

## HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held in THE CIVIC SUITE (LANCASTER/STIRLING ROOMS), PATHFINDER HOUSE, ST MARY'S STREET, HUNTINGDON, PE29 3TN on Monday, 15 September 2025

PRESENT: Councillor D L Mickelburgh – Chair.

Councillors R J Brereton, E R Butler, S J Corney, D B Dew, P A Jordan, S R McAdam, S Mokbul, B M Pitt, T D Sanderson, C H Tevlin and S Wakeford.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors J Clarke, K P Gulson, J Neish and R A Slade.

### **23 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 18th August 2025 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **24 MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

Councillor D Mickelburgh declared a Non-Registrable Interest in Minute No 25 by virtue of the fact that the application related to the Ward she represents.

### **25 APPLICATION REQUIRING REFERENCE TO THE DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - CHANGE OF USE FROM DWELLING (USE CLASS C3) & AGRICULTURAL LAND TO A WELLNESS CENTRE (CLASS E) AND WEDDING AND EVENTS VENUE (SUI GENERIS) WITH GUEST SLEEPING ACCOMMODATION AND PARKING - HEMINGFORD PARK, COMMON LANE, HEMINGFORD ABBOTS - 25/01248/FUL**

Following receipt of further information relating to the application, it was

RESOLVED

that the application be not determined.

### **26 APPLICATIONS REQUIRING REFERENCE TO DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

The Planning Service Manager (Development Management) submitted reports (copies of which are appended in the Minute Book) on applications for development to be determined by the Committee. Members were advised of further representations, which had been received since the reports had been prepared. Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

- a) **Variation of Conditions 1 (Permitted Use), 6 (Access Time Frame and Removal of Condition 2 (5 Year Limit) of 18/00840/FUL - Legacy Park, Chatteris Road, Somersham - 25/00972/S73**

*(M Hargreaves, Agent, addressed the Committee on the application).*

that the application be approved subject to conditions to be determined by the Planning Service Manager (Development Management) to include those listed in paragraph 8 of the report now submitted.

- b) **Removal of Conditions 1 (5 Year Time Limit), 5 (Permanent Pitches), 6 (90 Days), 7 (Transient Pitches) and Variation of Condition 10 (Access) of 23/02358/FUL - Legacy Park, Chatteris Road, Somersham - 25/00973/S73**

*(F Adams, Applicant, addressed the Committee on the application).*

that the application be approved subject to conditions to be determined by the Planning Service Manager (Development Management) to include those listed in paragraph 8 of the report now submitted.

## **27 PLANNING SERVICES PEER REVIEW ACTION PLAN**

The Committee received and noted a report by Change Programme Lead – Planning Services to which was appended a detailed account of progress against the Planning Services Peer Review Action Plan. A copy of the report is appended in the Minute Book.

Members commented on the action to revise the Scheme of Delegation and the introduction of smarter ways of working. Reference also was made to the need to improve attendance by Members at meetings of the Local Plans Advisory Group.

The Committee then discussed support for Members at appeals. While it was accepted that Officers could not create reasons for refusing an application where the recommendation had been to approve it, Officers were able to provide advice. Other Planning Authorities were adopting approaches to supporting Members during appeals. It was agreed that a training session would be held on this subject.

In response to a question about backlog applications, Members were informed that significant progress had been made in this respect and that the service was on track to achieve its target. An update also was provided on staffing.

Following a further question about pre-application advice, the Committee was advised that the service was successful but some aspects of it required improvement and so it was being reviewed.

Having suggested that some of the language used in the Action Plan should be formalised, it was

**RESOLVED**

that the report be received and noted.

## **28 APPEAL DECISIONS**

The Committee received and noted a report by the Planning Service Manager (Development Management), which contained details of three recent decisions by the Planning Inspectorate. A copy of the report is appended in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED

that the contents of the report be noted.

Chair