

Minutes of a meeting of the Planning Committee
held in the Council Chamber, The Grange, Nutholt Lane,
Ely on Wednesday, 6th July 2011 at 2.05pm

P R E S E N T

Councillor Philip Read (Chairman)
Councillor Sue Austen
Councillor Derrick Beckett
Councillor Will Burton
Councillor Lavinia Edwards
Councillor Jeremy Friend-Smith
Councillor Elaine Griffin-Singh
Councillor Richard Hobbs (substitute for
Councillor David Ambrose Smith)
Councillor Bill Hunt
Councillor Tom Kerby
Councillor Joshua Schumann
Councillor Robert Stevens

OFFICERS

Alan Dover – Principal Development Control Officer
Giles Hughes – Head of Planning & Sustainable Development
Janis Murfet – Democratic Services Officer
Jeanette Thompson – Head of Legal & Democratic Services
Cathy White – Senior Tree Officer

9. **APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

Apologies were received from Councillor David Ambrose Smith.

It was noted that Councillor Richard Hobbs would substitute for Councillor Ambrose Smith for this meeting.

10. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

11. **MINUTES**

It was resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

12. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman did not make any announcements.

13. **11/00028/OUT – 4 SILVER STREET, BURWELL**

Members were advised that this application had been withdrawn from the agenda.

It was resolved:

That the withdrawal from the agenda of Planning Application No 11/00028/OUT, be noted.

14. **PRESENTATION – “ROLE OF THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY IN PROTECTING TREES IN THE LANDSCAPE”**

With the agreement of the Chairman, the Senior Tree Officer gave a brief presentation to explain the role of the LPA in protecting trees in the landscape.

15. **TPO/E/02/11 – 84 LONGMEADOW, LODE**

The Committee received a report from which Members were asked to confirm, without modifications, a Tree Preservation Order for one Walnut tree in the garden of 84, Longmeadow, Lode.

It was noted that no objections had been received in the 28 days consultation period that ended on 9th May 2011.

The Senior Tree Officer explained that the Walnut tree was visible to the public when viewed from Longmeadow, and it made an important contribution to the public amenity and green infrastructure of the local area. The TPO would allow for replacement tree planting when the tree needed to be removed, thus ensuring the continuation of tree cover in the local landscape.

It was resolved:

That Tree Preservation Order TPO/E/02/11 be confirmed, with no modifications.

16. **TPO/E/01/11 – 17 COMMON ROAD, WITCHFORD**

The Committee received a report from which Members were asked to confirm, without modifications, a Tree Preservation Order for one Silver Birch tree, one Ash tree, one Horse Chestnut tree and one group of two Field Maple trees in the garden of 17 Common Road, Witchford.

It was noted that no objections had been received in the 28 days consultation period that ended on 9th May 2011.

The Senior Tree Officer summarised the main points of her report and reminded Members that the trees were considered to be important features in the locality and they contributed to the public amenity and green infrastructure of the local area.

Although the site trees were protected by a planning condition and some of the trees were subject to an existing Tree Preservation Order (TPO/E/09/70), the making of this Preservation Order would clarify those site trees not included in TPO/E/09/70 that were considered to be worthy of retention in relation to any proposed development of the site.

It was noted that an appeal against the refusal to grant planning permission (reference 10/00639/OUT) was dismissed on 18th May 2011. The Inspector considered the trees on the site, including those protected by TPOs E/01/11 and E/09/70, and concluded that the proposed development would probably result in the loss of many of the protected trees, which would harm the appearance of the area.

The TPO would allow for replacement tree planting when the trees needed to be removed, thus ensuring the continuation of tree cover in the local landscape.

It was resolved:

That Tree Preservation Order TPO/E/01/11 be confirmed, with no modifications.

17. **MEMBER CHAMPION – BUILT ENVIRONMENT & DESIGN**

The Chairman asked whether anyone would be prepared to take on the role of Member Champion for the Built Environment & Design. Councillor Tom Kerby volunteered and was advised that his appointment would be subject to confirmation by the Leader of the Council.

The meeting closed at 2.30pm.