

Notes of a meeting of Chatteris Town Council's Planning Working Group held on Tuesday 29th January 2019.

Present: Cllrs L Ashley (Chairman), I Benney, J Carney, W Haggata, F Newell & J Smith. Cllrs Benney and Newell declared an interest as members of FDC's planning committee and took no part in the discussions or the decision making process.

P19 18/19 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

P20 18/19 Appeals, Decisions and Withdrawn Plans

The Clerk updated members on the latest planning decisions from Fenland District Council. Applications for the felling of an Ash tree at 8 London Road, an extension to 47 Wood Street, an extension to 16 Saddlers Way and signs at Poundstretcher had all been granted. It had been deemed the insertion of a window at 77A London Road did not require a Certificate of Lawfulness.

P21 18/19 Applications & Revised Applications

a) F/YR19/0040/F - Erection of single storey rear extensions to existing dwelling and garage at 61 Gull Way - *Support*

b) F/YR19/0048/F - Change of use from agricultural to storage and manufacture of wooden sheds, car repairs and storage of vehicles (B2 and B8 use) including external alterations and hardstanding (part retrospective) at land north east of 136 London Road – *Support if there is a condition that screening is included at the rear of the site to block the view of the cars from the Old Railway Line Footpath*

c) F/YR18/0919/F - Revised application for change of use from retail (A1) to restaurant and café (A3) at 25A High Street – *Support*

d) F/YR19/0077/F - Change of use of ground floor from A1 retail to A3 café (retrospective) and replacement of 4 x first floor front windows to upvc at 58-60 High Street – *Support if the windows are of conservation standard.*

P22 18/19 Planning Applications in Manea Parish Affecting Chatteris

The Clerk told members that following the boundary changes parts of the town were now within Manea parish and this included houses along the Mepal Road which had a Chatteris

address, the anaerobic digester and the pits. As a result Chatteris was not informed about planning applications as these went to Manea, who really had little interest in them.

It was agreed to write to Fenland District Council and ask to be informed about and consulted about all plans with a Chatteris address.

P23 18/19 Any Other Business

Planning Training: The Clerk had a copy of the Powerpoint presentation given at the planning training on ecology and trees which she and Cllr Smith attended. The depressing news was that FDC could take no action if trees and hedges were ripped out by developers before a planning application was submitted, trees could only be saved from felling if they were covered by a TPO or a TPO was created to cover that tree and although FDC sometimes asked for felled trees to be replaced they did not check to ensure they were replaced. Cllrs Ashley and Haggata requested a copy of the presentation.

Reply: The technical support team at FDC had replied to the Clerk's query, about why the Town Council had not been consulted about a plan to convert an agricultural building to a dwelling, by explaining town and parish councils did not have to be consulted on prior notifications.