

Minutes of the Development Control Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 6 December 2016 at 10:00 am in the King Edmund Chamber, Endeavour House, Ipswich.

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

Supporting officers present: Rebekah Butcher (Democratic Services Officer), David Holt (Commercial Practice Group Lead Lawyer), Jo Lloyd (Monitoring and Enforcement Officer) and Anita Seymour (Development Manager).

24. Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Joanna Spicer and Councillor Michael Ladd. There were no substitutions.

25. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations made or dispensations given.

26. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 October 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

27. Proposed extension to Flixton Quarry to allow extraction of 856,000 Tonnes of sand and gravel from land known as Homersfield, Retention of access, concrete plant and aggregate processing and phased details of plant site extraction with restoration to agriculture and wet land conservation

The Committee considered a report at Agenda Item 4 which proposed a south western extension to Flixton quarry to allow phased extraction of some 856,000 tonnes of sand and gravel from 10 hectares of agricultural land, the retention of access, concrete plant and aggregate processing and the phased extraction of the plant site of some 1.066m tonnes of sand and gravel, final restoration to agriculture, and conservation.

The Committee noted the following amendment to the report at paragraph 14, conditions 6 b) xix) on page 12, and condition 33 on page 21, to include the plan number 16_C032_FLIX_100.

The Committee visited the site on 2 December 2016.

Decision: On the proposition of Councillor Bill Quinton, 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 the provisions of the Development Plan and other material planning considerations, the Committee considered the proposed development was in accordance with the provisions of the Adopted Suffolk Minerals Site Specific Allocations Development document. This development provided for the removal of mineral reserves anticipated, to meet the County apportionment of the forecast demand for Primary Aggregates as set out in the Adopted Suffolk Minerals Core Strategy Development Plan Document. The proposals were therefore in accordance with Strategic Policies 1, 2 and 5 of the Adopted Suffolk Minerals Core Strategy 2008.

The amenity of sensitive receptors had been addressed. It was considered that the development would not significantly impact on groundwater levels.

Appropriate mitigation measures had been identified to protect wildlife currently using the site during development. Enhancements for biodiversity on a site-wide basis had been included in the restoration proposals which would contribute to biodiversity in the wider area.

Alternative options: There were none considered.

Declarations of interest: There were none noted.

Dispensations: There were none granted.

28. Urgent Business

There was no urgent business.

29. Exclusion of the Press and Public

Decision: The Committee agreed that the public (including the press) should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Agenda Item 7 pursuant to Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that:

- a) it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as detailed in paragraph 3 of Parts 1 to 3 of Schedule 12A, as amended, of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended); and
- b) in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

30. Enforcement and Monitoring

At Agenda Item 7, the Committee considered its first annual report for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 on progress of site monitoring and enforcement at mineral sites, landfill sites, other waste sites, and enforcement action.

Decision: The Committee noted the information provided.

Reason for decision: The Committee considered the report demonstrated that the Council took enforcement seriously.

Alternative options: There were none considered.

Declarations of interest: There were none noted.

Dispensations: There were none granted.

The meeting closed at 10:39 am.