

# Huntingdon Town Council's Planning Committee

## Annual Report 2020/21

Huntingdon Town Council works in conjunction with Huntingdonshire District Council, who is the planning authority, on planning matters relevant to the town. The Council invites any large-scale planning projects that may affect the town to come and provide information and answer queries to enable the committee to put forward an informed opinion.

Over the past year various applications have been submitted, approved and work has begun. Various developments are in progress, nearing completion or have completed.

- Work is continuing on the new crematorium and cemetery and this is hoped to be completed in spring 2021.
- A14 works completed, work continuing to remove flyover at Huntingdon train station.
- Lochailort gave a presentation about changes to development known as the former Sainsbury's site. The number of units has been revised down to accommodate more houses and less flats.
- Colonnade Revival gave a presentation about renovating 111 High Street, creating an arcade with 18 units, a bar and function areas.
- Members agreed to begin the process of revising the Huntingdon Neighbourhood Plan to reflect changes in the town since the plan was made in 2019.

The Council continues to work with residents in opposing some proposed applications within the town or affected the town:

- The proposed outline planning application at Washingley Farm for a phased development of 648 dwellings was refused. Members felt there was high density with no single dwellings and there were concerns over access.
- The licensing application for a gaming premises licence/bingo was refused. Members objected to the gambling facility which was felt would be detrimental to the financial and mental health wellbeing of residents. Concerns were raised about crime, disorder and public nuisance.
- Members of the Council were against the proposed Luton Airport stacking area. Concerns were raised about the noise level and increase of pollution.

Huntingdon Town Council actively supports the Huntingdonshire Tree Strategy and where possible plant trees on Town Council land.

The Planning Applications Panel provides comments on any planning applications, works to trees, street naming and change of use of properties relevant to Huntingdon.

Members of the public are welcome to comment on upcoming planning applications to be considered by the Town Council by contacting the office and can attend meetings of the Planning Committees and speak on matters on the agenda.