

SAWSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES **PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**
Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

24 May 2016

PRESENT: Chairman: Mrs J M Martin

Clerk: Mrs J F Keeler

Councillors

Dr D R Bard

K Cuffley

W A Fell

R J Grayston

R M Matthews

B Milnes

W N Reid

R M Richmond

1 TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

Councillor Mrs J M Martin was ***PROPOSED*** by Councillor K Cuffley and ***SECONDED*** by Councillor R M Richmond for the position of Chairman.

As no other candidates were nominated a vote took place and Councillor Mrs J M Martin was elected Chairman.

VOTE: 9 FOR : (UNANIMOUS)

2 TO ELECT A VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

Councillor W N Reid was ***PROPOSED*** by Councillor K Cuffley and ***SECONDED*** by Councillor Dr D R Bard for the position of Vice Chairman.

As no other candidates were nominated a vote took place and Councillor W N Reid was elected Vice Chairman.

VOTE: 9 FOR : (UNANIMOUS)

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Ms B Laxton : Another Commitment

4 PRESENTATION ON BEHALF OF CARTER JONAS REGARDING 66-68 COMMON LANE

There was no one present from Carter Jonas so the meeting continued.

5 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING

None

6 MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2016 were read, confirmed and signed.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Dr D R Bard and **SECONDED** by Councillor R M Richmond to **ACCEPT** these minutes.

VOTE: 9 FOR : (UNANIMOUS)

7 MATTERS ARISING – New Information Only.

None

8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS

S/0919/16/FL	Two storey rear extension and first floor side extension at 23 The Limes for Mr T Dean	SPC Comment: Support Vote: 8 For 1 no vote (DRB)
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Proposed by Cllr K Cuffley and
Seconded by Cllr R M Richmond to
Support

S/1106/16/FL	Conversion of garage and single storey rear extension at 51 Church Lane for Mr & Mrs Griffiths	SPC Comment: Support Vote: 8 For 1 no vote (DRB)
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Proposed by Cllr W A Fell and
Seconded by Cllr R M Richmond to
Support

S/0960/16/FL	Rear dormer and loft conversion at 68 London Road for Mr Tovo	SPC Comment: Do not Support As impact on street scene. This will break the appearance of the row of cottages and not in keeping with the rest. New roof line is damaging to the street scene. Vote: 4 For 3 Against 2 no votes
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Proposed by Cllr R M Richmond and
Seconded by Cllr W N Reid **NOT** to
Support

ASSOCIATED MATTERS

TP228	Tree works at 2 Prince William Way for Mr & Mrs Pruden	SPC Comment: Support Vote: 9 For (Unanimous)
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Proposed by W N Reid and *Seconded* by Cllr R M Richmond to *Support*

9 PLANNING DECISIONS

Noted (Full details are now on line only)

10 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Councillor B Milnes questioned why the Council was not proceeding with the preparation of a neighbourhood plan. He noted that seven South Cambridgeshire villages either had adopted plans or were in the process of preparing one and the preparation of a neighbourhood plan could take up to two years. He pointed out that parishes with a neighbourhood plan received 25% of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) whereas those which did not received only 15%.

Councillor Dr D R Bard pointed out that the situation was complicated by the fact that a neighbourhood plan had to apply to a defined area such as a parish. In the emerging Local Plan two major sites (H1/b and H1/c) were proposed in the green belt to the East of Sawston. Although these sites lie on the edge of the built up area of Sawston, they are currently in Babraham Parish. If they were eventually to be included in the Local Plan they would not only need to be planned as a single unit with close regard to adjacent existing housing, but the resultant growth in population would have implications for facilities in the whole of Sawston.

Neighbourhood plans cannot propose less development than that identified in Local Plans. If H1/b and H1/c were eventually included in the Local Plan, it would therefore be necessary to include them in any neighbourhood plan. Before this could be done, the parish boundary of Sawston would need to be altered to include them. This would require a parish boundary review. It was also pointed out that developer contributions from developments on this scale would be secured by an S106 agreement rather than CIL and thus the financial benefit to the parish would be unaffected by the existence of an adopted neighbourhood plan.

The suggestion was made that some preliminary work might be carried out and/or a parish boundary review undertaken before the outcome of the Local Plan Examination in Public (EIP) was known. Concern was expressed that the existing policy of the Parish Council was to oppose development in the green belt and that such a course of action was likely to be seen by the Local Plan Inspector as undermining that position. It was also noted that over 90% of respondents to the consultation on the Submission Local Plan had registered objections to Site Proposals H1/b and H1/c and therefore a neighbourhood plan which included them before the outcome of the Local Plan EIP was known was unlikely to be approved in the compulsory referendum required before a neighbourhood plan could be adopted.

It was agreed that these issues needed further discussion and Councillor Dr D R Bard agreed to invite Ms Alison Talkington (Senior Planning Policy Officer at South Cambridgeshire District Council) to attend a future meeting of the Parish Council Planning Committee to answer questions and discuss options.

11 PLANNING & NEW COMMUNITIES

SCDC has written to the Parish Council about a number of changes and improvements they are making to their Planning and New Communities Service, which will continue over the coming year.

These are some of the specific changes that affect us as a Parish Council.

The current phase of changes including the following:

- Pre-application Engagement
- Scheme of Delegation and new consultation form for Parish Councils
- Changes to our website and ability to track progress of planning applications

From June, Councillors will be able to track the progress of an application on SCDC website. For example, Councillors will be able to see when an application has been validated, when consultee comments have been received, and also be able to view consultation comments as well. Putting this information on the website will be helpful to Parish Councils and local residents, as well as applicants.

12 CORRESPONDENCE

None

13 COUNCILLORS ISSUES AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING - CONCERNING PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT ONLY

Neighbourhood Plan/Local Plan

Meeting closed 8.45pm