

PLANNING & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**SAFFRON WALDEN TOWN COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the PLANNING & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE held in the Town Hall Saffron Walden on **Monday 23 September 2024 at 6.30pm**

Councillors: Cllrs Freeman, Hawke-Smith and McLellan (Chair).

Officers: Deputy Town Clerk

Members of the public: None

P&T 193-24	Apologies for absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Ahmed, Curtis, Eke, Gadd and Meloy.
P&T 194-24	Declarations of Interest Cllr Freeman declared a generic non-pecuniary interest as a member of Uttlesford District Council (UDC)
P&T 195-24	Public speaking time There were no public speakers.
P&T 196-24	Minutes of Previous Meeting 12.09.2024 The minutes of the previous meeting 12.09.2024 were approved and signed by the Chair.
HIGHWAYS	
P&T 197-24	The Deputy Town Clerk noted Essex Highways has requested to meet with SWTC, to discuss the Market Square partial pedestrianisation request. SWTC submitted the application in 2022, with slow progress made by ECC, despite SWTC's requests for progression.
P&T 198-24	Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) Committee noted the Council action plan includes measures to tackle speeding in Saffron Walden and to consider whether to install a VAS. In doing so, committee noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The written report (attached to the agenda) had been reviewed by the speeding working group. b. Areas of speeding known to SWTC are reported to Essex Police, seeking additional patrols are conducted. c. VAS data can be downloaded and provided to Essex Police, supporting their enforcement measures, but Essex Police does not enforce 20mph limits. Committee considered whether the Town Centre would be a beneficial location or not, given speeding would not be enforceable as a 20mph zone, but a VAS could act as a speed calming measure. d. Should installation be pursued, a mobile sign would be preferred, requiring a license for each location from Essex Highways. Potential locations were

	<p>considered being, Little Walden Road (the speed limit is currently being reviewed by Essex Highways) and/or Thaxted Road (which has traffic lights) as entrances into town with higher speeds. Windmill Hill and Newport Road already have active VAS, believed to be owned by Essex Highways.</p> <p>It was unanimously resolved not to progress with purchase of a VAS, at this time (being the 2025/26 budget) and for the speeding working group to re-consider other potential speed calming measures for the Town. For example, requesting additional speed calming mitigations via the Essex Highways Local Highway Panel (i.e., speed bumps and/or crossings).</p>
PLANNING APPLICATIONS	
P&T 199-24	<p>Committee considered and commented upon the following Planning Applications: All applications were considered against the UDC Local Plan policies dated 2005 and the Saffron Walden Neighbourhood Plan.</p>
A	<p>UTT/24/2251/LB Proposed conversion, demolitions, extension and alterations to former hotel to create 3 no. dwellings. Saffron Hotel 8-12 High Street Saffron Walden Essex CB10 1AZ Resolved No objections</p>
B	<p>UTT/24/2250/FUL Proposed conversion, demolitions, extension and alterations to former hotel to create 3 no. dwellings. Saffron Hotel 8-12 High Street Saffron Walden Essex CB10 1AZ Resolved No objections</p>
C	<p>UTT/24/2220/FUL Convert existing daycentre into 5 no. additional bedrooms. Externally block up 1 no. existing window, replace 2 no. double doors and 3 no. windows with new door and window arrangement to each bedroom. Stanley Wilson Lodge Four Acres Saffron Walden Essex CB11 3JE Resolved No objections</p>
P&T 200-24	<p>Update on ongoing significant applications</p> <p>Committee noted the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Application UTT/24/1144/FUL to change the former Friends School swimming pool to a community centre was approved by UDC committee on 18 September. Once the S106 trigger point is met, the site will be offered to SWTC with a monetary contribution for future maintenance, should SWTC refuse, it will likely be maintained by a management company. b. The Thaxted Road detailed application of 170 houses, S62A/2024/0051, was refused by the planning inspector. c. Appeal reference, APP/C1570/Z/24/3341963, seeking consent for advertising flag poles on Radwinter Road was dismissed by the planning inspector.
P&T 201-24	<p>Urgent Information Items</p> <p>No urgent information items were raised.</p>
P&T 202-24	<p>Date and time of Next Meeting</p> <p>Thursday 10 October 2024, in the Town Hall Saffron Walden at 7.30pm</p>

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.10pm