

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

APRIL 2022

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Planning Committee have overseen various applications over the past year, one of particular note was the application for the alterations and development of the Drifffield Junior Football site at Allotment Lane, which was very much welcomed.

Unfortunately, no further movement has been made on various sites throughout the town, including the former Cattle Market and the Sugar Mills, both ripe for much needed housing developments it would seem and brown field sites which is much more preferable than green field. Rumours continue as to the future of the Cattle Market site, however we must be careful to ensure that the town does not lose its much-needed free car parking facilities in that area, as it seems the Eastgate Car Park is always mentioned in the same breath.

Queen Street however, for many years an area of dereliction, has now been in most part, rejuvenated with an excellent development of bungalows aimed at the elderly. The Town Council would very much like to see the site opposite the new bungalows developed too and then a very important pedestrian access to the town centre would be greatly improved.

Demolition was completed on the former post office site, however, work on the care home at Middle Street North seems to have stalled for some reason, the site is hidden by a neat fencing complex which features the town council mural of well-known shop keepers. However, the completion of the development and the subsequent re-invigoration of that area of the town would be very much preferred.

The continued building of large numbers of houses on land that formerly was agricultural land shows no signs of stalling and is an inevitable part of Drifffield's future growth as a principal town. We continue to worry about the perceived lack of the infrastructure to support these new houses and the people they bring however our powers are very limited in this regard. On the bright side, the Town Council is working closely with the Commuted Sums team to ensure that the community can benefit in some ways from this expansion.

We continue to await the outcome of various contentious issues such as the bridleway at Long Lane and the continued use of Long Lane for building traffic when a roundabout off the bypass was part of the wider plan to relieve this issue.

Cllr Georgina Lucas

Chairman