

Lowestoft Town Council

Meeting of the Planning Committee

First Floor, Hamilton House, Battery Green Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 1DE
18.45 on Tuesday 1 November 2022

Present: Cllrs Peter Knight (Chair), Sonia Barker, Wendy Brooks, Christian Newsome and Andy Pearce

In attendance: Sarah Foote (Deputy Town Clerk)

Public: There were no members of the public in attendance (either in person or remotely via Zoom webinar)

MINUTES

103. Welcome

The fire evacuation procedure and public right to report were explained, and the meeting was welcomed.

104. Apologies of absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Le Grice, Green and Lang. Cllr Pearce proposed approval of the apologies received; seconded by Cllr Brooks; all in favour.

105. Declarations of Interests and dispensations.

a. To receive declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary, Other Registerable and Non-Registerable Interests from councillors on items on the Agenda.

Cllr Barker declared she was a member of Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Cllr Newsome declared he had been lobbied on DC/22/1395

Cllr Pearce declared an interest in agenda item 110a as a representative of the Kittiwake Partnership and that he had been lobbied on DC/22/1395

Cllr Brooks declared she was a member of Suffolk Wildlife Trust and that she had been lobbied on DC/22/1395. Cllr Brooks declared she had submitted comments on this application in a personal capacity but was not pre-determined on tonight's agenda item.

b. To consider written requests for dispensations and note dispensations granted.

There were none.

106. To consider the draft Minutes of Tuesday 18 October 2022.

Cllr Newsome proposed approval of the minutes; seconded by Cllr Barker; and agreed (four votes in favour, one abstention (Cllr Brooks)).

107. Public Forum

a. There were no members of public either in person or via Zoom.

b. A public comment had been received in relation to DC/22/1395 and this would be noted at that agenda item.

108. Climate Emergency

Implementation of the Council's Climate Emergency declaration when making planning recommendations – Cllr Brooks felt that most of the Council's committees took the Climate Emergency into consideration but the Planning Committee didn't always and wanted climate and ecological matters to be a higher consideration. Cllr Knight advised on the framework for making recommendations on applications and considered was given to if one material planning consideration could be more important than another. Cllr Pearce reminded members of the Council's duty to consider biodiversity in all its decision making. It was suggested that this matter be referred to the Climate and Ecological Committee for their advice and that objective training be sought from the LPA or other environmental organisation on how best to consider biodiversity net gain when making planning recommendations.

109. Planning applications

b. To consider the following planning applications (all available on www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk) and decide the recommendations of the Council:

Table 1 - List of East Suffolk Planning Applications

Reference	Address and Description	District Ward
DC/22/1395/FUL	<i>To reconsider the Town Council's recommendation of 4 October in light of a public comment which was submitted to the Town Council and not noted in previous consideration.</i> Land South Of Leisure Way - Hybrid Application - (i) Full Planning Application - Erection of a freestanding restaurant with drive-thru facility, car parking, landscaping and associated works, including Customer Order Displays (COD)6 and Play Frame (Class E/Sui Generis). (ii) Outline Planning Application (All Matters Reserved) - Installation of 8 EV Charging Bays with associated infrastructure	Gunton and St Margaret's
The council reconsidered this application in light of a public comment which was not noted during previous considerations. This public comment had also been submitted to ESC via the planning portal. It was agreed to recommend refusal due to environmental and ecological impact; namely that the site is next to a nature reserve and the impact of light pollution and noise on this. Proposed by Cllr Brooks, seconded by Cllr Newsome and agreed (four votes in favour, one against (Cllr Knight))		
DC/22/3180/FUL	Colmartra, 116 Hollingsworth Road - Dormer at rear, roof lights at front, materials	Gunton and St Margaret's
It was proposed by Cllr Brooks, seconded by Cllr Newsome and unanimously to recommend approval of the application.		
DC/22/3886/FUL	516 London Road South - Extension and Alterations	Kirkley and Pakefield
It was proposed by Cllr Newsome, seconded by Cllr Pearce and unanimously to recommend approval of the application.		
DC/22/3900/FUL	24 Sunningdale Avenue -Garage Conversion - Extension	Kirkley and Pakefield
It was proposed by Cllr Brooks, seconded by Cllr Pearce and unanimously agreed to recommend approval of the application.		
DC/21/5606/FUL	119 -125 London Road North - Redevelopment of the site to provide a mixed use development retaining commercial floorspace (Class E) at ground floor level. Part demolition of first floor and conversion of part ground, first and second floor to provide Class C3 residential units with enabling fenestration alterations, ancillary amenity space, cycle and car parking, refuse storage, access and other associated works	Harbour and Normanston
It was proposed by Cllr Knights, seconded by Cllr Brooks and agreed (four votes in favour, one abstention (Cllr Pearce) to recommend approval of the application. Cllr Pearce stated that whilst he welcomed commercial and retail growth, his abstention was due to affordable housing not being met and relevant compensatory payments being made to the district and not the town and if this was addressed he would be minded to support the application.		

