

## SHOTLEY PENINSULA ALLIANCE OF PARISH COUNCILS

### Minutes of the Meeting held at Shotley Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024

**Present:** John Ambrose (JA - Holbrook PC), Robin Coates (RC- Wherstead PC), Mike Crouch (MC- Harkstead PC), Simon Pearce (SP – Woolverstone PC), Russell Ross-Smith (R R-S - Freston PC)

**Minutes:** Jo Hazlewood (Clerk, Holbrook & Freston)

**1. Welcome:** As the Chairman of Shotley was unavailable, JA took the chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Apologies for Absence:** Andrea Mendel (Tattingstone), Mal Bridgeman (Brantham) Darren Cooper (Stutton) Richard Wrinch (Shotley)

**3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** the minutes of the previous meeting were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.

**4. Resolution on Alliance Priorities:** there was a discussion about the key priorities: councils had submitted by email the priorities identified by their individual councils, which had been copied in full and circulated. It was agreed that this needed fine tuning and condensing – once done it would be re-circulated and members will be asked to respond promptly.

It was agreed that communication between, and timely responses from, member councils were key to enable the Alliance to work effectively. One of the key aspects which had been identified by the majority of members was to try and engender a holistic response to reflect the impact of planning and other issues on the peninsula. **Resolution** – members agreed to circulate to all member parishes any planning application or issue received by their PC which may affect other parishes within the Alliance, so that an Alliance comment, if relevant, could also be submitted.

**5. Resolution on the draft Planning Statement** The statement, with any amendments, will be circulated, and member councils will be asked to respond by 12<sup>th</sup> October with a view to sending the final version to the Director of Planning as soon as possible thereafter. This would give some councils an opportunity to share the statement with their councils if they had not already done so. It was agreed to send a covering letter emphasising that, as a group, the Alliance is not opposed to further development but want key decisions to take account of the impact on the peninsula as a whole. The covering letter would give an option for the Director of Planning to attend a meeting of the Alliance, or for a small group of representatives from the Alliance to meet at the Planning Dept. with the possible inclusion of the ward councillors There is a Liaison Meeting with Babergh personnel on the 15<sup>th</sup> October at Pinewood and it was agreed to try and submit the letter and planning statement before that date.

**6. Shotley Peninsula Cycling Campaign – update:** MC had circulated documents and asked if the Alliance would be prepared to support the general objectives of the campaign and, if so, could the Alliance write to the campaign stating their support. A request would be made to member Councils when sending out the draft minutes of the meeting asking for a response to an Alliance supportive statement by 31<sup>st</sup> October, adding that, if no response was received by that date, it would be taken as an agreement to the objectives of the campaign. MC emphasised that no financial support for the campaign was required.

**7. Member Council Updates:** RC reported that flooding on the road opposite Fox's Marina is an ongoing issue and will not be sorted for a couple of months. The SID which was going to be put near Fox's is delayed as Fox's own the land and are slow to make a decision about a post for the SID. RC also mentioned that Wherstead Park is up for sale.

Freston, keeping an eye on the bins on the laybys to address the overflowing rubbish and have enlisted the help of the District Cllr who is negotiating with Public Realm for larger bins.

SP reported another accident at Woolverstone, in the 60 mph stretch between Chelmo and Woolverstone, Woolverstone are still campaigning to try and get the speed limit reduced. A dispute about a Public Footpath at the bottom of Mannings Lane has been resolved.

JA reported that he had met the new head at Holbrook Academy and Holbrook PC were liaising with the Academy to try and get the Peninsula Sports Centre re-opened under the umbrella of a CIC.

**8. Any Other Business:** there was no further business

**9. Date of Next Meeting:** a few possible dates in January would be circulated for a meeting to be held at Woolverstone.