

Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Licensing and Finance Committee held at the Guildhall, Bury St Edmunds on Wednesday 15 December 2021 at 6.03pm

Present: Cllrs Whittingham (Vice Chair, in the Chair), Murray, Thompson (BSETC Mayor, ex-officio with full voting rights) and Chung (BSETC Deputy Mayor, ex-officio with full voting rights).

Also present: Sue Hindry (Assistant Town Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer) and a member of the Public.

1. To receive apologies for absence and reasons

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Bouché, D Hind, Iannelli-Popham and Rout. The Clerk was self-isolating.

2. Declarations of interest and additions to registers

Cllrs Chung and Thompson declared a local non-pecuniary interest as District Councillors. Cllr Whittingham declared a local non-pecuniary interest in application DC/21/2208/FUL as he is a customer of the applicant.

3. To consider written applications for a dispensation relieving members from the restrictions in section 31(4) of the Localism Act 2011, and to specify the period for which dispensation is granted

None.

4. To approve and sign the minutes of 24 November 2021

Resolution Record (Delegated Powers): **PL&F/01/15/Dec/21**

That the minutes of the Planning Licensing and Finance committee meeting of 24 November 2021 be signed as an accurate record.

5. Public forum

None present.

6. To consider planning and licensing applications

6.1 List A

Resolution Record (Delegated Powers): **PL&F/02/15/Dec/21**

That for DC/21/2175/FUL Planning application - 1.8 metre boundary close boarded fence at 24 Barn Lane and 34 Eastgate Street, Bury St Edmunds Town Council objects on the grounds of lack of justification.

Resolution Record (Delegated Powers): **PL&F/03/15/Dec/21**

That for DC/21/2196/HH Householder planning application - a. single storey front extension b. two storey rear extension c. partial conversion of existing garage to study in respect of 19 Tassel Road, Bury St Edmunds Town Council objects on the grounds overshadowing and loss of light.

Resolution Record (Delegated Powers): **PL&F/04/15/Dec/21**

That for DC/21/2220/HH Householder planning application - part single and part two storey rear extension (following demolition of existing extension) in respect of 29 Springfield Avenue, Bury St Edmunds Town Council objects on the grounds overshadowing and loss of light.

Resolution Record (Delegated Powers): **PL&F/05/15/Dec/21**

That all planning applications considered on List A, except DC/21/2175/FUL, DC/21/2196/HH and DC/21/2220/HH, be returned with the comment 'No objection based on information received' and additionally in respect of Conservation Area properties the comment 'Subject to Conservation Area issues and Article 4 issues'.

6.2 List B

For DC/21/2335/EIASCR EIA screening opinion under Regulation 6 (1) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2017 on the matter of whether or not the proposed development is considered that there are likely significant environmental impacts for which an environmental statement would be required - for construction of an animal feed mill falling into Class B2 use for the Proposed Animal Feed Mill British Sugar Hollow Road, the committee requested information about the proposed carbon emissions.

Resolution Record (Delegated Powers): **PL&F/06/15/Dec/21**

That all planning applications considered on List B, except DC/21/2335/EIASCR, be returned with the comment 'No objection based on information received' and additionally for Conservation Area properties the comment 'Subject to Conservation Area issues and Article 4 issues'.

6.3 List C

Resolution Record (Delegated Powers): **PL&F/07/15/Dec/21**

That all planning applications considered on List C be returned with the comment 'No objection based on information received' and additionally for Conservation Area properties the comment 'Subject to Conservation Area issues and Article 4 issues'.

7. To finalise a response to Suffolk County Council's review of recommended lorry routes for consideration by Full Council and for submission by 17 December 2021

Cllr Thompson declared a local non-pecuniary interest as a Suffolk County Councillor.

The committee recommended the following three issues for consideration by Full Council:

Issue 1

Since the A11 from Fiveways to Thetford has been dual carriageway in December 2014, HGVs travelling South on the A11 and wanting to get to the A14 are frequently using the A11 to the Fiveways roundabout and taking the first exit onto the A1101 and getting onto the A14 by negotiating the Tollgate junction, then along Fornham Road. It is reported that this occurs throughout the day but as a count has not been undertaken we cannot be specific on numbers. The A1101 is not wide enough (especially through Icklingham) for this sort of traffic and an HGV ban, except for access, should be imposed from the Fiveways interchange on the A1101 both ways to its junction with the B1106 at Fornham. HGVs using the Tollgate interchange is not a good idea. According to the information on the County Council Lorry Review the B1106 Fornham Road already has a ban on vehicles over 7.5 Tons but this is not known of or enforced. We have been unable to find any signage to this effect. Therefore, the suggestion is to have an HGV ban from the A1101 at 5 ways to Station Hill in Bury St Edmunds.

Issue 2

Ban HGVs in College Street, Bury St Edmunds and route them via Westgate Street, Crown Street and Churchgate Street (if they cannot be banned from the historic town grid altogether). This is due to the HGVs being unable to turn left from College Street into Churchgate Street, resulting in damage to street furniture. Also, the size of the HGVs accessing the grid means they use the pavements, and this causes damage making them unsafe

Issue 3

The important issue on Moreton Hall is the noticeable increase in HGVS of all sizes using Orttewell Road as a short cut. Suffolk Business Park which is an integral part of Moreton Hall Ward on West Suffolk Council has expanded rapidly since the last review in 2011 with the very large increase in floor space on the Business Park with warehousing and distribution operators over the past 3 years. In short since 2017 there has been a substantial and noticeable increase in HGVs not following the designated routes and using Orttewell Road as a short cut through the middle of the residential housing either gain access to the A14, the various Moreton Hall industrial estates and business parks, or indeed reverse traffic using Orttewell Road as a short cut to join the A143 or A134.

Since 2017 many representations have been made to Suffolk County Highways by our local County Councillor both to Cabinet Members and Officers. Indeed, the Residents Association have written to the previous 4 Cabinet Members for Highways at the County to no avail. Earlier on in September this year the issue was also debated by the Overview and Scrutiny committee of West Suffolk Council following a Ward Members Councillors call for action.

The Residents Association carried out a survey of residents living in those roads closest to Orttewell Road this year. Possible courses of action to help to alleviate the problem:

- Reinststate the road under the Railway Bridge to take two-way traffic. The proposed 1400 house development at Cattishall will feed into the Barton/Orttewell Road junction and the section from Mount Road to the traffic lights is heavily congested especially at peak times.
- Ban HGVs from using Orttewell Road for its entire length apart from local traffic for Lawson place and public transport. This could be done as an experimental traffic order for a 6-month trial and then introduced permanently.

8. To approve the November 2021 Bank Reconciliations, Budget Line-Item Expenditure, Final Payments List and Cash Book Reports for adoption by Full Council

Recommendation Record: **PL&F/08/15/Dec/21**

That the November 2021 bank reconciliations, budget line-item expenditure, final payments list and cash book reports be adopted and signed.

9. Date of next meeting

Date of next meeting: **Wednesday 12 January 2022**

The meeting closed at 6.34pm.

Signed _____ Dated _____