

Notes of a meeting of Chatteris Town Council's Planning Working Group held at the Council Chambers, 14 Church Lane, Chatteris, on Tuesday 24th February 2026

Present: Cllrs V Joyce (Chairman), L Ashley, J Fuller-Gray, M Siggee and S Unwin.

P34 25/26 Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence had been received.

P35 25/26 Appeals, Decisions & Withdrawn Plans

The Clerk updated members on the latest decisions from Fenland District Council:

The application to erect 152 dwellings and associated works, to include new access off the A142 at land south of The Elms, was refused permission due to the access issues.

The application to fell 2 Yew trees at 1A St Martins Road had been refused as there was no appropriate justification for felling the trees which were covered by TPOs.

FDC declined to determine the application for removal of condition 5 relating to planning permission for a mobile home at Bromsgrove House, Honeysome Road. The removal of the condition was sought to allow the mobile home to remain on site as an ancillary annexe.

A certificate of lawfulness to upgrade the cabling and connections for Christmas lights on Grove House, 74 High Street, had been issued.

The following applications were approved:

Detailed plans for the erection of 4 dwellings and associated works at land north of 2-8 Gibside Avenue.

Installation of an InPost locker at 99 Bridge Street.

P36 25/26 Applications & Revised Applications

a) F/YR26/0093/F - Erect 4 dwellings and the formation of an access at land north east of The Grange, London Road - *Support*

b) F/YR26/0098/VOC - Variation of conditions 2 (materials) and 3 (list of approved drawings) of planning permission F/YR25/0597/F (Erect a single-storey rear extension involving demolition of existing conservatory, conversion of garage to form additional living accommodation and internal alterations including removal of existing chimney) – amendment to materials and amend the wording of condition 3 to development in accordance with submitted details at 19 Linden Drive – *Support*

c) F/YR26/0126/F – Erect 1 dwelling (retrospective) at Plot 3 land west of 130 London Road - *Support*

d) F/YR26/0133/F - Change of use from dwelling to short-term holiday let (retrospective) at Wildflower Barn, Stocking Drove – *Recommend Refusal. The development is out of character with the area and has an adverse impact on neighbouring properties and the open countryside. There are also issues with the amount of traffic on the road and parking and there is no footpath. The application is contrary to policies LP15 and LP16.*

P37 25/26 To Agree Response to Fenland 50 – Local Plan Consultation

Members helped to complete the survey on Fenland District Council's new Local Plan, known as Fenland 50, having been invited to have an early involvement in the process. In addition to completing the standard questions, members were asked to submit more general thoughts and comments on issues which should be covered by the Local Plan.

Members agreed that protection of all sports and recreation grounds, open spaces and car parks should be a priority. The upkeep of public toilets and adherence to Tree Preservation Orders were also highlighted as important.

In addition it was felt that the Town Council should have more of a voice when it came to planning applications for the town. Recommendations were always submitted on time on all applications but the views of the Town Council were often ignored.

Section 106/Cil funding from developers was seen as essential for the development of the town and its community. A lack of investment in recent years was seen as holding the town back with no money available to develop new projects, leisure and sporting facilities, attract tourists, attract new residents and attract outside investment. As a result, facilities were falling behind other areas and there was a great need to make the town more desirable. The town had been subject to major developments, such as the anaerobic digester, which had brought problems and delays for local residents but no benefits for the town.

P38 25/26 Any Other Business

Noise: Cllr Joyce said he had been called out at the weekend to a noise disturbance in London Road. The complaint had come from a customer at the garden centre and related to modified cars which were revving around a nearby yard (which had been the subject of a complaint at the full council meeting). He said about five or six cars were revving up and racing around the yard and then "bombing" out on to London Road. The noise was very loud and would certainly frighten horses and other animals. The Clerk had passed an email of complaint to the police and environmental health.

Roundabout: Cllr Unwin said she had been involved in an incident at the roundabout in Wenny Road that day. A bus driver became abusive as cars, legitimately parked near the roundabout, made it almost impossible for the bus to negotiate the roundabout without mounting the roundabout. The In Bloom team who were working on the roundabout were upset that there were tyre marks on the outer section of the roundabout. Cllr Unwin said a meeting had been arranged with the Highways Officer on the 26th November to discuss the problem.

Tree: A letter had been received from the Cyclical Highways Officer from the County Council regarding a tree on the footpath outside 52 Fairway, which had been cut down, but no records of works could be found. The address was currently the site of a planning application for a semi-detached house. Cllr Joyce said there were two possibilities; either the tree was taken down during gas mains replacement works in 2024 or it was removed to improve access to the driveway of 52 Fairway. It was agreed the Clerk would relay this information and request a replacement tree.

Footpath: The Clerk had spoken to the developer of four homes in London Road who was hopefully prepared to do some works to restore the footpath along London Road from the Stocking Drove junction to Seasons Garden Centre. He estimated the works would cost about £50,000 and said he was not prepared to pay all the costs. It was agreed the Mayor and the Clerk should approach the developers on the Tithe Barn site and request a contribution towards the costs.