

Notes of a meeting of Chatteris Town Council's Planning Working Group held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday 28th July 2020.

Present: Cllrs W Haggata (Chairman), L Ashley, I Benney, A Gowler, F Newell and J Smith. Cllr Benney declared an interest as a member of FDC's planning committee and took no part in the decision making process.

P8 20/21 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr J Carney, who had submitted his recommendations on applications a) to h), and Cllr M Petrou.

P9 20/21 Appeals, Decisions and Withdrawn Plans

Cllr Haggata read out the statement he would be making at the FDC planning committee meeting the following day explaining the Town Council's reasons for supporting the application to build 9 houses and a wall at the rear of 133 High Street. The application was being recommended for refusal by planning officers. Councillors fully agreed with Cllr Haggata's statement and Cllr Gowler suggested in addition to mentioning that Phillips Coaches and SS Motors were once based in Blackhorse Lane it should be pointed out that Enterprise Coaches were also based there. This was agreed.

Notification had been received that the application to erect a dwelling on land north west of 30 Curf Terrace had been withdrawn.

The Clerk updated members on the latest planning decisions from Fenland District Council. The following plans had all been granted planning permission: fell an Ash tree at 57 Tern Gardens; works to a listed building to enable it to be used for domestic purposes at 47 New Road; fell 2 Poplar tree and works to 2 Poplar trees at 12-16 Market Hill; change of use of existing shop and ground floor of dwelling to office (A2) at 28 High Street; erect up to 3 dwellings on land north west of 24 Willey Terrace; works to 5 Ash trees at 8 London Road; extension to 30 Curf Terrace; conversion of outbuilding to living accommodation at 60 London Road.

P10 20/21 Applications and Revised Applications

a) F/YR20/0581/F - Erect single-storey 3-bed dwelling at land south west of 92 High Street – Recommend Refusal on the grounds of inadequate access with particular concerns that emergency vehicles would be unable to reach the property.

b) F/YR20/0585/F - Erect a 2-storey, 4-bed dwelling involving demolition of store building at Former Coach House, London Road – Support (Majority decision Cllr Smith was opposed to the application)

c) F/YR20/0586/LB - Demolition of curtilage listed store building at Former Coach House, London Road – Support (Majority decision Cllr Smith was vehemently opposed to the demolition).

d) F/YR20/0600/F - Conversion of motel to 5 flats comprising 2 x 2-bed and 3 x 1-bed flats with shared garden area and erection of 2.25m (approx.) high wall at The Green Welly Motel and Café, Doddington Road – Support but where is the wall to be sited?

e) F/YR20/0602/F - Erect 3.0 metre high (approx.) fencing with 2 sliding vehicular access gates and 1 high security pedestrian gate at site of former Produce World, Fenton Way - Support

f) F/YR20/0607/F - Erect a 2.1m high (approx.) timber gate to front boundary of existing dwelling involving the removal of existing gate within a Conservation Area at 23 Station Street - Support

g) F/YR20/0622/F - Erect part single, part 2-storey extension to side/rear of existing dwelling involving demolition of existing garage at 17 Willey Terrace – Support

h) F/YR20/0643/F – Erect a 2-storey, 4-bed dwelling with attached garage at Plot 2 land west of 9 Doddington Road - Support

P11 20/21 Street Names Suggestions

Cllr Smith had submitted a list of possible street names for different areas in the town and members supported Cllr Smith's suggestions. It was agreed to retain the list, add Albert Harlock to it and use it as a source of names once development in the town began again.

P12 20/21 Any Other Business

Pavement Licence: The Town Council was consulted on a Pavement Licence application from the Cross Keys Hotel. The Clerk reminded members that as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic the Government was encouraging local authorities to grant pavement licences and to fast track applications. The application was to put 4 tables with chairs outside the Cross Keys for patrons.

Members welcomed the application and fully agreed with it as the pavement was particularly wide outside the Cross Keys.

Car Park: Cllr Ashley complained that a new roadway had been installed to the Leisure Centre and the School from Eastwood but the car parks on either side of the roadway were in

a disgusting state. The roadway had been installed by the County Council but the car park land belonged to Fenland District Council. Cllr Ashley requested the Town Council write to FDC and lobby them to improve the car parks. She pointed out they had been asked to carry out the work in the past and the approach from Eastwood would soon be a major entrance to the school. Cllr Smith was in agreement pointing out the car park was not fit for purpose. Cllr Benney agreed and suggested writing to the Assets team at FDC.

Listed: Cllr Ashley said she had alerted the Conservation Officer at FDC when builders took out the wooden window from Simpsons Newsagents in the High Street and were about to install a double glazed unit. The building was listed and no planning permission had been sought for the works which were being carried out both externally and internally. Cllr Benney confirmed a stop notice had been put on the works. Cllr Ashley was impressed that the Conservation Officer had immediately responded to her call. The window was now boarded up.

Street Signs: Cllr Smith said she had reported one of the cast iron street signs to FDC. The sign on the side of Eden House should read West Park Street but was in such poor condition it was illegible. However FDC said there was nothing that could be done about it. Cllr Benney agreed to mention it to Assets at FDC. Cllr Smith said there was another sign in London Road which was also in a very bad condition. She said if someone could take them down (they were high up on buildings) she was willing to re-paint them.