

SUDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PLANNING DEVELOPMENT AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE TOWN HALL ON 7th OCTOBER 2024 COMMENCING AT 6:30 PM**

Committee members present: Mr N Bennett – the chair.
Ms J Carter
Mr A Osborne
Mrs J Osborne
Miss A Owen
Mr A Stohr
Mr N Younger (arrived at 6:41pm)

Officers in attendance: Mr C Griffin – Town Clerk

1. SUBSTITUTES AND APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillor S Hall. Councillor J Osborne was the substitute for Councillor S Hall.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Ms Carter, Miss A Owen and Mr A Osborne declared that they were Babergh District Councillors.

Councillor Ms Carter declared that she was 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 23rd September 2024 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

6. ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Town Clerk confirmed that there were no outstanding actions from the previous meeting.

Members decided to take the development items first as a number of members of the public had attended to contribute to these.

DEVELOPMENT

7. TO DISCUSS A PROPOSAL FOR A SUDBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

District Councillor Ms L Smith attended the meeting and set out the benefits that she believed would come from a neighbourhood plan. She emphasised that the Babergh District Council would have to take greater notice of the Town Council's views if there was a neighbourhood plan and that the proportion of CIL given directly to the town council would increase from 15% to 25%. Grants were available for technical support in drafting neighbourhood plans. Members of the Sudbury Society also spoke in support of Sudbury having a neighbourhood plan and offered to help draft sections to reduce the burden on council officers.

RESOLVED

To invite a Babergh District Council officer to come to a future meeting of the committee to explain the benefits of a neighbourhood plan and how supplementary planning documents could help.

8. TO DISCUSS A REQUEST FOR BOLLARDS IN FRONT OF ANGELO SMITH IN NORTH STREET

The Senior Partner of Angelo Smith Jewellers in North Street had expressed his concern about the safety of their historic clock hanging outside the shop which had been hit on several occasions by delivery lorries mounting the pavement. He suggested fitting a couple of bollards in front of the shop to prevent large vehicles mounting the pavement and causing damage and was happy to contribute to the cost. He had approached Suffolk Highways, but they had referred him to the Town Council.

RESOLVED

To support an application for 2 or 3 bollards on the pavement outside Angelo Smith Jewellers. The Town Council would confirm suitable bollards and obtain costings before making an application to Suffolk Highways. The Town Council were not committing any funds for this project at this stage.

9. TO DISCUSS PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE FLORAL DISPLAY ON BELLE VUE ROUNDABOUT

Sudbury in Bloom had contacted the Town Council to say that the structure on Belle Vue Roundabout was falling to bits and they thought that it was becoming an embarrassment to the town. They intended to remove everything, including the olive tree, and then make a decision on what they could do to improve the site. They were considering whether an art installation would be suitable. They raised the possibility of a future request for support from the Community Wardens at some point.

RESOLVED

To encourage Sudbury in Bloom in their efforts to improve the Belle Vue Roundabout and to liaise with them over future installations.

10. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

DC/24/04318 **Proposal:** Application for works in trees in a Conservation Area – Fell 2No Laurel trees(T1 & T3) and 1No Crab Apple tree (T2) to ground level.

Location: 5 Church Walk, Sudbury, Suffolk. Co10 1HJ

RESOLVED – To recommend approval of the felling of the laurels, but not the crab apple.

DC/24/04321 **Proposal:** Householder Application – Erection of single storey front/side extension.

Location: 4 Meadow View Road, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 7NU

RESOLVED – To recommend approval subject to the boundary issues with the neighbour at 2 Meadow View Road being resolved.

HIGHWAYS

11. **TO DISCUSS THE HIGHWAYS LIST**

No new items had been raised under the highways list.

Members raised the following concerns;

- Had the blocked drains at the bottom of Acton Lane been reported? The Town Clerk confirmed that he had reported them on the Suffolk Highways tool (ref 491879).
- The flooding near the junction of Melford Road and Bartholomew's Lane had not been resolved by Suffolk Highways. This had been reported on the Suffolk Highways tool in April 2023 and still appeared there as ref 400823 '*KNOWN LONG TERM DRAINAGE/FLOODING ISSUE Suffolk Highways has carried out an initial site investigation and determined that further action is required which cannot be done within the usual routine maintenance activities. This may include working with others, including adjacent landowners, to ensure surface water responsibilities are clear and action coordinated. We prioritise remedial works based upon their impact, any property flooding and risk to highway users - works at some lower risk locations will take longer to solve. We will continue to monitor the location as part of our routine inspections whilst we investigate and apologise for any ongoing nuisance and inconvenience the situation is causing.*'

The meeting closed at 7:37pm

Signed


Chairman

