

ST STEPHEN PARISH COUNCIL

In the District of St.Albans, County of Hertfordshire



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE *PLANNING* COMMITTEE (5)
HELD AT THE PARISH CENTRE, STATION ROAD,
BRICKET WOOD, ST. ALBANS, HERTS
ON 26 NOVEMBER 2015 AT 7.30 pm**

Present: Cllr Freeman (Chairman), Cllr Bell, Cllr Brannen, Cllr Pryce & Cllr Whittaker

In attendance: Mrs Carol Hardy (Clerk) & one member of the public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Doyle and Cllr Kerry.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 22 OCTOBER 2015

RESOLVED: Proposed: Cllr Pryce Seconded: Cllr Brannen **Motion Carried**
That the minutes be accepted as a true record.
Votes in favour: unanimous

4. NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman said that he would update Members on the meeting with Icen Projects and the plans for Harperbury Free School.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

6. TO CONSIDER AND COMMENT UPON THE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

6.1 Major Applications

None.

6.2 To consider and agree comments on the planning applications listed

RESOLVED: Proposed: Cllr Bell Seconded: Cllr Pryce **Motion Carried**
That the planning comments on the list '26 Novemeber 2015' are approved
Votes in favour: unanimous

7. APPEALS

7.1 To consider and agree comments on the appeals listed

Members noted the appeals.

8. TREE WORK

8.1 To consider and agree comments on the tree work listed

29 Hornbeams (Oakwood Road) Bricket Wood

Due to the sensitivity of the site, the refused housing application, and District Council Member ownership, Members decided that this application should be decided at SADC planning committee.

RESOLVED: Proposed: Cllr Brannen Seconded: Cllr Freeman **Motion Carried**
That the tree work comments on the list '26 November 2015' are approved
Votes in favour: unanimous

9. REPORTS

9.1 Enforcement Updates

Members commented that following SADC Planning Referrals decisions to refuse applications at traveller sites in Bricket Wood and Chiswell Green, that they hoped to see robust enforcement action now taken at both sites.

9.2 Current Consultations

None.

9.3 Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Show People Accommodation Needs Report

RESOLVED: *Proposed: Cllr Bell* *Seconded: Cllr Pryce* **Motion Carried**
That the following comments are agreed and forwarded to St Albans District Council.
Votes in favour: unanimous

Accommodation needs have been discussed many times by St Stephen Parish Council. Our comments remain consistent.

St Stephen Parish Council are housing a disproportionate number of Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Show People. There are four sites within our parish, three of which have either applied for or been granted permission to expand. There have been several breaches of planning, with unauthorised buildings, additional static and mobile homes, with no action taken. These flagrant breaches of permission have an adverse effect on the community, particularly those who live close by and who are powerless to do anything other than try and sell their homes and move on. The recent extension to the site at Woodview Lodge in Bricket Wood has resulted in the site becoming very visible in Lye Lane, detrimental to the once lovely area. We do not wish to see any further extensions to sites within this parish and neither do we wish to see any new sites. It has not gone unnoticed that Harpenden do not appear to have any Traveller sites and this must surely be rectified.

9.4 Strategic Rail Freight Interchange

Cllr Pryce stated that on 10 November 2015 HCC Cabinet were due to decide whether or not to sell the land.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Relic Homes, land at Poplar Field Harper Lane

Cllr Brannen reported that the home currently being built seemed a lot larger than the approved plans. He asked the Clerk to make enquiries and report back.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

These minutes are to be considered as draft until they have been approved by the committee.

If you require this document in an alternative format please contact the Parish Office to discuss your requirements. The Parish Office may be contacted by telephone, email, fax or post. Telephone: 01923 681443 Fax: 01923 681338 Email: clerk@ststephenparishcouncil.gov.uk
Post: St Stephen Parish Council, The Parish Centre, Station Road, Bricket Wood, St Albans, Herts., AL2 3PJ.