

Planning Committee 30th May

Meeting held at Green Room 7pm

Present: Cllrs, O'Shea, in the Chair, Ost, A Reardon, Cave, Mason, Annis, Stansfield and Darnell. One member of the public.

Apologies from Cllr. J Reardon and Lea.

Cllr Annis declared an interest in one item on the agenda. He agreed to take part in the discussion but not to vote. His local knowledge was appreciated by the committee.

DC/22/02719 Proposed signage on the new CO-OP in Hurstlea Road.

There was a little discussion and the committee decided to approve this application.

DC/22/02395 and 02396 (LB) This was a *reapplication* for external advertising on the convenience store at 64/66 High Street.

Our concerns had been listened to and the new application now addressed the simplified fascia heading. The committee agreed to approve the application provided there was no exterior illumination to the fascia.

DC/22/02298 Outline Application for 28 dwellings on land to the rear of 'The Lion' Needham Market.

There was quite a lot of discussion just how we could successfully object to this application. The committee felt that although the application went against our Neighbourhood Plan and wasn't wanted, the amount of evidence provided by the developer meant we must have planning reasons to oppose it and the NP alone was insufficient defence.

The consensus was that this application should be objected to, but the committee expressed the wish that our Planning Consultant should be asked for her comments and help. Chairman Cllr. O'Shea agreed to contact her urgently as the response was required by 3rd June, and we had already been granted an extension to the deadline. Cllr Annis was part of the discussion but as agreed did not vote.

(Cllr O'Shea has been in contact with her and she has agreed to have a quick look and give her opinion. 31/5)

Much of the opposition rested on how the existing services are already under pressure, with several applications already approved are under construction at both ends of the village. The pressure the sewage pumping station before Needham Lake was under, particularly as it serves a much wider area than just Needham Market itself. The loss of a landscape and countryside views from the town and the apparent wanton destruction of a SSSI noted in the 2006 Local Plan caused annoyance from the committee.

Other matters under section 6 of the Agenda.

Attention was drawn to a document forwarded by Elizabeth Parker of Pipp's Ford regarding the application to develop a training centre on land adjacent to the A 14 junction at Beacon Hill, Pipp's Ford. This was from Place Services at Essex County Council. The committee asked why Essex County Council were involved in this ongoing application but were interested in its conclusion statement giving a range of recommendations **should** the application be approved. It was suggested that the planning committee might take up this idea where applications might be approved against Town Council wishes.

The Planning Committee were asked by the Town Clerk to set up a date for the revision of the Neighbourhood Plan to keep it as a living

document. It was suggested and agreed that we should do so at the August meeting when applications are usually fewer in number.

Meeting closed at 7.50pm