

# NORTHILL PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN CHURCH HALL, SAND LANE, NORTHILL ON TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2009 COMMENCING AT 5.30 PM.

**Present:** Councillors M Hall, J Coutts, G Gilbert, S Mandley (late) and the Clerk Mrs L Trevena.

**1. APOLOGIES**

None.

**2. DECLARATION FROM MEMBERS IN RELATION TO PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST IN ANY AGENDA ITEM**

None.

**3. OPEN FORUM FOR 10 MINUTES TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK**

There were no members of the public present.

**4. MINUTES OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2009**

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2009 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a true record.

**5. TO RECEIVE REPORTS ON CURRENT LOCAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND UPDATES ON PLANNING MATTERS**

None.

**6. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

- 6.1** CB/09/06366/FULL Land to rear of 153 Biggleswade Road, Upper Caldecote, SG18 9BD  
Full: Change of use of land from agricultural to domestic garden use and the retention of 2 no. wooden detached buildings (retrospective)

**RESOLVED** that no objection be raised to this application.

- 6.2** CB/09/06432/FULL Whitethorn, Warden Road, Ickwell, Biggleswade SG18 9EL  
Full: Single storey extension to garage and front porch

**RESOLVED** that no objection be raised to this application.

- 6.3** Councillor Hall advised members that two further applications had been received since the agenda had been published.

**RESOLVED** that executive action be taken to determine the following two planning applications.

- 6.4** CB/09/06555/FULL Old Warden Aerodrome, Old Warden Park, Old Warden, Biggleswade SG18 9EL  
Full: Construction of entrance canopy, enlarge access ramp and replacement of entrance ramp handrail

**RESOLVED** that no objection be raised to this application.

- 6.5 CB/09/06567 Superstore, Bells Brook, Biggleswade SG18 0NA  
Full: Revisions to planning permission MB/08/01714/FULL for extensions and alterations to the existing store

**RESOLVED** that no objection be raised to this application.

7. **TO CONSIDER RESPONSE TO EAST OF ENGLAND PLAN REVIEW TO 2031 CONSULTATION SCENARIOS FOR HOUSING AND ECONOMIC GROWTH (REFERRED FROM COUNCIL ON 14.09.09 AND PLANNING ON 13.10.09)**

Councillor Hall copied to members her comments in connection with the four scenarios for Central Bedfordshire which proposes a large number of homes, the lowest number in Scenario 4 being offset by a higher number of homes in Bedford Borough, on our parish's western border. After discussion it was:

**RESOLVED** that in conjunction with the East of England Plan Review to 2031 Consultation Scenarios for Housing and Economic Growth, the following comments be made using the EERA on-line response form.

All four scenarios for Central Bedfordshire propose a large number of homes, the lowest number in Scenario 4 being offset by a higher number of homes in Bedford Borough, on our parish's western border.

Northill Parish Council is concerned at the high number of homes proposed, coming as it does on top of the number of homes already envisaged for the period up to 2011, many of which have not yet been built, nor infrastructure provided for them.

The A1 which runs through Northill parish is already heavily congested with queues and difficulty crossing to Sandy or Biggleswade at peak periods (and increasingly also at other times of the day) with no improvements being planned for this non-motorway stretch of the A1 in the near future.

A large proportion of the proposed homes would have to be built on greenfield sites, and priority must be given to the preservation of the prime quality agricultural land which is a feature particularly of our eastern side of Central Bedfordshire.

Essential infrastructure of all kinds is already under pressure locally, and it is not clear where the money will come from to provide the infrastructure required to support these homes, which needs to be available as soon as the occupiers move in, as well as employment opportunities.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- 8.1 Notification had been received that planning application CB/09/05912/LB Land at Park Farm, Park Road, Moggerhanger is down for refusal at the Development Control Meeting due to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2009. This was noted.

- 8.2 Councillor Hall reported that she had received email correspondence concerning Bakers Field, Bedford Road, Northill being used as an air strip. She contacted Enforcement and was advised that Enforcement was already aware of this matter and the tenant had been advised to remove the air strip and associated aeroplane by the end of November 2009.

9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

T.B.A.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 6.15 pm.