

Clerk's Report – May 2023
Sudborough Parish Council

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Agenda Items

22-014 – Willow tree near the Roundhouse

22-060 - Resolved to write to Highways and the Tree Officer regarding any action on this tree. No reply yet.

02/12/2022- Tree officer responded they would be out to inspect the tree and report back.

23-015 - Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 - Public Spaces Protection Orders

North Northamptonshire Council currently has Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) in place to enforce responsible dog ownership on land used by the public. The PSPOs currently in place include the following controls:

- a) failing to remove dog faeces;
- b) not keeping a dog on a lead in a designated 'dogs on lead' area;
- c) not putting, and keeping, a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer;
- d) permitting a dog to enter land from which dogs are excluded;
- e) taking more than a specified number of dogs onto land.

The existing orders from the predecessor authorities end in November 2023 and we are working towards creating a new PSPO for North Northants that will include dog control in Corby for the first time and will review existing controls in the other areas. As part of the first stage public consultation, we are writing to all of our partners to start the process and to assist us in identifying any new areas that require adding to the order, or changes that are required to existing areas listed on the orders. Further details regarding the process can be found in the attached letter.

We are requesting your comments on current PSPOs that are already in place which can be viewed on the councils website: [Public Spaces Protection Orders \(PSPOs\) | North Northamptonshire Council \(northnorthants.gov.uk\)](#) as well as any areas you feel would benefit from controls.

To assist us, could you please fill in the attached questionnaire provided and return these to Catherine.Clooney@northnorthants.gov.uk by the **20th April 2023**. All suggestions and comments will be taken into consideration during this process.

23/016 - Home to School Transport Policy Review

People are being asked for their views on new policy proposals for the future of home to school transport provided in North Northamptonshire.

The changes will affect the transport for both pupils of a statutory school age and for those aged over 16, continuing with their education.

Changes would not affect children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) who are currently eligible for free school transport. Pupils in mainstream education who attend their nearest suitable school and meet the current criteria for free school transport, are also not expected to be affected by the proposals. Policy revisions are focused on the discretionary elements of the service.

Have your say

Please visit the [consultation webpage](#) for further information including how to have your say.

This consultation closes midnight, 12 June 2023

[23/017 - Non-immediate Article 4 Direction: Kingswood, Corby](#)

Permitted development rights allow certain types of building work or changes of use without the need for planning permission. An Article 4 Direction allows a local planning authority to withdraw certain permitted development rights, so that planning permission is required. North Northamptonshire Council has made a non-immediate Article 4 Direction covering parts of Kingswood, Corby. The Direction withdraws the permitted development right to convert houses (planning use class C3) to houses in multiple occupation (planning use class C4).

Have your say

Please visit the [consultation webpage](#) for further information including how to have your say.

This consultation closes midnight, 5 June 2023

[23/018 - Survey - 0-19s Health Needs Assessment - parents and carers](#)

North Northamptonshire and West Northamptonshire Public Health Team are consulting with parents and carers to assess the health and wellbeing services which support children and young people aged 0-19 and their families, to understand demands and any improvements in those services.

Please visit the [North Northamptonshire Consultation and Engagement Hub](#) for further information including how to have your say. Please feel free to pass this link to any parents and/or carers who may be interested in participating.

23/019 - Re: Kettering Energy Park – Draft Masterplan Document Consultation And Engagement Event

We are writing to advise you that First Renewable Developments have published a [draft Masterplan](#) for Kettering Energy Park and are seeking [feedback](#) on their proposals.

Kettering Energy Park – Masterplan Consultation

We are promoting First Renewable Developments' public consultation on the draft Masterplan for Kettering Energy Park to ensure residents and other interested parties can fully input into its development.

This consultation closes midnight, 22 May 2023.

23/020 - Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan – Scope and Options Consultation

We are preparing a plan to address the accommodation needs of Gypsy and Travellers in North Northamptonshire. The Scope and Options Consultation invites views on what should be included in the plan and represents the first stage in the preparation of the plan.

This consultation closes midnight, 31 May 2023

Have your say on sexual health services

Have your say

Please visit the [North Northamptonshire Consultation and Engagement Hub](#) for further information including how to have your say.

23/021 - Claimed upgrading of public footpath to public bridleway

In June of 2014 (sic) several related applications were made to Northamptonshire County Council to modify the Definitive Map and Statement of public rights of way for Northamptonshire by upgrading a number of existing public footpaths in the parishes of Sudborough, Brigstock, Aldwinckle and Pilton, Stoke Doyle & Wadenhoe to public bridleway (see attached consultation plan for details).

The applications, from a local resident, were accompanied by a number of statements from members of the public who claim to have used these footpaths on horse-back without permission, interruption or challenge for a long period. The premise of the applications is that these public footpaths have become public bridleways by the operation of the process of 'deemed dedication' through usage.

As successor authority, it is North Northamptonshire Council's duty to investigate the matter and determine whether or not an order should be made to modify the Definitive Map. We are required by the legislation governing this process [Schedule 14 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981] to consult with all parish councils and, if applicable, parish meetings, covering the area of the land potentially affected by the application.

