

**EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF
RAUNDS TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes: 10 October 2017 Time 7.30pm.

PRESENT

Cllr R Levell (Deputy Town Mayor) (Chair), Cllr L Wilkes, Cllr R Tyman, Cllr H Howell, Cllr J Duff, Cllr R Beattie, Cllr M Hind, Cllr D Jones, Cllr S Hughes

IN ATTENDANCE

Miss Kate Houlihan, Town Clerk, Minutes
Mrs Emma Williams, Assistant to the Clerk.

345.17 Planning Matters

- a. To receive an oral update on the Raunds Neighbourhood Plan

The Clerk reminded members of the decision taken at the extraordinary meeting on 2nd October 2017, which was;

RESOLVED to accept the modifications of the external examiner subject to the final outcome of the Judicial Review.

If the Stop Warth Park Group apply for “oral renewal” of their application for a judicial review, then the Neighbourhood Plan will be re-considered by the Full Council on 10th October 2017.

Members then considered the information received from East Northamptonshire Council (ENC) regarding the Judicial Review.

“ENC expect to receive formal notification from the High Court of the Oral Renewal process by Friday 13th October 2017. Thereafter it is understood that the process was likely to take a further 4 to 8 weeks to conclude (but that this period may be longer)”.

The Clerk explained that if the council were to delay the decision on the Neighbourhood Plan until after the Oral renewal process was completed then it would not be possible to hold the referendum on 16th November 2017 as there was a statutory requirement to publish details of the referendum by 12th October 2017.

Members then considered the report of the external examiner and his reasons for not allowing the land south of meadow lane to be protected. The examiner had considered the designation of the land as both a Protected Open Space and as Local Green Space. The examiner had concluded that:

Site 25 - Land South of Meadow Lane should not be designated as “Protected Open Space”, nor should it be covered by a “Local Green Space” designation on the grounds that it does not meet the basic condition tests or have regard to national policy for the protection of open space.

Reluctantly members concluded that there was nothing more that could be done to try and protect this piece of land through the Neighbourhood Plan.

Further consideration was then given to other policies in the Neighbourhood Plan, such as policies in support of protecting local buildings, other open spaces and future infrastructure aspirations.

Following detailed discussion it was concluded that, whilst the exclusion of site 25 (Land South of Meadow Lane) from the final plan was deeply disappointing, overall the Neighbourhood Plan was of such strategic importance that the referendum should not be delayed.

RESOLVED to accept the modifications of the external examiner and to advise East Northamptonshire Council that the Town Council were in agreement with the referendum date of 16th November 2017.

DRAFT