

Minutes of the Development Control Committee Meeting held on 19 July 2016 at 10:02 am in the King Edmund Chamber, Endeavour House, Ipswich.

Present: Councillors Peter Beer (Chairman), Nick Barber, Peter Byatt, Jessica Fleming, John Goodwin, Christopher Hudson, Richard Kemp, Graham Newman, Bill Quinton, Keith Patience, Reg Silvester, Joanna Spicer and Andrew Stringer.

Supporting officers present: Rebekah Butcher (Democratic Services Officer), Emma Bethell (Principal Planning and Environment Lawyer), John Pitchford (Head of Planning) and Anita Seymour (Development Manager).

1. Election of Vice Chairman for 2016-2017

On the proposition of Councillor Peter Beer, seconded by Councillor Peter Byatt, it was agreed that Councillor Graham Newman be elected as Vice-Chairman for the 2016/17 Municipal Year.

2. Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Michael Ladd (substituted by Councillor John Goodwin) and Councillor Steve Searle.

3. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Councillor John Goodwin declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 5: construction of a borrow pit/tip, Rougham Airfield, Bury St Edmunds, by virtue of the fact he owned land on Rougham Industrial Estate.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Construction of a borrow pit/tip, Rougham Airfield, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP30 9ND

The Committee considered a report at Agenda Item 5 which sought to provide up to 30,000 cubic metres as raised sand and gravel to facilitate the construction of the Eastern Relief Road, and subsequent infilling with an equivalent amount of surplus materials from the Eastern Relief Road construction. The proposal would involve extraction from 3.8 hectares of farmland over a 12-month period. To reach the Eastern Relief Road the operator would utilise the existing internal concrete airfield access track.

The Committee noted an additional condition to be included in the planning permission from the Environment Agency:

- 25) 'No development shall commence until investigations for evidence of contamination have been undertaken in the on-site trial holes and the results of the investigations have been submitted to the Minerals Planning Authority and approval has been given by the Minerals Planning Authority for the commencement of development.

'Reason: To prevent contamination of the soil resource and pollution of the land drainage and groundwater regime. In accordance the National Planning Policy Framework.'

Decision: On the proposition of Councillor Jessica Fleming, seconded by Councillor Graham Newman, the Committee unanimously agreed that the application be granted subject to the conditions recommended in the report by the Director of Resource Management.

Reason for decision: Having regard to National and Local planning policies, the Committee considered that the proposal was in general conformity with planning policy.

The detrimental impacts of the extraction and subsequent infilling were short term and could be mitigated by condition.

The proposal would reduce the need for approximately 11,850 off-site HGV movements which was considered a significant benefit.

Alternative options: There were none considered.

Declarations of interest: Councillor John Goodwin declared a non-pecuniary interest by virtue of the fact he owned land on Rougham Industrial Estate.

Dispensations: There were none granted.

6. **Development Management: Performance Monitoring**

The Committee considered, at Agenda Item 6, the Council's performance figures for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 for National Indicators, Local Performance Indicators and performance against Development Control Charter Standards. It also considered statistics on the time taken to determine different types of applications for major and minor developments.

Officers confirmed there was no formal enforcements on-going at the present time.

Decision: On the proposition of Councillor Graham Newman, seconded by Councillor Peter Beer, the Committee:

- a) noted the information provided; and
- b) requested to receive a report before Christmas 2016 in relation to an update on enforcement matters from the Council's enforcement team.

Reason for Decision: The Committee was aware that the performance of the County Council was reported annually to Members.

Members were aware enforcement action was reported to borough and district committee's on a regular basis and wished to review the County's enforcement action.

Alternative options: There were none considered.

Declarations of interest: There were none noted.

Dispensations: There were none granted.

7. Recommendations for changes to the County Council's Constitution in relation to Minerals and Waste, and County Council Planning Applications

At Agenda Item 7, the Committee considered a report which sought amendments to the Scheme of Delegation for County Council, Minerals and Waste applications.

The Committee noted the following amendments to the report:

- a) At paragraph 4. a) add:
 - i) '..., as amended.'
- b) At Table 1: Applications under Regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1992 (i.e. County Council development); add:
 - i) 'For cases with between one and four objections received from non-statutory consultees which fall to be determined by the Head of Legal Services in accordance with the County Council's constitution, the Head of Legal Services may refer the application for determination by Development Control Committee.'

Decision: On the proposition of Councillor Graham Newman, seconded by Councillor Reg Silvester, the Committee:

- a) agreed the amendments proposed; and
- b) agreed the amendments be referred to the Constitution Working Party for further consideration.

Reason for Decision: The Committee considered the amendments better reflected its view on the more effective use of its time in dealing with applications.

Alternative options: There were none considered.

Declarations of interest: There were none noted.

Dispensations: There were none granted.

8. Urgent Business

There was no urgent business.

The meeting closed at 11.08 am.

Chairman

