

**STOKE BY NAYLAND PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
**5 DECEMBER 2023, 7.30PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** Martin Nielsen (MN) - Chairman  
Sean Fry (SF) – Vice-Chairman  
Adam Sedgwick (AS)  
Vivienne Klimowicz (VK)  
Fred Grosch (FG)

**Apologies:** Stevie Bezencenet (SB) Vicki Gibbins (VG), BDC Councillor Isabelle Reece (IR)

**In attendance:** James Dark – Clerk (JD)

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**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

See above. Apologies and the reasons given were accepted.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ANY AGENDA ITEM**

MN declared an interest in agenda item 5.2 as the owner of the property.

**3 PUBLIC FORUM**

No members of the public were present.

**4 MINUTES**

**4.1 Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2023 were approved and signed.

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

- It was noted that IR had not responded the Clerk's email asking why the parish council will have no input on BDC's forthcoming decision on changes to the village envelope and requesting that the parish council is provided with the evidence the district council uses to reach any decision.

**Action:** Clerk to follow up with IR.

- It was noted that AS would request footpath access past the gate near Poplars with the new Tendring Hall Estate agent at their planned meeting.
- It was noted that SCC had inspected a verge dug out for parking in Thorington St and that SCC had indicated that it was not likely to be taking any action..

**Action:** FG to circulate pictures so next steps can be considered at the January meeting.

**5 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**5.1 Application DC/23/04909/10 - 3 Polstead Street**

No comments to be submitted in response to the consultation.

**5.2 Application DC/23/05501 - Scotland Barn**

MN left the room for discussion of this item. SF chaired the meeting in his absence.

No comments to be submitted in response to the consultation.

**6 PLANNING DECISIONS**

**6.1 DC/23/04240, DC/23/04239 - The Cottage, School St**

Decisions on conditions, some of which were not approved, were noted.

**6.2 Application DC/23/04340/41 - Almond House**

Approval of the applications was noted.

### **6.3 Application DC/23/03801/02 – Park Street Stores**

Approval of the applications was noted.

### **6.4 Application DC/22/02251 – Giffords Hall**

Approval of conditions was noted.

### **6.5 DC/23/04692 – The Crown**

Approval of the application for extended hours for the tipi was noted.

## **7 PLANNING CONTROL**

No issues to consider

## **8 PLANNING TOGETHER AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

### **8.1 Boxted Bridge**

It was noted that protests to county councillors over the ongoing closure of the bridge to cyclists and pedestrians were likely to have little impact, and therefore alternative courses could be considered.

**Action:** MN to contact the Save Our Bridge campaign to discuss:

- the possibility of a legal challenge to the closure
- whether impacts on embodied carbon may form a further strand of objection to an anticipated new application from Essex County Council to remodel the bridge.

### **8.2 National Grid Bramford-Twinstead powerline strengthening proposal**

MN reported that the six local parish councils that had submitted joint representations to the examination authority will consider next steps following a submission requesting changes to the scheme to reduce impacts on the AONB. MN reported that experience from the examination process indicated a ‘democratic deficit’ in that both the county and district councils were not adequately representing communities’ concerns in their submissions. It was also unclear how far county councillors had been able to feed into SCC’s position. The six councils would consider writing an article for the LSPN on this issue.

### **8.3 5 Sudbury Road pre-application meeting**

VK reported that she and VG had visited the residents of the property to hear their concerns over the parish council’s opposition to their application to build a driveway and the difficulties caused by current parking arrangements.

It was noted that the land ownership of the path and hedge bordering the road is not clear. It would be helpful for the parish council to understand the land ownership.

**Action:** Clerk to send SCC and BDC a map of Sudbury Road and ask them to clarify what land they own on the west side of Sudbury Road.

### **8.4 BDC consultation on potential Local Listed Building Consent Order**

The consultation which had been circulated before the meeting was noted. It was agreed that in principle a proposed process to simplify making certain improvements to listed buildings would be acceptable.

**Action:** SF to respond to the consultation on behalf of the parish council.

### **8.5 Land registration matters**

AS reported that he and SB would be meeting the new agent for Tendring Hall Estate to discuss clarification of landownership on The Downs and potentially other areas.

## **9 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**

### **9.1 Maintenance of footpaths**

MN reported that he would be meeting SCC’s footpaths manager in April to discuss improving

performance of footpath maintenance. An initial offer for parish volunteers to oversee the contractor's work had been well received.

## **10 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT MATTERS ARISING**

It was noted that felled dead trees have been stored on land next to the highway on Sudbury Road.

**Action:** Clerk to ask SB to send him relevant photos and report the matter to BDC.

MN noted that the boundary fencing and fringes of the quoits field had not been maintained.

**Action:** AS to raise this and other maintenance matters with Tendring Hall Estate's agent when he and SB meet with the agent. These would include repairs to the swings gates on the footpath at Black Fen and the need for pedestrian access around a gate near Poplars Farm.

It was suggested that the estate's agent would be a good speaker for the annual parish meeting.

**Action:** Clerk to put this suggestion on the agenda for the January parish council meeting.

## **11 DATE AND TIMING OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 9 January 2024 at 7.00pm – Venue: Village Hall.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm.