

PLANNING & ROAD TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

SAFFRON WALDEN TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the PLANNING & ROAD TRAFFIC COMMITTEE held via ZOOM on **THURSDAY 9th July 2020 at 7.30pm**

Councillors: Porch (committee chair), De Vries, Freeman, Gadd, Hawke-Smith, Roberts

Officers: Chloë Fiddy

Members of the public: N Campbell, L Dunderdale, Ginny Eley, G Hawley J Keel, D Kent, J Rodden, B Wells

<p>P & RT 217-19</p>	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr McLellan.</p>
<p>P & RT 218-19</p>	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Cllr Freeman, declared a general non-pecuniary interest as members of Uttlesford District Council.</p> <p>Cllr De Vries declared a non pecuniary interest in item 8a as the applicant is a neighbour.</p>
<p>P & RT 219-19</p>	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were approved, subject to an amendment that Cllr McLellan had given apologies and a correction to the date of the next meeting.</p>
<p>P & RT 220-19</p>	<p>Public speaking time</p> <p>D Kent spoke on the international and national importance of maintaining the Old Sun Inn, and the costs her personally incurs to do so and the regular damage incurred. He noted that SWTC has made many requests for a build out and bollards to protect the building and that so far ECC has not put this on a list of works to be carried out.</p> <p>Cllr Gadd said that ECC Cllr Moran would be asked about this on Monday 13th at SWTC Full Council meeting</p> <p>D Kent then spoke on the subject of parking on Church Street, in that there is not enough resident parking available.</p> <p>N Campbell then spoke on the subject of parking in Museum Street, in that there is not enough resident parking available.</p> <p>B Wells spoke against merging Museum Street and Castle Street schemes.</p> <p>G Hawley spoke against parking on Hill Street.</p>

	J Keel and G Eley spoke in favour of parking on Hill Street
HIGHWAYS	
P & RT 221-19	<p>Residents' parking on Chaters Hill, Museum Street, Church Street and Saffron Walden generally</p> <p>The officer provided an update and a reminder on previous actions regarding resident parking in Saffron Walden.</p> <p>This included the resident request for parking on Chaters Hill.</p> <p>Officers have previously requested that UDC/NEPP provide details of all schemes in place, numbers of spaces and numbers of permits issued for each, so as to take an holistic view of the current situation before making recommendations on amendments to schemes.</p>
P & RT 222-19	<p>Zebra Crossing on Peaslands Road</p> <p>Committee noted that a new zebra crossing is being installed on Peaslands Road between Winstanley Way and Thaxted Road.</p> <p>Works begin on July 13th and will take 6 days – the road will be closed during this time.</p>
PLANNING APPLICATIONS	
P & RT 223-19	<p>Pavement licences</p> <p>Committee to decided upon a blanket response for applications for pavement licences made under the new fast-track process set out in the Business and Planning Bill 2019-2021. To be submitted as follows:</p> <p><u>Saffron Walden Town Council – advance response to any requests for Pavement Licences</u></p> <p><i>The government has issued draft plans to introduce pavement licences for restaurants, pubs and others selling food and drink. These proposals are intended to allow these businesses to operate safely and hopefully survive the current downturn in business that they have suffered due to Covid 19.</i></p> <p><i>We are fully in favour of supporting this initiative, subject to safety considerations being met, such as described in paragraph 4.2 of the <u>draft guidance</u>, and, specifically for Saffron Walden, subject to consideration of the market.</i></p> <p><i>The market operates on Market Square and King Street on Tuesdays and Saturdays and our traders have existing bookings. Therefore our presumption is that there is not the physical space available for cafés and restaurants on these streets to have tables and chairs outside on these days, unless a way can be found for them to work without compromising the market traders, or the social distancing measures that SWTC has put in place for the safe operation of the market.</i></p> <p><i>In considering licence applications please note that consideration is being given to opening up the roads on a Monday to allow disabled people full access to the town by car.</i></p>

P & RT 224-19	Committee considered and commented upon the following Planning Applications:
A	UTT/20/1226/FUL Conversion of light industrial unit into a gymnasium. Change of use to class D2. 46 Shire Hill Saffron Walden Essex CB11 3AQ Noted no objections
P & RT 225-19	Notification of Public Enquiry for Planning Appeal for Homebase Site Committee noted that the public enquiry for the planning appeal is to be held as a virtual meeting opening on 21 st July at 10am. It was Resolved to register to speak.
P & RT 226-19	Update on ongoing significant applications There was no update to provide.
P & RT 227-19	Urgent Information Items The officer was asked about a Highways meeting held earlier in the week at which ECC noted that the populations in Saffron Walden and environs were too small to merit cycling strategy spending. The officer provided an update on confirmation that single-direction cycle lanes can be installed which are 1.5m instead of the previously stated 3m. Cllr Gadd asked the officer to revert to ECC and request that cycling schemes previously refused by ECC for not meeting the 3m lane width might now be reconsidered for 1.5m width.
P & RT 228-19	Date and time of Next Meeting Thursday 23 rd July 2020, by ZOOM at 7.30pm

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50 pm.