

**Notes of a meeting of Chatteris Town Council's Planning Working Group held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017.**

**Present:** Cllrs L Ashley (Chairman), J Smith, W Haggata and A Hay.

**P28 16/17 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs J Carney (who had submitted his comments on applications a) to h) after viewing them on-line) and F Newell. Cllr Hay declared an interest as a member of FDC's planning committee.

**P29 16/17 Appeals, Decisions and Withdrawn Plans**

The Clerk updated members on the latest planning decisions from Fenland District Council. All applications had been approved including the application to extend 21 Victoria Street which the Town Council had opposed

**P30 16/17 Applications and Revised Applications**

a) F/YR17/0106/F - Erection of a 2-storey front extension and insertion of first floor side window to existing dwelling at 30 The Hawthorns for Mr F Simpson - *Support*

b) F/YR17/0100/TRTPO - Works to 4 Magnolia Grandiflora trees covered by TPO 11/1990 at 47 New Road for Mr Hugh Moss – *Support (Mr Moss had sent an e-mail demanding an apology from the Town Council for recommending refusal of a 2004 application to fell a Copper Beech tree in his garden as the tree was diseased and earlier attempts to save it had failed. Mr Moss deeply resented and was deeply aggrieved by the Town Council's stance. Members agreed no reply should be sent.)*

c) F/YR17/0128/F - Erection of a detached, single-storey outbuilding to existing dwelling at 128 London Road for Mr Benedict Nairn - *Support*

d) F/YR17/0133/F - Formation of a dropped kerb to existing dwelling at 89 London Road for Mr Christopher Goodall - *Support*

e) F/YR17/0134/O - Erection of up to 3 dwellings (outline with all matters reserved) at land south of 18 Doddington Road for Mr Geoff Collett – *Support, natural infill.*

f) F/YR17/0149/F - Conversion of existing garage to living accommodation and erection of a detached double garage to front of existing dwelling at 69 Cricketers Way for Mr Steven Morgan - *Support*

g) F/YR17/0153/F - Erection of single-storey rear extension and decking to existing dwelling involving the demolition of existing extension at 29 Fairway for Mrs Sadie Andrews - *Support*

h) F/YR17/0151/DE1 - Demolition of St John Ambulance building at Eastwood for Mr A Stormont, St John Ambulance – *Support, will remove an eyesore.*

i) F/YR17/0165/F - Erection of 2-storey side and single-storey rear extensions to existing dwelling at 56A London Road for Mr Garry Pettitt - *Support*

### **P31 16/17 Letter Re: Paperless Planning**

The Clerk had received a letter from Mr Nick Harding, Head of Shared Planning at Fenland District Council, in response to the Council's letter of objection to the proposals for paperless planning.

Mr Hardin said FDC were unable to recoup any costs of printing, posting, etc., from agents and were unable to request paper copies of applications if the agent or applicant submitted their planning application electronically. Currently about 69% of applications were submitted electronically. The letter suggested the Council could consider purchasing an A3 printer.

Cllr Hay said she had met with Mr Harding and other officers to discuss the matter and Mr Harding had suggested buying A3 printers for town and parish councils – the Clerk admitted the Council's new printer would actually print in A3 and paper was being ordered so she could experiment printing out plans. Cllr Hay had suggested Mr Harding should write to councils setting out the cost savings in not supplying paper plans and notifications.

Cllr Will Sutton, Portfolio Holder for Planning, had told Cllr Hay at least six councils were happy with the proposals and the plan was to trial the idea for six months with those councils (Cllr Smith suggested it would be more helpful to trial the idea with Councils who were not happy with the proposals).

Cllr Hay said Fenland Councillors found it difficult to work without paper copies when they went on site visits. Fenland officers were considering new software packages which would make it easier to view plans on-line. Cllr Smith pointed out some plans were distorted on-line or were not scanned in the correct way round. Cllr Hay asked members to make a note of any plans which were difficult to view on line. The Clerk also agreed to note any which were difficult to print out.

### **P32 16/17 Correspondence & Any Other Business**

Garden Centre: Cllr Hay agreed to enquire if there had been any progress on the garden centre planning application.

Accident: Cllr Smith said residents were very concerned by the A142 Chatteris to Mepal road as there had been yet another accident, which had resulted in two fatalities. She suggested the Council should voice its concerns to Highways and ask if there were plans to improve safety on the road. The Clerk said previous complaints had been denied and unheeded but she would write again.

