

**Danbury Parish Council**  
**PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 February 2024 at 7.30pm at Danbury Parish Council Office, Main Road, Danbury, CM3 4NQ**

**Present:** Cllrs: J Armstrong, S Berlyn, A Chapman, P Churchouse, M Hessing (Chairman), and A Keeler

**In Attendance:** Mrs L Mitchelmore (Assistant Clerk), Mr M Scofield and a member of the public.

**23/24.122 Apologies for Absence**

None

**23/24.123 Declarations of Interest**

Members are required to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they know they may have in items of business on the meeting's agenda. They are reminded that they will need to repeat their declaration at the appropriate point in the meeting and leave the room if the interest is a prejudicial one. Unforeseen interests must be declared similarly at the appropriate time.

None

**23/24.124 Public Question Time**

Members of the public are invited to address the Council, give their views and question the Council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration (at the discretion of the Chairman). Members of the public may not take part in the Council meeting itself. At the close of this item members of the public will no longer be permitted to address the Council unless invited to do so by the Chairman. The session will last for a maximum of 15 minutes with any individual contribution lasting a maximum of 5 minutes. Members of the public should address their representation through the Chairman of the meeting.

Cllr Hessing proposed that this item be deferred to later in the meeting, as a member of the public had indicated that they would be attending but they were delayed, and all agreed.

**23/24.125 Minutes**

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 24 January 2024 were approved and signed as being a true record.

Proposed: Cllr Keeler, seconded: Cllr Berlyn and all agreed.

### **23/24.126 Planning Applications**

23/24.126.1 Responses to the following applications were considered for submission to Chelmsford City Council (CCC).

<b>Ref no</b>	<b>Property</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Comments</b>
24/05016/TPO	45 Mill Lane	T7 Oak (T1 on map) - Fell to ground level and grind out remaining stump. Replant new English Oak 14/16 girth root ball. Reason: Poor condition	The Parish Council would prefer the replacement tree to be an Oak as long as there is no risk of infection from any fungus that may be remaining in the soil.
23/01968/ADV	Beauty By Laura Walker. 62 Main Road	Retrospective application for two fascia signs	The Parish Council is disappointed that this is a retrospective application. Please would Officers ensure that the dimensions of the signage fall within the Conservation Area rules. Please would Officers also confirm whether the signage will be illuminated – the Parish Council would prefer that it is not.

23/24.126.2 No applications were referred to the local Ward Members for determination by the CCC Planning Committee.

### **23/24.127 Danbury Neighbourhood Plan.**

The Assistant Clerk gave an update on progress of the Neighbourhood Plan. The amended draft plan had been sent to CCC and the Planning Consultant. Comments had been received from CCC and the plan was being amended accordingly. The Equalities Statement had been received from the Planning Consultant. The group were awaiting an update with regards to the application for Technical Support for the Strategic Environment Assessment review.

### **23/24.128 Danbury Conservation Area – Appendices 1 and 2**

Members considered whether to conduct an appraisal of the Danbury Conservation Area (deferred from the Planning Committee Meeting held on 4 September 2023: minute 23/24.52.). After some discussion, it was suggested that a working group could be formed to undertake the review but that it should wait until after the Neighbourhood Plan had been completed. Cllr Armstrong proposed that the review be brought back to the first Planning Committee meeting after the Neighbourhood Plan had been submitted to CCC. This was seconded by Cllr Berlyn. Cllr A Chapman proposed an amendment that we suggest that individuals look around the village and draw up a list of buildings and any features to propose as Non-designated Heritage Assets.

RESOLVED: That consideration for a review of the Danbury Conservation Area be brought back to the first Planning Committee meeting after the Neighbourhood Plan had been submitted to CCC, and that we suggest that individuals look around the village and draw up a list of buildings and any features to propose as Non-designated Heritage Assets.

Proposed: Cllr Armstrong, Seconded: Cllr Berlyn and all agreed.

**23/24.124 Public Question Time**

The member of public who had indicated that they would be attending the meeting, but had been delayed, had arrived during agenda item 23/24.128. Cllr Hessing proposed that they be allowed to speak and all agreed.

The member of the public thanked the committee for being given the opportunity to speak. They were concerned that they had discovered a dormouse hibernating on their property which was near to one of the sites proposed for allocation in the Neighbourhood Plan. They had already reported it to the Essex Wildlife Trust and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and felt that it was important that it was investigated. They wanted to make sure that everything was done with regards to biodiversity and the mature trees on the site. Members explained that although a planning application could still be submitted, ecological studies would have to be undertaken by the developer and there was a requirement for developments over 10 houses to demonstrate Biodiversity Net Gain. The member of public was recommended to obtain photographic evidence if possible.

**23/24.129 Matters for Report (for information only)**

It was reported that:

- i. The Rural Community Council of Essex Warbler magazine included an article about Neighbourhood Plans and the NPPF (National Planning Framework)
- ii. CCC had revoked the Air Quality Management Areas at the Army and Navy Roundabout in Chelmsford and Maldon Road in Danbury (between Butts Lane and Eves Corner) as pollution had reduced over the past three years. It would continue to be monitored.

**23/24.130 Date of next meeting**

Monday 26 February 2024 at 7.30pm at the Parish Council Office

There being no further matters to consider, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm

Signed

Chairman.....Date.....