

**SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS TOWN COUNCIL  
PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES** of a Meeting held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025  
at 7.30p.m.  
at Champions Manor Hall

**Present:**  
D Thompson Chair

Councillor I Roberts	Councillor A Shearring
Councillor P Price	Councillor M Sismey
Councillor M O'Brien	Councillor J Birch
	Councillor P Ferry

In attendance: Environment and Leisure Officer, Councillor D Eley and Councillor M Barnett.

**PE-25-192 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies of absence were **RECEIVED** and **ACCEPTED** from Councillor A Shearring, Councillor G Piesse & Councillor A John.

**Absent** Councillor S Wilson

**PE-25-193 Dispensation Considerations**

Councillor Thompson requested a dispensation stating Other Registrable Interest in Agenda item 11 New Park Orchard Chelmsford City Council. Written notice had been sent to the Town Clerk to comment and abstain from vote.

**Proposed:** Councillor O'Brien

**Seconded:** Councillor Ferry

**Vote:** **All in Favour**

**PE-25-194 Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Thompson declared a other registrable interest in Agenda item 11 New Park Orchard Chelmsford City Council.

Councillor O'Brien declared a non-registrable interest in Agenda item 14 Tree works at Hillcrest Road/Victoria Fields

**PE-25-195 Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes of the Planning and Environment meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2025 were agreed as a true record.

**Proposed:** Councillor O'Brien

**Seconded:** Councillor Ferry

**Vote:** **All in Favour**

**PE-25-196 Public Questions**

No public questions raised.

**PE-25-197 Budgetary Position**

The budgetary position as of 19th March 2025 was **NOTED**.

**PE-25-198 Previous Planning Decisions and Appeals**

Committee **NOTED** the planning decision differences from Chelmsford City Council.

**PE-25-199 Planning Applications**

**25/00223/FUL 49 Leighlands Road**

Retrospective application for single storey outbuilding attached to rear of garage.

The Planning and Environment Committee has **NO OBJECTIONS** to this application.

**25/00218/S73 Teddy Tastic Bear Co Ltd Marsh Farm Visitor Attraction, Marsh Farm Road**

Variation of Condition 2 and 3 to approved planning application 21/00218/FUL (Retrospective application for Change of Use of Visitor Reception/Cafe to Farm Shop (E); Surfacing of land adjacent to Farm Shop and use for activities associated with the Farm Park; Surfacing to Existing Overspill Parking Area (Part)) to alternate use, from Farm Shop to Day Nursery.

The Planning and Environment Committee has **NO OBJECTIONS** to this application.

**25/00285/FUL 42 Ormesby Chime**

Proposed Part Single Storey, Part Two Storey Rear Extension with Balcony to Rear. Conversion of Existing Garage Roof Structure with Roof Lights. Alterations to Fenestration.

The Planning and Environment Committee has raised concerns that the proposal may constitute overdevelopment and fail to comply with Policy DM29.

**25/00333/FUL 22 Whitehouse Road**

Loft conversion with dormer and windows, and alterations to first floor fenestration.

The Planning and Environment Committee has **NO OBJECTIONS** to this application.

**PE-25-200 Items to Note**

Committee **NOTED** the following –

- Comments on the local plan were submitted to Chelmsford City Council on 5/3/2025.
- The maintenance works to the Garden of Remembrance have been completed. All benches and painting of the rotunda. The Sensory Garden work will be completed on 25/3/2025.
- A litter pick including with some children from Trinty St Marys School took place on the 18th of March 2025.
- The agreed communication regarding the trees in Tanners Way was sent to Rosie Moore Cabinet Member for a Greener Chelmsford at Chelmsford City Council 19/3/2025.
- Variation Certificate for Tree Preservation Order TPO/2003/012 and provisional Tree Preservation Order TPO/2025/009.

**PE-25-201 National Great Big Green Week**

The Committee considered any actions or support of the green week. The Environment Officer updated on plans submitted by the U3A Eco Group.

**Proposal:** To offer assistance in promoting the National Great Big Green event organised by the U3A Group, through social media and websites.

**Proposed:** Councillor Birch

**Seconded:** Councillor Price

**Vote: All in Favour**

**PE-25-202 New Park Orchard Chelmsford City Council**

The Committee discussed the new orchard area at Saltcoats Park in South Woodham Ferrers.

**Proposal:** To write to the Parks and Green Spaces Manager at Chelmsford City Council regarding the lack of consultation about the proposed orchard, the changes in the plan compared to previous comments, and its intended future use. The communication should also request collaboration with the Town Council to explore alternative future uses for the site.

**Proposed: Councillor Roberts**

**Seconded: Councillor Sismey**

**Vote: Vote carried 1 Abstained**

**PE-25-203 Forestry Commission**

The Committee discussed that the Forestry Commission are raising awareness at a local authority level of the eight-toothed spruce bark beetle, *Ips typographus*, which is an invasive and regulated pest in England. A report was attached to agenda.

**Proposal:** To produce some laminated signs to be displayed in selected entrances to our Fen land.

**Proposed:** Councillor Thompson

**Seconded:** Councillor Birch

**Vote: All in Favour**

**PE-25-204 Fen**

- Committee considered details in the Fen report. The Environment Officer gave an update, including fires on the fen and works carried out by Essex County Council on one of the footpaths.
- Councillors discussed the offer from a local resident and Chelmsford City Council to assist in a Fen clear up. Work is scheduled for the end of March 2025.

**Proposal:** To request the offer from the volunteer be forwarded to the local Park Ranger at Essex County Council

**Proposed:** Councillor O'Brien

**Seconded:** Councillor Sismey

**Vote: Vote carried 1 Abstained**

**PE-25-205 Trees Work at Hillcrest Road/Victoria Fields**

The Committee considered tree works to be carried out at our fence line with a property on a tree in Victoria Tree. The large tree requires removal in order to stop damage to the fence and the risk of structural damage to the property. Works to be carried out by J W Davis.

**Proposal:** To accept the quote to carry out the required tree works for a cost of £450.00 + vat by J W Davis.

**Proposed:** Councillor Thompson

**Seconded:** Councillor Ferry

**Vote: Carried 1 Abstained**

**PE-25-206 Report to Council**

- National Great Big Green Week

**PE-25-207 Media Coverage**

- No Media Coverage

**PE-25-208 Next Meeting**

The next meeting is to be held on 29<sup>th</sup> of April 2025 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business to discuss the Chair closed the meeting at 8.50pm

Signed .....

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025