

SUDBURY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PLANNING DEVELOPMENT AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE TOWN HALL ON 24TH MARCH COMMENCING AT 6:30 PM

Committee members present: Mr N Bennett – the chair.
Ms J Carter
Mr S Hall
Mr A Osborne
Mr T Register
Mr A Stohr
Mr N Younger

Officers in attendance: Mr C Griffin – Town Clerk

1. **SUBSTITUTES AND APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Councillor Miss A Owen.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Ms J Carter, Mr A Osborne and Mr T Register declared that they were also Babergh District Councillors.

Councillor Ms J Carter declared that she was also a Suffolk County 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 previous meeting held on the 10th March 2025 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

6. REVIEW OF ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Town Clerk updated members on actions from previous minutes.

- Suffolk Highways had confirmed that work had been ordered to repair the large pothole outside Alaz Restaurant in Cross Street.
- The Town Clerk and a few members had attended the Neighbourhood Planning Meeting on Friday 21st March where they had been briefed on the potential impact of the Government's new housing targets which has increased the requirement for new homes in Babergh from 416 to 775 a year (up 86%). This had left Babergh District Council with no option but to review their Joint Local Plan, which had been adopted in November 2023, and had been the blueprint for the district's future until 2037. If these new homes were distributed across Babergh in proportion to the current housing stock, the requirement for Sudbury would be 2,550 new homes over the next 20 years.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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 points raised by the Conservator of Wall Paintings and Polychrome Decoration, Dr Andrea Kirkham, in her paper dated 6th March 2025 being addressed satisfactorily.

DC/25/00158 **Proposal:** Householder Application – Erection of a two storey rear extension.
Location: 102 Queens Road, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 1PQ

RESOLVED – To recommend approval.

DC/25/01085 **Proposal:** Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1980 for DC/24/05055 (4 dwellings and cycle store) for the removal of Conditions (land contamination-remedial works/verification reporting) and 22 (land contamination-investigation/remediation).
Location: Land Rear of 30 Market Hill, Sudbury, CO10 2EN

RESOLVED – To recommend approval.

DC/25/01230 **Proposal:** Householder Application. Alteration and conversion of existing garage.
Location: 24 Friars Street, Sudbury, CO10 2AA

RESOLVED – To recommend approval.

DEVELOPMENT

8. Not Required

HIGHWAYS

9. TO DISCUSS THE HIGHWAYS LIST

Members discussed the following points;

- Funding of about £130,000 had been identified to improve the surface of the path along the Stour from Friars Meadow in Sudbury to Bakers Mill in Great Cornard. This should deliver an all-weather surface, of similar quality to the first 65m at the Bakers Mill end, that will make the path suitable for cyclists and wheelchair users. The barrier chicanes at both ends will be removed as these currently restrict disabled access. It was anticipated that this work would be completed in 2025.
- Members discussed the Government’s recent announcement of an additional £500m funding for highway authorities to fix potholes. To get the full amount, all councils in England must publish annual progress reports and prove public confidence in their work. Local authorities who fail to meet these strict conditions will see 25% of the uplift (£125 million in total) withheld.
- Members were concerned about the numerous potholes and defects in Station Road and Station Approach and felt that a visit from a highways officer was necessary. County Councillor J Carter confirmed that she had a site meeting scheduled with a highways engineer for 4th April and would look at these areas.
- Members were concerned that many of the traffic bollards in Sudbury were too dirty to be seen clearly by road users. The Town Clerk proposed that the quickest way to rectify this would be to use the Community Wardens to wash them down and he would arrange for this to be done. Bollards of concern were located at;
 - King Street where it divides before St Peter’s Church
 - The Croft (3 bollards)
 - Cross Street into Stour Street (2 bollards on a central reservation)
 - Waldingfield Road, near Wheelers Close (2 bollards on a central reservation)
- There was an Anglian Water sign stating that work would take place at the bottom of Acton Lane, but no activity had been seen.
- The white line on the junction where the road from the police station joins Acton Lane was no longer visible.
- A sign would be installed at the top of Action Lane informing road users that they could not drive up the paths beyond the turning area.
- There was a serious pothole in Princes Street near the new building works. The Town Clerk reported this on the Suffolk Highways reporting tools as Ref: 514498.

The meeting closed at 7:18pm.

Signed
 Chairman