In determining what comments or representations your council may care to make, please bear in mind that we are constrained by the statute to determine this application based solely upon the evidence. If the statements submitted with the application fulfil the criteria of s.31 of the Highways Act 1980 for deemed dedication to have taken place, or we conclude that an act of dedication may be presumed under common law, then we must make the order. The Court of Appeal has held that subjective issues such as the perceived need for the claimed upgrading, its potential impact upon the landowners, issues relating to safety or privacy are all irrelevant at law to the determination of applications under this Act.

The applications seek to have the following public footpaths upgraded to public bridleway:

- NU15a Sudborough
- MK36 Brigstock
- NU15 Sudborough
- MC13 Aldwinckle
- NN10 Pilton, Stoke Doyle & Wadenhoe

If your councils do have any comments or representations on this matter then please let me have them, preferably by email, at your earliest convenience and **by Friday 5th May 2023 at the very latest**.

Policy Background

At Policy 26 (Renewable and Low Carbon Energy), the North Northamptonshire [Joint Core Strategy](#) (Part 1 Local Plan) identifies "Land at Burton Wold" as the main area of local opportunity for an "Energy Park" and provides guidance and criteria to assist interested parties to develop development proposals at the site, part of which includes the need to prepare a comprehensive masterplan, amongst other requirements.

On this basis, First Renewable Developments have prepared a [draft Masterplan](#) for Kettering Energy Park which outlines a vision for the site at Burton Wold and how it could be developed. The intention is that this [Masterplan](#), plus other relevant local and national policies, will guide proposals and applications related to Renewable Energy, including how new employment development at Burton Wold shall be served from this.

Public Consultation

This [Masterplan](#) is presently subject to a 7-week public consultation which runs up until **5:00pm on Monday May 22nd 2023**. More information on the Masterplan, and how responses can be made to First Renewable Developments on their proposals, is available at www.ketteringenergypark.co.uk/development-updates. This includes a [Feedback Form](#) for completion which invites comments on any or all key topic areas including Masterplan Vision, Environment and Biodiversity, Jobs and Economy, Renewable and Low Carbon Energy, Development and Design Principles (plus other general feedback).

Views can also be given by email at ketteringenergypark@northnorthants.gov.uk or by post to:

Planning Policy Team
North Northamptonshire Council
Municipal Offices
Bowling Green Road
Kettering NN15 7QX

Engagement event

As part of the consultation process, First Renewable Developments are holding a public engagement event between **2:30 and 7:30pm on Friday 21st April** at the **Harold Mason Centre, Burton Latimer**. Anyone who would like to find out more about the energy park proposals can come along and view material and speak with promoters and officers from North Northamptonshire Council at the following address:

Harold Mason Centre (aka The Civic Centre)

120 High Street
Burton Latimer
North Northants
NN15 5RH

Venue location: <https://goo.gl/maps/ya2SETQb1SXNge499>

Next Steps

Following the 7-week consultation on the Masterplan, it is intended that responses received, plus any changes proposed to the document, shall first be reported to North Northamptonshire Council's Planning Communities Executive Advisory Panel (EAP) on Monday 12th June 2023 and then forwarded to the appropriate committee for approval.

Following this process it is understood that First Renewable Developments, as site promoters, shall submit planning applications to the Council, of which the Masterplan will form part, for its consideration.

Ongoing

Flooding

A local culvert was identified as partially obstructed which was causing some of the flooding issues. This has since been cleared.

In March 2022, 21/193 The council resolved to apply for the remaining funds to cover the purchase of emergency supplies: Sandbags (Standard), Sand Bin, 2 x One Tonne Bags of Sand, 2 x Puddle Sucker Pump & piping, Drain clearing spoon , Drain clearing spade, Drain Key , Warning Signs, Flashing Warning Lights, Grill for Culvert, Tree felling service, Contribution to a storage solution

In March 2023, DSA contacted the Parish Council and would like to meet with them to discuss the results of their reports and further recommendations.

The Vane Arms

In March 2022 the council resolved under 21/206

The Parish Council has always been concerned with the future of The Vane Arms and so have investigated the options. They are currently satisfied that private buyers will ensure the future of the Vane Arms for now.

Should it become necessary, the parish council will be able to exercise the first right refusal as The Vane Arms is a Registered Asset of Community Value. They would then have at least six months to consult the residents and complete a business plan.

If the Vane Arms is left vacant or unpurchased for a period of time sufficient to cause concern the parish council will revisit this decision.

September 2022

Sudborough Parish Council received Notification of Sales of Vane Arms in accordance with its status as an Asset of Community Value

October 2022

22/086 – Consider response to notification of sale of Vane Arms, specifically whether or not to bid regarding Asset of Community Value status

The intended purchaser attended this meeting. They expressed their desire to see The Vane Arms continue as a public house and B&B. The Parish Council resolved not to take their opportunity to bid

Village Map

Full price £2,075 to £2,665

Breakdown

Previous quote of £1,200 for design and print ready artwork

21/177 - Cllr Colbourne to proceed with the order in the lectern fashion and including installation costs

Path Warden

The council do not appoint a path warden but propose the volunteer. We are seeking such a volunteer.

