

PLANNING COMMITTEE: MINUTES

Date: Thursday 15th April 2021

Time: 10.00am – 10.26am

Place: Virtual Meeting

Present: Councillors B Ashwood, D Connor (Chairman), I Gardener (Vice-Chairman), L Harford, B Hunt, S Kindersley, J Scutt, and M Smith.

Officers: Kate Bannigan – Planning Officer, Emma Fitch – Joint Interim Assistant Director, Environment and Commercial, Deborah Jeakins – Principal Enforcement and Monitoring Officer, Jaspreet Lyall – LGSS Law, Daniel Snowdon – Democratic Services Officer and, Jane Stanley – Interim Business Manager County Planning Minerals and Waste.

118. Apologies

None

119. Declarations of interest.

Councillor Kindersley declared a non-statutory disclosable interest in agenda item number 6, Summary of Decisions Taken Under Delegated Powers as there were several applications for which he was the local Member and as a member of Cam Academy Trust.

120. Minutes – 28th January 2021

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 28th January 2021 were agreed as a correct record, and would be signed by the Chairman at a later date.

121. Review of the Information Requirements for the Validation of Planning Applications.

The Committee received a report that considered the revisions to the Local Validation List.

The presenting officer informed the Committee that the document required review at least every two years. The requirements applied to planning applications for Cambridgeshire County Council's own developments and

waste developments. The Local Validation List sets out what information was required to accompany planning applications in addition to national requirements.

The presenting officer drew attention to the revised consultation drafts and highlighted the key points including the accessibility requirements set out within the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018. New requirements that had been included were set out at paragraph 2.2 of the report and additional guidance included at paragraph 2.3.

The presenting officer informed the Committee of a minor error within paragraph 2.3 of the report where the word “two” had been erroneously included.

Members noted that the consultation had lasted 6 weeks between 25th January and 8th March 2021. A summary of responses to the consultation were contained within Appendix A of the report and proposed revisions to the Local Validation List were contained at section 4 of the report.

During discussion of the report Members noted that the List would be in operation for just under 2 years once published. The reports sought the provision for the ability for officers to amend and update links and references to documents in the List which become outdated and/or are superseded during the period that the 2021 list is in use. For example, to account for the adoption of Local Plans and changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

It was proposed by Councillor Kindersley and seconded by Councillor Harford that the recommendation be put to the vote.

It was resolved unanimously to:

Endorse the proposed revised list and guidance notes.

122. Enforcement Update Report

The Committee received the Enforcement Update report that provided an overview of the work undertaken by the team for the period 1st October 2020 to 28th February 2021. The Principal Enforcement and Monitoring Officer informed the Committee of the suspension of monitoring visits due to COVID-19, however, site monitoring would resume in the near future.

Members were informed of the following updates to specific enforcement actions that had occurred since the publication of the report:

- Road improvements at Block Fen Drove were well underway and works were nearly complete. The Committee was informed that officers would continue to monitor progress.
- A new planning application had been received relating to Saxon pit

brickworks that was being determined, although it did not relate to the current investigations.

- A planning application had been received relating to Westons Yard, Pondersbridge that sought to vary conditions to reflect a smaller site area and reduced acoustic fencing. Members were informed that the application was not yet valid, and no pre-application advice had been sought from officers. The agent and the applicant had been informed that as the acoustic fence was requested by Fenland District Council's Environmental Health Officer and they were a statutory consultee, it was likely a planning contravention notice would be served in order to gather the necessary evidence to determine whether further action was required.

It was resolved

To note the report.

123. Summary of decisions made under delegated powers

The Committee considered a summary of decisions made under delegated powers.

It was resolved unanimously to note report.

Upon the conclusion of the Committee, the Chairman and Members paid tribute to the work of the Committee and thanked officers for their support over the course of the previous 4 years.

Chairman