

Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on Tuesday 8th July at 6.15pm in The Council Chambers, Diamond Jubilee Lodge, Wood View Road, Hellesdon

PRESENT:

Cllr Greg Britton (Chairman)
Cllr David Maidstone
Cllr Roy Forder
Cllr Robin Sear

Also, in Attendance Mr D Marshall (Office Admin)

1. Apologies and acceptance for absence

Received from Cllr David Hicks

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

No declarations of interest made.

3. To approve minutes of the committee meeting held on 24th June 2025.

The minutes of 24th June had previously been circulated. The minutes were AGREED and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting,

4. Public Participation

- (a) Members of the public are invited to speak and are **only** permitted to speak at this point in the meeting.
- (b) (Public participation shall be in accordance with Standing Orders and shall not exceed 15 minutes unless such time is extended by the Chairman).

12 members of the public in attendance.

Cllr Sue Holland entered the meeting at 6.20pm

The application for a telecommunications mast on land off Carrowbreck close has drawn opposition from all residents for several reasons.

1. The access road is not suitable for increased traffic, as it is no wider than 3 metres. An increase in traffic could impact health and safety.
2. Other sites have been rejected due to lack of access, insufficient space, technical ground issues, and problems related to Coombs and landscape matters. A total of four sites has been rejected so far.
3. There are no considerations for Carrowbreck being closer than other D2 ambulance stations. It has been suggested that funding should be allocated to install services at the existing ambulance station.
4. Questions arose about whether there is sufficient power supply and if the road can accommodate heavy traffic. Additionally, residents want to know if Broadland will reduce council tax and if the council will address any devaluation concerns. There has been no mention of any proposed work programme. The access space along the 101 is noted, but there is no proposal for an exit.
5. Will there be any benefits for the local area? There are also parking issues along Carrowbreck Road, which would likely worsen.
6. An ecologist should carry out a survey for a bat colony in the area.
7. The development's impact on the natural environment does not align with community ideals and is only 50 metre's away. Residents are concerned about potential radio frequency effects, with some indicating they might have to move.
8. There has been a lack of information for residents, particularly since it is not available on the website (writing to Broadland District Council).

9. Trees will not obscure the mast, and with residents having balconies, the view will still be dominated by the mast.

10. The land proposed for the site belongs to Broadland District Council, which has made access to the mast unsuitable. Overall, the community is raising valid concerns and needs clearer communication from the council regarding these issues.

5. Planning Outcomes

Updated Information on recent decisions made on planning applications, these are circulated to all members of the committee and noted at the meeting.

6. Planning Applications for Consideration

Application
2025/1922 Location: Land At Carrowbreck Close Hellesdon Norfolk NR6 5FB Proposal: The installation of a new 25m lattice mast, hosting 6no. antennas and 2no. dish antennas, with 3no. equipment cabinets and 1no meter cabinet all within a fenced compound. All other associated ancillary apparatus and permitted development thereto.
Cllr R Sear, Guidance regarding the 5G radio mast is taking a long time to go through the committee. This mast meets all the technological requirements and is located just off Drayton High Road. Cllr S Holland raised a question about why they cannot position it near an existing mast. As Cllr R Sear , noted that they need to maintain a specific distance between masts. Cllr S Gurney mentioned that she would call Broadland to express concerns about the site. After discussing it with someone from Broadland, Cllr S Gurney believes the location is inappropriate. There have been many awards regarding development and design and placing a mast so close goes against that ethos. Cllr S Gurney noted that there are already several masts in Hellesdon and emphasized the importance of supporting residents in opposing this proposal. Cllr S Holland to investigate the situation with Broadland, as there are other viable options available. Reasons for objections were raised. Cllr D Maidstone stated that there should be a comprehensive plan for where masts should be in Norfolk and pointed out that this location is far from ideal. He suggested placing it in the middle of farmland instead. Cllr S Holland reiterated that this site does not appear suitable and that other locations should be considered, especially since it is too close to housing. Members of the committee all voted unanimously AGAINST the proposal.

7. Date, time and place of the next meeting. 22ND July 6.15pm in the Council Chambers, Diamond Jubilee Lodge, Hellesdon Parish Council

Meeting concluded at 18.38

David Marshall Admin Officer

Dated 10th July 2025