



MINUTES

Meeting of: **Planning Applications & Transport Sub-Committee**

Date: **Monday, 19th August 2019**

Present: Councillors: Mrs A. Kilmartin (Vice Chairman in the Chair)
Mrs S. Ager
K.L. Atwill
P.R. Barlow (arrived 6.40 p.m.)
J.C. Bayford
S.E. Hicks
M.C.M. Lager
Mrs S.C. Lager
C.S. Livermore
T.A. Pleasance
R.P. Ramage
Miss M. Weeks
R. Williams
J. Sheehy (Town Clerk)
Mrs G. Kennedy (Planning Officer)

And two members of the public.

69. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J.C. Goodman and P.M. Ryland who had a previous engagements and Miss C. Jay who was unwell.

70. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th August 2019 were received.

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Planning Applications and Transport Sub-Committee Meeting held 5th August 2019 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

71. INTERESTS

Councillor Mrs S. Ager declared a non-pecuniary interest in application 19/01350/VAR – Land that was originally a building called Cerine, as a friend is affected by this application.

Later in the Meeting at Minute 79 – 5 Year Supply of Housing Land, Councillor S.E. Hicks declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Member of Braintree District Council involved in the Local Plan.

72. QUESTIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Revd Christine Newmarch, Team Curate at St Nicolas Church, explained that increasingly people wishing to attend the Church for baptisms, weddings and funerals are unable to find the building. With increasing height of surrounding trees there were no longer views of the Church particularly in the summer months. She asked for the Town Council's support for a directional sign to the Church particularly as there would be a number of Heritage Open Days in the future.

The Chairman thanked Revd Newmarch for her comments and with Members' agreement brought forward Item 12 on the Agenda – Signposting of St Nicolas Church.

73. SIGNPOSTING OF ST NICOLAS CHURCH

An email was received from Revd Christine Newmarch regarding signposting to St Nicolas Church.

Members remembered that this matter had been raised before and not received support from the District Council. It was understood that contact had been made by the Church with Essex County Council and support from the Town Council was required.

RESOLVED That the Town Council supports the proposal for signage to St Nicolas Church.

74. CLERK'S REPORT

Members were informed that representatives from Countryside had met with relevant Members to discuss the results of the public consultation with regard to the proposed development at Wood End Farm. Notes from the Meeting would be produced in due course.

RESOLVED That the information be received and noted.

Councillor P.R. Barlow arrived at the Meeting.

75. PART 1 APPLICATIONS

19/01347/FUL

90 HIGHFIELDS ROAD, WITHAM
Single storey rear ground floor extension

NO OBJECTION

19/01290/HH

49 PITT AVENUE, WITHAM
Proposed single storey rear addition and front porch

NO OBJECTION

19/01390/HH

10 ASHBY ROAD, WITHAM

Single storey front addition

NO OBJECTION

19/01409/FUL

POWERS HALL ACADEMY, SPA ROAD, WITHAM

Replacement classroom

NO OBJECTION

76. PART 2 APPLICATIONS

19/01318/FUL

44 CRESSING ROAD, WITHAM

Retrospective application for the retention of a single storey outbuilding in the rear garden for use as catering business

Members noted the conditions recommended by the Environmental Health Officer and agreed no objections.

NO OBJECTION

19/01321/LBC

WHITE HART, NEWLAND STREET, WITHAM

Refurbishment of 5 no windows and replacement of 3 no windows

NO OBJECTION

19/01350/VAR

LAND THAT WAS ORIGINALLY A BUILDING CALLED CERINNE, BRAINTREE ROAD, WITHAM

Application for a variation of Conditions 2 & 3 of planning permission 16/00371/FUL – changes to the layout, boundary treatment and external materials

Councillor Mrs S. Ager had declared a non-pecuniary interest.

NO OBJECTION

19/01376/ADV

LAND ADJACENT TO LODGE FARM, HATFIELD ROAD, WITHAM

Retention of illuminated sign

NO OBJECTION

77. **REVISED PLANS**

19/00109/FUL

OLD IVY CHIMNEYS, HATFIELD ROAD WITHAM

Members were reminded that when the Town Council considered this application on 15th April 2019 they raised no objection subject to the advice of the Historic Buildings Consultant who had now advised that the proposals would be harmful to the significance of the Old Ivy Chimneys building, and as a consequence the developer had revised the plans. It was now proposed that the two houses at the back of the site be moved further away from the Listed Building creating larger front gardens and a green buffer; and that the house at the front of the site closest to Old Ivy Chimneys be stepped back away from Hatfield Road so that the views are not obstructed.

Members were divided as to whether the proposals would satisfy the Historic Buildings Consultant and how best to respond.

NO OBJECTION Subject to the advice of the Historic Buildings Consultant.

19/00849/FUL

37 NEWLAND STREET, WITHAM

Members were reminded that this application was considered on 10th June 2019 and recommended that the application should be refused on the grounds of environmental impact and lack of information regarding opening hours. Members were informed that the Change of Use would now be just for A3 – Restaurants and Cafes and no longer A5 – Hot Food Takeaways, as well. The hours of opening would be 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week.

NO OBJECTION

78. **DECISIONS**

Decisions on planning applications were received.

RESOLVED That the information be received and noted.

79. **5 YEAR SUPPLY OF HOUSING LAND**

Councillor S.E. Hicks declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Member of Braintree District Council involved in the Local Plan.

A copy letter was received from Councillor G. Butland, Leader of Braintree District Council, to the Secretary of State regarding the 5 year supply of housing land.

Members considered that the letter echoed the Town Council's concerns that clarity was needed regarding a valid five-year housing supply. It was important that the Secretary of State should understand the problems when developers undertake to build within five years and then fail to do so. Members were informed that the District Council had a schedule listing where full planning consents had been given.

RESOLVED That a letter of support be sent to the District Council and seeking clarity and consistency so that inappropriate development can be resisted.

80. SPEEDING VEHICLES

(a) Speed Indicator Devices

Members were reminded to inform the Office as to roads where the Speed Indicator Device could be installed. It was agreed that as speed surveys were required before permission was granted by Essex County Council for the installation of the device the following roads would be recommended to the County Council – Allectus Way, Church Street, Gershwin Boulevard, Maldon Road and Rickstones Road.

RESOLVED That Essex County Council be asked for permission to site a Speed Indicator Device at the above locations and Members inform the Office of any sites which would require a speed survey.

(b) Collingwood Road

An email was received from a member of the public regarding speeding vehicles in Collingwood Road.

Members agreed that there was an increasing number of vehicles speeding in the town centre at night and that the police ought to be asked to undertake appropriate speed checks.

RESOLVED That contact be made with the Police, explaining the problems and requesting appropriate speed checks to monitor these vehicles.

81. TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF PARKING IN NEWLAND STREET

An Order to temporarily suspend parking in Newland Street for the weekly market was received.

Members were informed that the Market would be officially opened on Tuesday, 3rd September 2019 at 8.30 a.m.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 7.30 p.m.

Councillor _____
Chairman
GK/20.8.2019