**Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held virtually on Thursday 8th April 2021**

**at 7:00pm via Zoom**

Present: Cllr Lisa Sanders (Chairman)

Cllr Mike Hawes Cllr Ivor French

Cllr Sonya Exton Cllr Dick Jenkinson

Officer in attendance: Jo Peters, Parish Clerk/RFO

There was 1 member of the public present. Cllr Horsnell was also present.

**1. To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Nobbs (unable to attend Zoom meetings due to technology issues).

**2. To receive Councillors Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

**3. Open Public Session**

There were no comments from the member of the public present.

**4. To approve the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 1st February 2021**

A copy of the draft minutes had been circulated to all Committee members prior to

the meeting. These were **Unanimously Approved.**

**5. To consider the following Planning Applications:-**

**Planning Ref: DC/21/1158/ADN**

Proposal: Non-Illuminated Advertisement Consent - Shop sign applied lettering and logo.

Address: 75A High Street, Wickham Market (The Flaming Fryer)

There was an in-depth discussion and it was felt the proposed sign was not in keeping with other local business signs due to its size and appearance. It was agreed the Planning Committee would **Object** to this application on the grounds of size, design and appearance. The Chairman asked the Parish Clerk to include within her response to ESC the preferred measurement for any new signs should not exceed 2m x 50cm.

**Planning Ref: DC/20/4517/FUL**

Proposal: To construct entrance porch/hallway to side of property single storey.

Address: 210 High Street, Wickham Market

The Planning Committee had **No Objections** to this application.

**Planning Ref: DC/21/1077/FUL**

Proposal: Single storey flat roof extension to rear of property.

Address: The Croft, High Street, Wickham Market

The Chairman ***closed the meeting*** to allow the member of the public to comment. The member of the public present raised concerns in respect of this application. The Planning Committee agreed they could not respond to this planning application at this time due to lack of information supplied in respect of consultation with Anglian Water. The Chairman ***reconvened the meeting***.

**6. To consider any other applications received at the discretion of the Chairman**

**Planning Ref: DC/21/0880/FUL**

Proposal: Replace 2 no. windows front elevation.

Address: 201 High Street, Wickham Market

The Planning Committee had **No Objections** to this application.

**7. Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - Appeal Under Section 78**

**Site at: Land Adjacent, 6 Spring Lane, Wickham Market, Suffolk**

**Planning Reference: DC/20/1895/FUL**

It was agreed the Planning Committee’s previous objections made in 2020 in respect of this application still stood and no further comments were necessary.

**8. To consider correspondence received from Theberton & Eastbridge Parish Council regarding concerns with the openness and transparency of East Suffolk Council's planning protocol.**

The Planning Committee responded to the correspondence received, as follows:-

1. Does your Town/Parish Council support East Suffolk Council’s planning process in its present form? **NO**
2. Would your Town/Parish Council or your residents see the present planning process as a wholly open and transparent system, which is beyond reproach? **NO**
3. Can your District Councillors, in the present planning process, report back to your Town/Parish Council that planning applications of concern have been through due process and had a fair hearing on behalf of the public? **No but it was agreed if the District Councillor would engage it could be beneficial.**
4. Do you feel at present there are sufficient trigger points within the present planning process for Town/Parish Councils to have an affect? **Yes - As long as the trigger process is correctly applied.**
5. Given the large size of our district (one of the largest in the country) do you think it is appropriate for District Councillors (who are Cabinet Members representing planning) to be involved at Local Planning Committee level, given the potential perception of conflict of interest and predisposition when there is no obvious need? **No - It was agreed these Councillors should not be on the Committee.**

**9.** **Any other matters of report and items for the next meeting**

Cllr Hawes advised it was disappointing to read that Rendlesham’s Neighbourhood Plan had been ignored as development which was not deemed as suitable was still to go ahead.

Cllr Jenkinson advised within the recent Newsletter received from ESC’s Planning Dept he had noted going forward it would be easier to convert business premises into residential.

There being no further discussion the Chairman closed the meeting at 7:45pm

Signed:………………………………………… Dated:……………………