Reference	Address and Description	District Ward
DC/22/4033/ADI	11 North Quay Retail Park Peto Way - Illuminated Advertisement Consent - 4 x Fascia Signs, 1 x Cut out hearts and darts Sign, 1 x Pick me up Built Up Letters, 1 x Double sided Pole Sign, 1 x Height Barrier, 1 x Exit Sign, 1 x Banner Frame, 1 x Single Digital Menu and 1 x Triple Digital Menu	Harbour and Normanston
It was proposed by Cllr Pearce, seconded by Cllr Newsome and agreed (four votes in favour, one against (Cllr Brooks) to recommend approval of the application. Cllr Brooks stated she could not support this application as she was against the original application to create the drive-thru for which the signage was now being requested.		
DC/22/3885/FUL	Inber House, 412 London Road South -Extension and alterations	Kirkley and Pakefield
It was proposed by Cllr Pearce, seconded by Cllr Barker and unanimously agreed to recommend approval of the application subject to confirmation of why a Design and Access statement has not been submitted with the application and no objections from the Conservation Officer to these works.		

b. The following tree works were noted:

Table 2 - List of East Suffolk Planning Applications

Reference	Address and Description	District Ward
DC/22/4011/TPO	8 Turner Close -TPO 1-4(2) Rear garden T1 Oak - Reduce & shape by up to 30% back to good growth points Reason: Tree has severe dieback within the crown the proposed reduction will remove dead wood and end weight to make the tree safer close to garden structures and encourage new growth	Gunton and St Margarets

110. Consultations

To consider making a response to the following consultation:

a. Hornsea Three Community Fund Set up

It was noted that the Town Council had been offered a presentation from the organisation responsible for the community fund and it was agreed to accept this. It was understood that this would be arranged for December or January.

111. Highways

a. Suffolk County Council (Highways) Community Self Help Scheme and projects which the Town Council may be able to facilitate under this scheme – it was noted that this scheme which required volunteers supported work on Suffolk County Council assets only. It was proposed by Cllr Knight, seconded by Cllr Pearce and unanimously agreed

b. Support for a request of extension of double yellow lines from Colville Road/Cotmer Road – it was agreed to recommend Town Council support for this proposed change, however, the resident would need to secure funding via Suffolk County Council Highways or Locality Funding. Proposed by Cllr Brooks, seconded by Cllr Barker; and unanimously agreed to promote the scheme and ask for expressions of interest to see if a volunteer base could be established before the scheme is further considered.

112. Date and time of the next meeting - Tuesday 15 November at 17.00

113. Items for the next agenda.

At 19.45 it was proposed by Cllr Pearce, seconded by Cllr Brooks and agreed to move the meeting to confidential session.

Cllr Pearce provided members an update of the work of the Kittiwake Partnership and possible future funding streams.

Meeting closed: 19.57

Signed

Date