

STOKE BY NAYLAND PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
3 OCTOBER 2023, 7.30PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Martin Nielsen (MN) - Chairman
Chairman Sean Fry (SF) – Vice-Chairman
Vicki Gibbins (VG)
Stevie Bezencenet (SB)
Vivienne Klimowicz (VK)
Fred Grosch (FG) (7.30-7.45)

Apologies: Adam Sedgwick (AS)

In attendance: James Dark – Clerk (JD), BDC Councillor Isabelle Reece (IR), 1 member of the public

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

See above. Apologies and the reasons given were accepted.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ANY AGENDA ITEM

None declared.

3 PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public wished to speak.

4 MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2023 were approved and signed.

4.2 Actions from the previous meeting not covered elsewhere on the agenda

Action: SF said he would draft a complaint to BDC's enforcement team regarding their decision not to take enforcement action on non-compliance with a planning condition at 1 Butt Road.

5 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

5.1 Application DC/23/04032 – 2 Rowley Cottages

No comments to be submitted in response to the consultation.

5.2 Application DC/23/04292 – Scotland Place Farm

No comments to be submitted in response to the consultation.

5.3 Application DC/23/04340/41 – Almond House

No comments to be submitted in response to the consultation.

6 PLANNING DECISIONS

6.1 Application DC/23/03214 – 2 Rowley Cottages

Approval of the application was noted.

6.2 Application DC/23/03527 – Old Forge House

Approval of the application was noted.

6.3 Application DC/22/06309 - Anglian Water Services Bury To Colchester Pipeline

Approval of the application was noted. As the decision was received on the day of the meeting it was agreed that the approval and conditions would be considered further, if necessary, at the November planning and environment committee meeting.

7 PLANNING CONTROL

It was noted that Anglian Water had removed a tree during recent works at its pumping station at Scotland Street. This tree had contributed significantly to screening on the station.

Action: Clerk to write to Anglian Water asking what its plans are to replace the tree/re-screen the pumping station, including explaining the impact of the tree's removal in the Conservation Area.

FG reported that Babergh District Council had not yet advised whether a shed on his land in Thorington St falls within the description of permitted development.

Action: IR to follow up with BDC to request their view.

8 PLANNING TOGETHER AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

8.1 Inspector's report on BMSDC's Joint Local Plan

The inspector's report concluding that the JLP Part 1 can be adopted by the district council was noted. SF reported that the forthcoming Part 2 on spatial development could potentially enable the district council to open up Stoke village's envelope for development. It was agreed that this would need to be monitored, and it would be helpful if the meeting IR was attempting to arrange for the parish council with the planning team could include the JLP team.

Action: SF to report on any information obtained on the Part 2 process from parish liaison meetings.

Action: IR to make a further request to BDC's planning department to get in touch with the parish council to arrange a date for a meeting.

Action: Clerk to send the announcements on JLP Part 1 to the Neighbourhood Plan Group chairman.

8.2 Land registration

A note from AS on correspondence with Tendring Hall Estate regarding registration of land on The Downs was noted. In AS's absence it was agreed to hold this item until the November planning and environment committee meeting.

8.3 Boxted Bridge

MN reported that the SOB campaign's structural engineer would be responding to Essex County Council's inspection report. In addition, Boxted parish council was considering responding to the report and, if it chooses to do so, would be requesting that the parish council also puts its name to the response.

In addition, four reports would be submitted to BDC as part of local parishes' responses to Essex County Council's planning application to remodel the bridge. These are:

- An initial structural engineering report
- An independent report on the ECC inspection of the bridge
- An independent report on highways and safety matters relevant to the application
- An independent report on planning deficiencies in the application.

In addition the parish councils would be making representations at the BDC planning committee that will consider the ECC application.

8.4 National Grid Bramford-Twinstead powerline strengthening proposal

MN reported that the group of local parish councils that had been working on joint responses had agreed that professional assistance would be required in forming a representation objecting to the proposal during the current examination process. This was because the objection would include technical arguments that National Grid had misinterpreted and misapplied national landscape policy requirements relating to its proposals. In line with this, MN anticipated that the parish council would be asked to approve a proposal to commission a consultancy report funded by contributions from a number of parish councils.

9 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

9.1 Maintenance of footpaths

MN reported that Suffolk County Council had not cut and maintained a number of footpaths adequately, and that a review with SCC would be requested to ensure SCC's contractor performs to requirements. In the meantime, volunteers would attempt to make some improvements where practical.

Action: MN to contact SCC to request a meeting to review the condition of the footpaths and the improvements required.

10 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT MATTERS ARISING

10.1 Clerk and Chairman's correspondence

The clerk reported that IR had passed on a request from the residents of 5 Sudbury Road for an informal meeting with the committee prior to submitting a further application for a driveway to BDC. It was noted that the parish council has very limited influence over planning applications but the committee would be willing to offer informal meetings with appropriate members where appropriate.

Action: It was agreed that VK and VG should offer to meet with the residents.

11 DATE AND TIMING OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 7 November 2023 at 7.00pm – Venue: Village Hall.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm.