

ST STEPHEN PARISH COUNCIL

In the District of St.Albans, County of Hertfordshire



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE (11)
HELD AT THE PARISH CENTRE, STATION ROAD,
BRICKET WOOD, ST. ALBANS, HERTS
ON 9 APRIL 2015 AT 7.30 pm**

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

In attendance: Mrs Carol Hardy (Clerk) & 1 member of the public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Hurford and Cllr Whittaker.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 12 MARCH 2015

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

4. NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

None.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting was closed to allow Mr Collier to address the committee.

Woodview Lodge Traveller Site

Mr Collier stated that at the last Bricket Wood Residents Association meeting, confirmation had been received from SADC that the vote at Planning Referrals Committee on 5/1/2015 to approve the application had been 7 in favour and 1 against. He went on to say that this was contrary to what had been said at the Parish planning meeting where note had been taken that the vote was 3 in favour with 5 abstentions. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council did not agree with the SADC record of the vote who recorded the vote as 3:5. The vote of 3:5 was also confirmed by two District Councillors who were present at the Planning Referrals meeting.

Oakwood Road Trees

Mr Collier stated that he had attended the court proceedings for the felling of trees at a site that the owner wished to redevelop for housing. The prosecution fell because it could not be proven that SADC had followed correct procedures to confirm the 1989 Tree Preservation Order.

Mr Collier expressed concern that the failure in procedure may make other TPO's invalid and the trees at risk of felling.

The meeting was reopened to allow discussion.

Members were concerned that trees that were protected might not be safe from felling and asked that Clerk to make enquiries of the SADC Trees and Woodlands Officer as to how the court decision might impact on other TPO's.

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 Freeman Seconded: Cllr Pryce **Motion Carried**
That the planning comments on the list '9 April 2015' are approved
Votes in favour: unanimous

7. APPEALS

7.1 To consider and agree comments on the appeals listed

Members noted the appeals. All Members agreed that comments previously made on the application at land r/o 298 Watford Road Chiswell Green should remain.

8. TREE WORK

None listed. There was some discussion regarding the March application to fell trees at The Beeches. The Clerk confirmed that permission had been granted to fell the Leylandii but not the other trees listed on the application.

9. REPORTS

9.1 Enforcement Updates

Woodview Lodge Lye Lane Bricket Wood

The Clerk reported that a Planning Investigations Officer had visited the site on 23rd March to investigate the large brick built structure currently under construction. As it is being built without planning permission and is an unacceptable form of development in the Green Belt, a Planning Contravention Notice was sent to the owner and his agent on 31st March to gather more information before deciding on enforcement action. The Clerk went on to say that a further visit was made to land to the rear of Hoofprints Cottage on 25th March to investigate laying of hardcore and fencing of land. Since then more hardcore has been laid and flattened to provide hard standing. The Investigations Officer is in the process of preparing two additional Planning Contravention Notices to cover both areas of hardcore and fencing.

9.2 Current Consultations

None.

9.3 Oakwood Road Bricket Wood Felling of Protected Trees

The Chairman and Members were of the view that this subject had been adequately covered under Item 5.

9.4 Strategic Rail Freight Interchange High Court Decision

Members noted that Mr Justice Holgate had dismissed the claim on 13 March 2015. An on-line petition had now been set up to urge Hertfordshire County Council (part owners of the land) not to sell to Helioslough. Cllr Pryce urged residents to sign the petition.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

The meeting closed at 8.45 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.