holdcroft

In Attendance: Locum Town Clerk, Locum Deputy Town Clerk and no members of the public

Action

929. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Holdcroft.

930. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Members declared any interests in items on the agenda.

931. TO CONSIDER REQUEST FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests from Councillors with a Pecuniary Interest in an item on this Agenda for a dispensation.

932. TO AGREE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 2ND MARCH 2021

The Committee agreed and approved the signing of the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 2nd March 2021 as a true record.

934. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public.

935. TO NOTE INTENTIONS TO UNDERTAKE WORKS TO TREES IN THE CONSERVATION AREA

The Committee noted intentions to undertake works to trees in the conservation area.

936. TO COMMENT ON APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

The Council agreed their comments as set out below:-

Application No and Address	Committee Comments
DC/21/0866/FUL 11 Cobbold Road	We recommend APPROVAL
DC/21/0869/FUL Fen Way, Fen Walk	We recommend APPROVAL subject to the approval of the Fire Officer
DC/21/0941/LBC Flat 3, Kirby Court, Gobbitts Yard	We recommend APPROVAL

Councillor Mapey declared a local non-pecuniary interest in application DC/21/0955/LBC as a neighbour.

DC/21/0955/LBC The Saleroom, Theatre Street	We recommend APPROVAL
DC/21/1041/FUL Orchard House, 26 Moorfield Road	We recommend APPROVAL
DC/21/0956/FUL 7 Redstone Mews	We recommend APPROVAL
DC/21/0994/FUL 2 Briarwood Road	We recommend APPROVAL

Councillor Mapey declared a local non-pecuniary interest in application DC/21/00843/LBC as the applicant was a close friend.

DC/21/0843/LBC 55 Thoroughfare	We recommend APPROVAL
DC/21/1029/FUL 5 Beaconsfield Road	We recommend APPROVAL

Whilst considering application DC/21/0869/FUL it was noted that condition 4 of the original planning application (DC/15/2025/FUL) had never been complied with and it was agreed to refer this matter to the Planning Enforcement team.

937. TO NOTE EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL DECISIONS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS WHERE THOSE DECISIONS ARE CONTRARY TO THIS COUNCIL'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND NOT PREVIOUSLY REPORTED

The Committee noted the East Suffolk Council decisions on planning applications where those decisions are contrary to this council's recommendations and not previously reported.

938. TO COMMENT ON SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL'S PROPOSED A12 IMPROVEMENTS

The Committee agreed to make the following comments on Suffolk County Council's proposed A12 improvements: -

- We are not convinced that traffic lights will reduce the overall journey time between junction F to junction H based on the current situation at Martlesham, where long queues are seen at the in-situ traffic lights during peak time.
- We consider account has not been taken of increased air pollution caused by vehicles idling/ held at traffic lights and are therefore concerned for residents who live in close proximity to the road. We consider average delay times do not equate directly to air pollution, it is the number of vehicles idling/queuing at traffic lights that do.
- We are extremely concerned that the proposed measures will lead to potential rat-running through Woodbridge, an issue which was acutely noticeable and disturbing during the recent closure of Woods Lane. We would rather this scheme is not started until the Woodbridge 20mph scheme is in place (currently at the design stage), which is designed partially to deter such rat running.
- We welcome the additional cycleways and footbridges.
- The dualling of the section between the Seckford Hall Road and junction G would lead to a loss of mature trees on the east side of the road, which would go against the Climate Emergency declarations made by all three tiers of local government last year. We would like to see the scheme designed so as to attempt to preserve the mature trees on the east side of the road but for example splitting the cycleway and pavement so the trees can remain.
- At junction G the traffic lights are positioned on the wrong side of Bilney Road – vehicles accessing the roundabout from this location can bypass the traffic signals.
- We dispute the claim of heavy traffic at the Woods Lane junction (Junction H) – this junction is free flowing and able to cope with the current traffic levels. At this location we would like to see a dedicated northbound lane not covered by traffic lights.
- We would also like to suggest that attention is paid to the A12 junction with Woodbridge Road and New Road (north of junction H), which is an extremely dangerous junction with poor sight lines and vehicles attempting

to cross/ merge at this high-speed junction. An increase in traffic using the A12 will cause further difficulties at this location, and hence we would suggest this junction requires improvement/ introduction of safety measures.

939. TO COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK

The Committee had no comments on proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework, but agreed to establish a working party to look in further detail at the Guidance Notes for Design Codes in preparation for consultation on a Woodbridge Design Code.

940. CLOSURE

The meeting was closed at 5.51pm.

Councillor Miller
Chair