

WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of Willingham Parish Council held on 7th November 2024 at 7:30pm, in the Parish Council office, Ploughman Hall, West Fen Road, Willingham.

Present:

Councillors: Barratt, Hutchcraft, Law(Chair), McKee, Watson

Parishioners: None present

Deputy Clerk: Amy Rudderham

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received and ratified from Councillor Todd due to being unwell and Councillor Harris due to a prior commitment.

2. Declarations of interest

None declared.

3. Public forum (*maximum 3 minutes per person, with an overall limit of 15 minutes*) All parishioners wishing to speak and who are on the Electoral register, must make their name known to the Clerk prior to commencement of the meeting. Maximum of five people to speak. Large groups will need to decide on a spokesperson representative.

None present.

4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd October 2024.

Councillor Hutchcraft proposed the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Councillor McKee and **ratified** unanimously.

5. To deal with any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd October, not covered elsewhere on this agenda.

None raised.

6. Planning Applications for consideration.

(i) 24/1171/TTCA – South Cambridgeshire District Council – Parish Council announcement – S211 tree works notice (conservation area)

Willingham Parish Council did not comment on this application, as the application related to one of its trees.

(ii) 24/03396/OUT – Land West of 82 Earith Road Willingham Cambridgeshire – Outline application for the erection of 1 No. Dwelling together with a detached garage with all matters reserved.

Councillor Law proposed the Parish Council object to this application due to the following reasons:-

- The development falls outside of the village envelope.
- There was no information relating to water drainage.

This was seconded by Councillor McKee and **ratified** unanimously.

(iii) 24/03794/HFUL – 30 Rockmill End Willingham Cambridgeshire CB24 5HY – Two storey rear and side extension, alteration of roof from hip to gable with an increase height and removal of chimneys and alterations of fenestrations following demolition of single storey outrigger and outbuilding. Erection of single storey outbuilding/home office

Councillor Hutchcraft proposed the Council recommend approval of this application. This was seconded by Councillor Barratt and **ratified** unanimously.

7. Correspondence

(i) Correspondence received from Fen Reservoir for consideration and response

Councillor Hutchcraft proposed the Council make the following comments:-

“(1) Chapter 3 - Consideration of Alternatives

We are in agreement with the proposal in section 3.5 that the Whole Scheme Option A is the best and preferred choice, especially in light of the high risk of flooding at Earith and its subsequent regularly occurring route disruption due to flooded roads. We would also stress the already strained traffic and road quality issues on the B1050 and surrounding roads that would be disrupted even further by any additional water infrastructure projects in the future. We also request that further consultation is undertaken involving the Parish Council if the Earith Whole Scheme Option B is considered seriously in future.

(2) Chapter 14 - Traffic and Transport

- A. *We note in section 14.4.4, relating to the study area, that the current strategy being developed is at present focused on the reservoir site and water treatment works, meaning Willingham is not included, and that as details on associated infrastructure are developed, the study area may expand to include the village. We would request to be consulted on traffic and transport issues if the Great River Ouse at Earith is considered further as a downstream water transfer site.*

- B. *At section 14.4.5, principles for future assessment are helpfully included. For any such assessment, if the Great River Ouse at Earith is considered further for additional water infrastructure, the Council would stress the multi-faceted existing problems with the B1050 including traffic speeds, traffic volume and the dire condition of the B1050 along Shelford Road, which is sinking, cracking and in danger of collapsing making it particularly vulnerable to the weight of HGVs along the route.*
- C. *At section 14.7, as part of the discussion into design and mitigation, the Scoping report mentions the development of the emerging strategy for transport of construction materials. Here, there is no mention of whether this will continue with further considerations relating to associated water infrastructure. At this point, the Council would like to emphasise the need for design development processes going forward to include these considerations, especially relating to any further discussions and considerations relating to potential associated water infrastructure at the Great River Ouse at Earith and the adverse effects this may have on local traffic and transport. We would also like to request that consultation is undertaken if this does occur.*
- D. *The Scoping report notes in section 14.7.3 that documents presenting the approach to mitigation are yet to be produced. Here, the Council would like to emphasise the need for mitigation considerations to include the surrounding area of Earith when/if associated water infrastructure options in the area are explored further. Once again, we would request that further consultation takes place if this does occur.*

(3) Chapter 23 - Cumulative Effects

This chapter refers to the long-list of other developments within the Boundary has been drafted to assess cumulative effects, which includes projects such as nationally significant infrastructure projects (NSIP), planning applications and local development plan site allocations.

Comments in section 23.4.1 relate to the study area, which is considered in the Scoping report to be sufficiently broad; however, it is noted that if required the study area will be expanded to ensure there is appropriate coverage of all potential significant environmental effects.

Here, the Council would comment that the long list of developments does not include major developments within Willingham (Belsar's Farm and 1B Over Road) or the neighbouring major development of the Northstowe new town. The study area should be expanded accordingly. Both of these projects will add additional pressure on the road system in the village, especially the vulnerable B1050. Such issues will only be further compounded by any possible development of water infrastructure in neighbouring Earith.

The Parish Council has always objected to HGV's and construction vehicles coming through the village including during consultations for the NVAR Incinerator at Bluntisham, Mick George expansion at Swavesey, Quarries at Needingworth and Haddenham.

Construction traffic through the village towards the Northstowe development has historically not been allowed but still occurs. There are concerns about noise and air pollution along this route, as well as vibrations which shake the foundations of houses.

The Council believe that any long list should include major developments in and around Willingham, as these will have impactful and negative cumulative effects on top of any service/construction/HGV traffic resulting from additional water infrastructure projects in neighbouring Earith."

This was seconded by Councillor Watson and **ratified** unanimously.

- (ii) Correspondence from Greater Cambridge Shared Planning re 49 Newington Willingham – 24/03341/FUL for consideration
Noted.

8. Any other correspondence

None received.

9. Items for future meetings

- (i) CCC/24/107/FUL – New standalone wrap-around childcare building with solar panels, air source heat pumps, air conditioning, associated external works and landscaping – Willingham Primary School, Thodays Close, Willingham, Cambridgeshire, CB24 5LE
- (ii) 24/04127/FUL – Land adjacent to 74 Station Road, Willingham, Cambridgeshire – Erection of 2 No timber carports – Mr and MRS Curtis

10. To decide date of next meeting

Wednesday 20th November 2024

Meeting closed at 19.51.