Welcome Pack

Villagers will be directed to the welcome pack via the notice board and encouraged to contact the clerk or councillors if they would like a physical copy or note any corrections.

The Phone Box

We are in discussion with Fermynwoods Contemporary Arts to see if they would like to produce a new exhibit.

Cowthick

Outline planning permission has been approved. Flooding and Transport solutions are being considered. There are concerns around inadequate filtration of potentially hazardous runoff. These concerns were raised at the meeting in April. There is a follow up meeting 8th June MD Mulberry, Mike Page & Cllr Dixon will be in attendance.

The council submitted a response to the Phase 1 Transport Assessment. Available publicly and on request

Highways responded to the Phase 1 Transport Assessment appeared on the NNC website on 10 August. This is publicly available and on request.

This report has been forwarded to Cllr David Brackenbury (Chair of NNC's Strategic Planning Committee) and Cllr Wendy Brackenbury (our local rep on NNC)..

The agenda for NNC's Strategic Planning Committee meeting on Monday 11 April was published but the Cowthick developer's application for approval of its Phase 1 Transport Assessment (application no. NC/21/00197/CON) was not on it. The next meeting of the Committee is not due to take place until Monday 23 May.

GLP (the developer which has taken over from Mulberry) lined up a company for the first unit on the new development once it has been built. It is a large manufacturer which will presumably mean considerably fewer vehicles - and HGVs in particular - entering and leaving the unit than would be the case if the unit was to be occupied by someone like DHL (who were originally going to take the first unit).

The Highway Authority/Planning Authority have not yet approved developer's Phase 1 Transport Assessment and their reserved matters application (NC/21/00064/REM) in respect of site access, layout etc. These are the applications that will sooner or later be considered by the Strategic Planning Committee.

Cllr Dixon met with the GLP director. The applications aren't yet ready to be considered by the Planning Committee. The director did say that they are expecting it to take 5 or 6 years to complete the development.

The director told us they have been making good progress on site over the winter months with groundworks and the drainage infrastructure and he anticipates that they'll be ready to give us a guided tour of the site when we next meet which will be in mid to late May.

As was the case at previous meetings, much of the conversation at the meeting on 21 March concerned the issue of access between the development site and the village of Weldon and in particular whether Kettering Road in Weldon will or will not be closed off.

August 2022

At the parish council meeting this month, two of the planning applications were considered related to the Cowthick Plantation development (NE/22/00269/REM and NE/22/00255/REM). It was decided to object to both applications.

The first is application NC/22/00269/REM where the developers are seeking approval of reserved matters relating to the warehouse/factory planned for Plot MPC2. This is the building intended to be occupied by the development's first tenants - a company called Top Hat Ltd who manufacture modular homes. The developers submitted some additional documents to address our objections.

The other application on which we've been consulted is NC/22/00255/REM where the developers are trying to get approval of their plans for the internal estate roads. As yet the developers haven't reacted to our objections on this one.

Cllr Dixon later received an email from David Scane who is our new contact at GLP, the developers of the Cowthick Plantation site. They are going to make an official response to the council's objection to application NC/22/0269/REM and would like the opportunity to talk to us about it at our next meeting.

September 2022

The Strategic Planning Committee meeting was cancelled due to the passing of the Queen. Their last meeting was in August, but the application we are concerned with (application NC/21/00197/CON for approval of the Phase 1 Transport Assessment) wasn't on the agenda.

They are next due to meet on the evening of Monday 17th October. If the application we're concerned with is on the agenda, we will seek to send a representative to read an objection. We have also asked Wendy Brackenbury if she will be available to make a statement to the Strategic Planning Committee on behalf of the local villagers who'll be affected by the increased traffic on the A6116.

We also received some feedback from the developers following a meeting with Cllr Forde and Dixon (and local councillors from other parishes) on 4th July. This will be available shortly.

November 2022

The council put in a lengthy objection to the transport assessment because of its failure to make any provision for improvements to the A6116 as it passes Sudborough. We have been waiting for that application to be considered by the Planning Authority. We had been expecting the Strategic Planning Committee to deal with it and another application (NC/21/00063/REM), concerning the access arrangements to the development off the A43, at the same meeting.

The agenda for their meeting on Monday 17 October had application NC/21/00063 is but not application NC/21/00197/CON. This reflect what Gwyn Stubbings (GLP Rep) told us at an ordinary meeting on 28 September that the Transport Assessment was going through revisions. Therefore, we did not need to attend this meeting.

The next scheduled meeting of the SPC is on Monday 14 November but as of publication of this report it is not known whether application NC/21/00197/CON will be ready to go on the agenda. It is not expected to appear on an SPC agenda until after the latest version of the Phase 1 Transport Assessment has appeared on the planning website.

There has also been another reserved matters application by GLP (application NC/22/00209/REM), which for some reason we were not consulted on that still hasn't been determined by the Planning Authority.