Present:

Councillors: S. Wright (Chair)

D. Blackbourn

I. Evans

H. McCambridge

M. Stirrup

S. Terry

R. Wood

C. Harvey

C. Barreto

Officers: A. Yorke (Deputy Town Clerk)

K. Robinson (Committee Clerk)

M. Webster (Planning Consultant).

Members of Public: No members of the public, but one representative from Pigeon.

**278/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies: Councillors A. Blackbourn, D. Jefferson, T. Jermy, T. Land,

M. MacDonald (Vice Chair), A. Mitchell, V. Peters.

Absent: Councillors M. Brindle, V. Ross-Smith.

**279/24 MINUTES PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 13 August 2024 are a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**280/24 DECLARATIONS OF ANY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

There were none.

**281/24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO CONSIDER**

The following applications were discussed:

Plan No PL/2024/0661/F Consultation – Full

The Planning Consultant gave a brief overview of this planning application. The decision that the Committee made is to support this application. No additional comments were made.

Plan No 3DC/2024/0164/DOC Consultation - Discharge of Conditions

The Planning Consultant gave a brief overview of this planning application. The decision that the Committee made is to note this application.

Plan No 3PL/2024/0477/F Consultation – Full

The Planning Consultant gave a brief overview of this planning application. The decision that the Committee made is to note this application.

Plan No 3PL/2024/0678/F Consultation – Full

The Planning Consultant gave a brief overview of this planning application. The decision that the Committee made is to support this application. No additional comments were made.

**282/24 TREE PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The following applications were discussed:

Plan No TRE/2024/0170/TPO Consultation – TPO

The Planning Consultant gave a brief overview of this planning application. The decision that the Committee made is to support this application. No additional comments were made.

Plan No TRE/2024/0173/TCA Consultation – TCA

The Planning Consultant gave a brief overview of this planning application. The decision that the Committee made is to note this application.

There were two applications that were not included on the agenda:

Plan No TRE/2024/0164/TPO was noted by the Committee.

Plan No TRE/2024/0077/TPO was withdrawn.

The Committee had a discussion on whether it was useful to consider tree applications as sometimes the applications were decided quickly, before Councillors had a chance to consider them. Overall, the Committee did want to be informed of tree planning decisions and suggested that a distinction be made of those tree applications that had already been decided and those for which a decision was still to be made.

**Action:**

Committee Officer to update agenda template to reflect decided and undecided tree applications.

**283/24 LATE PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER AGENDA WAS PUBLISHED**

The following applications were discussed:

Plan No TRE/2024/0176/TPO Consultation – TPO

The Planning Consultant gave a brief overview of this planning application. The decision that the Committee made is to support this application. No additional comments were made.

Plan No TRE/2024/0180/TCA Consultation – TCA

The Planning Consultant gave a brief overview of this planning application. The decision that the Committee made is to support this application. No additional comments were made.

Plan No TRE/2024/0182/TPO Consultation – TPO

The Planning Consultant gave a brief overview of this planning application. The decision that the Committee made is to support this application. No additional comments were made.

**284/24 DECISIONS OF VARIANCE**

There were none.

**285/24 ITEMS TO BE REFERRED TO THE GREATER THETFORD PARTNERSHIP (GTP)**

The Chair informed the Committee that he had attended a presentation by Norfolk County Council (NCC) regarding the delivery of schools on the Kingsfleet development by Pigeon, which has deferred the land transfer for the first school until 2026.Trigger points for the second and third schools are based on the number of houses that will be built. As the level of house sales is lower than expected, the school build may be further delayed. Another factor to consider is that both at a County and National level, birth rates have declined, and this will impact on projected school capacity. The next meeting of the GTP will focus on enhanced access to the A11 bypass as well as the walking and cycling initiatives previously promoted by NCC.

**286/24 RESPONSE BY BRECKLAND PLANNING TO PREVIOUS COUNCIL COMMENTS**

The Chair explained that Breckland Council wanted a formal response to their comments on an earlier Thetford Town Council submission. It was agreed to note the Breckland Council comments and that the Committee had no further comments to make.

**Action:**

Committee Officer to respond to Breckland Council reflecting this response.

**287/24 PROGRESS ON ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The actions were noted and further discussed in the Committee Officers’ update.

**Action:**

749/23 - Breckland Council have agreed to meet with the Committee. Date to be confirmed.

**288/24 COMMITTEE OFFICERS UPDATE**

**Actions:**

230/24 - 1 October walkaround Kingsfleet (late afternoon/early evening).

230/24 - 22 October for a further meeting with Pigeon.

**The meeting closed at 19:35**

Chairman: S. Wright