

**PLANNING & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

**SAFFRON WALDEN TOWN COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the PLANNING & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE held in the Town Hall Saffron Walden on **THURSDAY 25 July 2024 at 8.00pm**

**Councillors:** Cllrs Curtis, Eke, Freeman, Hawke-Smith, McLellan (Chair) and Meloy

**Officers:** Town Clerk

**Members of the public:** Representative of Bellway Homes

P&T 151-24	<b>Apologies for absence</b> Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Ahmed and Gadd.
P&T 152-24	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> No declarations of interest where raised.
P&T 153-24	<b>Public speaking time</b> A representative of Bellway Homes attended as an observer; he advised Bellway Homes were looking to purchase the commonly referred to Rosconn site on Radwinter Road, which was granted approval to build 233 houses at appeal. He had no questions, but simply introduced himself to Committee.
P&T 154-24	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting 11.07.2024</b> The minutes of the previous meeting 11.07.2024 were accepted and agreed with the following amendments:  P&T141-24, to add " <i>Members of the public spoke regarding application Nos UTT/24/1406/FUL and UTT/24/1407/LB - 56 - 60 High Street Saffron Walden Essex CB10 1EE, relating to the development site at High Street (Goddards Site)</i> "  P&T145-25, to amend with " <i>A representative of the Goddard family (developer) was present and spoke regarding the above applications</i> "
<b>HIGHWAYS</b>	
P&T 155-24	There were no highways matters for consideration
P&T 156-24	<b>RA Butler and St Thomas More - Healthy School Street</b>  Committee noted the above schools are in liaison with Essex Highways seeking Healthy School Streets, making road changes to aid students to walk, cycle and wheel to school safely.  Essex Highways does not currently have plans or funding to make changes to the street, but an early engagement survey is open to gauge support of the principle of a Healthy School Street.  Committee unanimously supported the principle suggesting raised paving, reduced parking and reduced speed limits would be beneficial.
P&T 157-24	<b>Little Walden Road Speed Limit</b>  Committee noted it previously objected to the proposed change in speed limit proposal outside the Abbey Homes housing development on Little Walden Road, to 40mph (from the national speed limit).  Committee noted Essex Highways has responded as follows:

	<p>a. <i>The Essex speed management strategy, sets the expectations of where drivers would experience different speed limits. Notably, a 30mph speed limit would typically apply to built-up areas with development on both sides of the road. Development does not exist on both sides of the road in this location, and the ‘Crocus Fields’ development is set back from the highway and so it cannot be considered a built-up area either.</i></p> <p>b. <i>It is unlikely installing 30mph speed limit signs would have any significant impact to vehicle speeds, due to the characteristics of a 30mph not being present in this location. Non-compliance with the 30mph speed limit would remain likely.</i></p> <p>c. <i>Formally introducing the 30mph speed limit with signage would not be supported by the Essex speed management strategy.</i></p> <p>d. <i>The proposal sets out to deter those drivers who are driving in excess of 40mph before they reach the current (signed) 30mph speed limit. Given the characteristics of the location, this proposal is the most effective way to ensure the safety of all road users’.</i></p> <p>ECC wished to ascertain if SWTC continues to object to the proposal.</p> <p>Committee resolved:</p> <p>(a) to continue to object to the proposal. Committee noted that whilst the strategy needs to be referred to, it cannot and does not take into account the local nuances and needs of the community;</p> <p>(b) to note that the creation of pedestrian islands in the vicinity actively demonstrates the area is used (and is intended to be used) by pedestrians;</p> <p>(c) To seek the support of Cllr Gadd, SW County Councillor at ECC in opposing the proposed speed changes;</p> <p>(d) To retain its response and to reply further (this response to be delegated to the Deputy Clerk and Committee Chair).</p>
<b>PLANNING APPLICATIONS</b>	
P&T 158-24	<b>Committee considered and commented upon the following Planning Applications:</b> All applications were considered against the UDC Local Plan policies dated 2005 and the Saffron Walden Neighbourhood Plan.
A	<u>UTT/24/1739/LB</u>   Conversion of ground floor utility room by erecting a stud partition wall to provide a cloakroom with a separate ground floor W.C.   Walden Lodge Abbey Lane Saffron Walden CB10 1AG <b>Resolved:</b> No objections
B	<u>UTT/24/1409/LB</u>   Install an electrical charging unit for home charging an electrical car on the false door of the property.   5 Audley End Village Audley End Road Saffron Walden Essex CB11 4JB <b>Resolved:</b> No objections
C	<u>UTT/24/1687/HHF</u>   Install an electrical charging unit for home charging an electrical car on the false door of the property.   5 Audley End Village Audley End Road Saffron Walden CB11 4JB <b>Resolved:</b> No objections
D	<u>UTT/24/1609/CLP</u>   Proposed Certificate of Lawfulness for redevelopment of green-keepers welfare building   Saffron Walden Golf Club Windmill Hill Saffron Walden Essex CB10 1BX <b>Resolved:</b> No objections
E	<p><b>Licence Application - Elizza, 62 High Street, Saffron Walden CB10 1EE</b></p> <p>Committee considered the above license application raising which can be read online at <a href="https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/comment-on-a-premises-licence-application">https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/comment-on-a-premises-licence-application</a></p> <p>The following concerns were raised:</p> <p>(a) Extended alcohol timings on Friday and Saturday evenings until 1am which could cause disturbances with the residential properties;</p>

	<p>(b) That there appeared to be no reference or proposed restrictions on the use of the outside area which could result in additional noise disruption to neighbours;</p> <p>(c) That the surrounding area was subject to a current planning application (application Nos UTT/24/1406/FUL and UTT/24/1407/LB - 56 - 60 High Street Saffron Walden) and the licence would adversely affect those developments;</p> <p>(d) That the proposals do not align to other nearby pubs, the Temeraire was specifically cited noting it does not have dance or music within its licence, times are 07:30 – 12:00 (extended to 01:00 on a Saturday) and the use of the outside space is restricted to 10:00 hours.</p> <p>It was Resolved: To object to the licence application on the grounds of noise, disturbance and disruption to local residents and that any licence conditions should emulate those as imposed on the nearby Temeraire.</p>
<p>P&amp;T 159-24</p>	<p><b>Update on ongoing significant applications</b> Cllr Meloy advised he had attended a recent online meeting with UDC Officers but there were no specific updates to committee.</p>
<p>P&amp;T 160-24</p>	<p><b>Urgent Information Items</b></p> <p>(a) It was noted that a planning notice had been placed on the lamppost by outside the dentists in Church Street and Officers were requested to ascertain details of this notice.</p> <p>(b) It was noted that a further traffic accident had occurred at the Borough Lane/Debden Road traffic lights. Queries and concerns were raised regarding sequencing of the traffic lights. Officers were requested to progress this matter with ECC Officers and ECC County Councillor, Cllr Gadd</p>
<p>P&amp;T 161-24</p>	<p><b>Date and time of Next Meeting</b> Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2024, 7.30PM, Saffron Walden The Town Hall. The Chair gave his apologies for the meeting.</p>

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm