

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE, HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 23RD JULY 2008, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, KING'S HOUSE,
THETFORD, STARTING AT 7 P.M.

Present:

Councillor R G Kybird, Chairman
The Mayor, Councillor J A Harding

Councillors:

G P Balaam D G Mortimer
Mrs M P Chapman-Allen Mrs P A Spencer

119/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive

120/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillors R F W Brame, S H Chapman-Allen, T J Lamb, A Paines, Mrs T I Paines, P J Pearson, Mrs P P Quadling, M G Spencer and S N H Wright.

121/08(A) MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee, held on 4th June 2008 (as received by Council on 25th June 2008 under minute 78/08), be confirmed as a true record and signed/initialled by the Chairman.

121/08(B) PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning applications received from Breckland Council were considered:

- a) Plan No. 0862 Full Application
- Description Application by Mr & Mrs Crane for rear extension at 14 Magdalen Street
- Observation The Committee would accept the views of the Historic Buildings Officer.
- b) Plan No. 0863 Listed Building
- Description Application by Mr & Mrs Crane for rear extension at 14 Magdalen Street
- Observation The Committee would accept the views of the Historic Buildings Officer.

- c) Plan No. 0996 Full
- Description Application by Land Securities Trillium for alterations to front elevation to suit proposed extension & refurbishment of existing Job Centre Plus at Units 2, 3 & 4, Townsend House, Guildhall Street.
- Observation The Committee urged the planning authority to invoke the Breckland Council policy on shopfronts in the Conservation Area.
- d) Plan No. 1041 Advertisement
- Description Application by Mr P Fincham for new non-illuminated Sainsbury's car park signage.
- Observation No objection
- e) Plan No. 1059 Advertisement
- Description Application by Mr P Fincham for new lit Sainsbury's building signs, new external branding to welcome wall and ATM.
- Observation Whilst having no 'in principle' objection to this application, the Committee wanted the planning authority to determine whether the lighting scheme would meet the criteria underlying the Dark Skies Campaign, launched by the British Astronomical Society.

RESOLVED that the above observations be forwarded to the planning authority.

122/08 TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 2008 NO. 33: ABBEYGATE

RESOLVED that the details received under cover of a letter from Breckland Council, dated 2nd July 2008, be noted.

123/08 THETFORD AREA ACTION PLAN: ISSUES AND OPTIONS

RESOLVED that the following responses to the 22-question consultation document (copy annexed hereto) be submitted:

Question 1: The vision is not ambitious enough.

Question 2: The parishes option.

Question 3: Too commercially sensitive to comment.

Question 4: No, somewhere else.

- Question 5:** Agree with the following: T27, T22, T92, T121
Disagree with the following: T03, T113, T30, T94
Regarding T112, would advocate possible mixed use as against solely residential.
- Question 6:** Too commercially sensitive to comment.
- Question 7:** High option.
- Question 8:** Focus on town centre and existing retail parks, but permit about 20% on other sites.
- Question 9:** No corporate view feasible – left to individuals to respond.
- Question 10:** Combine new school facilities on as few sites as possible.
- Question 11:** Yes. Please consider whether other facilities could be located near to schools.
- Question 12:** Yes. Please consider whether some schools may be better relocated.
- Question 13:** No – you are not providing enough health facilities for the growing town.
- Question 14:** Address in full the current shortage, plus meet the full demand of the new housing up to the very maximum standards, up to 60ha.
- Question 15:** About 4ha. based on national standards.
- Question 16:** No corporate view feasible – left to individuals to respond.
- Question 17:** The park and riverside area in the centre of town, which everyone has access to, improved first.
- Question 18:** To be tackled in the following order:
(a) building repairs
(b) improvements to signage and information boards
(c) improvements to general surrounding areas
- Question 19:** Yes, we agree.
- Question 20:** No corporate view – that said, the Town Council would like to be involved in the judging.
- Question 21:** Yes, a set fee or tariff is a good idea.
- Question 22:** Council should take on responsibility and long-term cost through council tax or contributions from landowners or developers of running community facilities.

Chairman