

Minutes of the meeting of the **Planning Committee** held at the **Shire Hall** on **Wednesday 7th August 2024** at **5.30pm**

Councillors:

Present: S Bale, D Adelson, G Holdcroft, M Kneebone and D Pegg.

Apologies: E Beck, P Gillard, R Leach, N Phipps and R Sanders.

In attendance: District Councillor Kay Yule.

(The Town Clerk and Deputy Clerk were unable to attend this meeting)

1. Apologies for Absence

The Committee agreed to approve the absence of E Beck, P Gillard, R Leach, N Phipps and R Sanders.

2. To receive Declarations of Interest

No members made any declarations of interests in relation to items on the agenda.

3. Public Question Time.

DCllr Kay Yule addressed the Committee regarding Item 6. on the Agenda. She reported that she had met with Falcon Saunders, East Suffolk Council's Arboricultural Officer who had assured her that he had assessed the application and has no significant concerns due to very high level of canopy cover at the property and the lack of visibility of the trees from public places.

There was a general discussion about how individual trees could be protected within an Area TPO as well as concerns about the paucity of information received on many TPO and TCA applications that come before the Committee especially now that digital images are easy to take and share. Cllr Yule indicated that a review of the legislation regarding Area TPO's was currently being undertaken by Government and that she would feed back the concerns of this Committee to the relevant Officers at ESC.

4. To agree and approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 24th July 2024

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held 24th July 2024 were approved.

5. To note intentions to undertake works to trees in the conservation area (TCA)

Members of the Committee noted the following works to tree:

DC/24/2678/TCA - 88 Thoroughfare Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 1AW

It was requested that the tree being removed be replaced with a smaller native tree.

DC/24/2703/TCA - Ye Olde Bell & Steelyard 103 New Street Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 1DZ

No additional comment.

DC/24/2723/TCA - 9A Burkitt Road Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 4JJ

The Committee felt that this was a particularly poor-quality application with little or no information about the health of the trees and that ESC should seek more detailed information.

DC/24/2754/TCA - 13 Ipswich Road Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 4BS

The Committee commented that although the work described was necessary and the applicant had been advised by a professional tree surgeon that it was unlikely to affect the viability of the tree, it was likely that the tree has other roots which might affect the public footway, and if these were similarly pruned there was a risk that the tree might not survive.

DC/24/2761/TCA - 117 Thoroughfare, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 1AS

6. To comment on applications to trees with a Tree Preservation Order (TPO)

DC/24/2298/TPO - Long Meadow Broomheath Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 4DL	The Committee accepted the opinion of ESC's Arboricultural Officer about all the works to be undertaken but asked that all removed trees, not just the pine tree (T5) be replaced by native broadleaf trees.
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7. To comment on applications for planning permission

The Council agreed their comments as set out below:-

<p>DC/24/2522/FUL - 2 Burkitt Road Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 4JL</p>	<p>The Committee strongly recommends Refusal, because of the proposed creation of additional vehicular access at the property onto a busy main road into Woodbridge, adjacent to a junction and close to a further junction as well as three schools. The Committee felt that there was adequate vehicular access into the rear of the property off a much quieter side cul-de-sac.</p> <p>In addition, the Committee felt that loss of the hedge at the front of the property was detrimental to the general street scene.</p>
<p>DC/24/2268/FUL - Land And Store Adjacent To 21 Thoroughfare Woodbridge Suffolk</p>	<p>No Objection.</p> <p>It was noted that the two new retail outlet would inevitably create more vehicular traffic on a street that is now effectively becoming pedestrianised.</p>
<p>DC/24/2484/FUL - Blinley Road Off Grove Road Grundisburgh Road Roundabout Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 4HH</p>	<p>The Committee wishes to put a Holding Objection in place until SCC Highways have considered the matter.</p> <p>We recommend that Highways should note that the location is on the corner of a very busy junction by a high-speed road, and that is only likely to get busier and potentially more dangerous in the near future. There is currently street furniture and trees in the proposed location.</p> <p>It is requested that an extension be given to thoroughly investigate the matter, including finding a more suitable site, since we welcome the principle of providing energy storage to benefit the town.</p>
<p>DC/24/2481/VOC - Ferry Quay Cafe Ferry Quay Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 1BW</p>	<p>No Objection to the changes proposed in the VOC application.</p>
<p>DC/24/2623/VOC - 32 The Thoroughfare Woodbridge IP12 1AQ</p>	<p>Holding Objection based on the Committee's previous objection to the</p>

	application, until such time that the outcome of the applicant's appeal to the Secretary of State is known (see item 9).
DC/24/2631/VOC - 24 Cherry Tree Road Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 4BN	No Objection.

8. To note East Suffolk Council decisions on Planning Applications where those decision are contrary to this Council's recommendations and not previously reported

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

The Committee requested that the Clerk write to ESC for more clarity on why the earlier applications re Burkitt House were approved contrary to the objections of this Committee, noting that the only application on this site the Committee has not objected to was the latest one.

9. To note an appeal to the Secretary of State against a decision of East Suffolk Council regarding application DC/23/4469/VOC and consider if the Committee wish to provide additional comment

The Committee noted the Appeal to the Secretary of State, but commented that the Committee was content with their original objection to the VOC applications and reasons, with nothing more to add.

10. Closure

The meeting was closed at 7.15pm.

Councillor Adelson
Chair