MINUTES of a PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING held at TOWN HALL, Felixstowe, on Wednesday 21 June 2023 at 9.15am

PRESENT: Cllr S Bird (Chairman) Cllr A Folley

Cllr M Morris (Vice Chairman) Cllr C Franklin

Cllr J Candy Cllr S Wiles (until item 81F)

Cllr S Bennett (from item 81C)

OFFICERS: Mrs D Frost (Deputy Town Clerk)

Mrs S Morrison (Planning Administration Assistant)

IN ATTENDANCE: 10 Members of the Public

3 Member of the public (via Zoom)

76. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Chairman advised that he would invite representations from members of the public immediately prior to debate on specific applications.

77. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from **Clir N Barber** and **Clir D Underwood**.

78. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Other Registerable Interests, to which no matters on the agenda were directly related, were noted:

Member(s)	Minute No.	Nature of Interest
Cllr J Candy Cllr A Folley Cllr S Bennett	All	Other registerable interests (as Members of East Suffolk Council)
Cllr S Bird Cllr S Bennett Cllr S Wiles	All	Other registerable interests (as a Member of Suffolk County Council)

Members were advised that, should any matters arise in the meeting that directly relate to any of their interests, they should make appropriate declarations at that time.

79. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 7 June 2023 be confirmed as a true record.

80. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Committee considered the following planning applications received since the last meeting and RESOLVED to submit the following observations to East Suffolk Council, the order was rearranged to suit attendees and attendance of the Suffolk Day flag raising event:

Committee noted the presentation from beach hut owners with regard to the heritage value of the beach huts and heard with interest of their intent to develop heritage boards reflecting the history of beach huts in Felixstowe, and heritage colours for the painting of the 14 beach huts.

Α

DC/23/2089/FUL | Relocate removed earlier 14 huts from promenade into new location between shelter building and spa pavilion area. The wooden platforms will be erected on the beach next to the promenade.

14 Beach Huts Undercliff Road West

Committee recommended APPROVAL. We are satisfied that this application is policy compliant, specifically in relation to SCLP 12.14 which supports tourist related uses in this location. This approval would be subject to East Suffolk Council granting the necessary licenses for these huts and their being satisfied as to the safety requirements of the installation of the huts.

At direction of the Chairman, item C below was moved up the agenda to be considered. Committee noted the neighbour concerns with regard to the height and mass and overlooking from the proposed block of flats.

At 10.05am Cllr S Bennett arrived.

С

DC/23/1986/FUL | Demolition of existing garages and erection of 6 flats with associated external works and access

Glenfield Court Glenfield Avenue

Committee recommended REFUSAL. Whilst we are not against the provision of more smaller residential units in principle, Committee have strong objections to this particular scheme. We believe it will result in totally unacceptable overlooking and loss of outlook for several residential properties in High Road West, Glenfield Avenue and Fairfield Avenue. This proposal is for a three storey building which at its closest is only 2 metres away from a boundary in High Rd West and 1 metre away from a boundary in Glenfield Avenue, the properties concerned will either have overlooking from at least four new flats or will be looking onto a three storey blank wall. We therefore feel that this application is contrary to SCLP11.2 paragraph a, b and e. Furthermore, whilst we accept that the SCC parking guidance is not mandatory we feel the introduction of 6 additional residential units in this location with no parking provision is unacceptable.

DC/23/2291/TCA | 1no. Oak (marked on plan) - Reduce to a single standing stem

109 Undercliff Road West

F

В

D

Ε

Committee OBJECT to the work proposed on this tree, we believe it has been misnamed as a Holm Oak and understand that it is a Bay tree we therefore feel that this undermines and negates the reasons given for the work proposed. Subject to the guidance of the East Suffolk Council's Arboricultural Officer.

The meeting was adjourned at 10.50, Cllr S Wiles left the meeting to attend to other business. The meeting was readjourned at 11.28 due to attendance of members at the Suffolk Day flag raising event.

DC/21/3486/FUL | Erection of 1no. warehouse (Class B8) together with access and servicing arrangements, vehicle parking, landscaping and associated works

Orwell Crossing Truck Stop A14 Nacton East Bound Nacton Heath Ipswich

Committee recommended APPROVAL. We welcome this revised and reduced scheme which we understand now allows for a potential HGV facility on this site which previously was not possible. In addition we fully support the comments from Network Rail regarding a pedestrian and cycle access from Felixstowe Road. We would therefore ask that any approval be conditioned that the developer provides the necessary pedestrian/cycle bridge over the railway line providing a safe pedestrian/cycle route.

DC/23/2045/FUL | Renovation of existing detached 1970s building with replacement of UPVC windows and conversion of garage to studio/bedroom

34 Maybush Lane

Committee recommended REFUSAL. We do not object in principle to the conversion of the garage to habitable rooms, we are satisfied that the property will still have sufficient parking space and we find the window replacement to be acceptable. However, the proposed design incorporating a mono pitched roof and the 4.5 m high ridge which will extend for 5 m will cause unacceptable loss of light to the neighbour both in terms of rooms within their property and their rear amenity space. We therefore feel that this application is contrary to SCLP 11.2 para a, b and c.

DC/23/0528/FUL | Retrospective Application - Change of use of land to garden curtilage.

16 Manwick Road

Committee recommended REFUSAL. We understand that a number of neighbouring properties have had longstanding free access to their rear amenity spaces via this rear cartway. If this development were to be

allowed, it prevents that access from both ends of the cartway and could set a precedent for other properties to do the same, which would result in total loss of access for some or all properties. We therefore feel this proposal is contrary to SCLP 11.1 para e.

Members requested that East Suffolk Council's Arboricultural Officer be invited to attend a future Planning & Environment Committee meeting to give some clarification for Members on tree applications.

81. PLANNING DECISIONS

RESOLVED that the decisions on planning applications by East Suffolk Council notified to the Town Council since the previous meeting be noted.

82. CORRESPONDENCE

Members considered dates for a site tour of Candlet Road development Phase 2. The Planning Assistant will let Persimmon Homes know that the best date for the tour would be Friday 28 July and PPE would be required, steel cap boots will hopefully be sourced in-house by members of P&E.

It was confirmed that DC/23/3182/ARM – Land North of Candlet Road Phase 2 has just been published and will be part of the applications for the Planning and Environment Agenda for 5 July.

83. CLOSURE

Date: _____

scheduled to take place on Wednesday 5 July 2023 at 9.15am.		

Chairman:

The meeting was closed at 12.58 pm. It was noted that the next meeting was