

**Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the Strategic Planning Committee on Thursday, 19 October 2023**

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
<b>Part A – Items considered in public</b>		
<b>A5</b>	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 53 Schedule 14 - Application to upgrade footpath WN 27/4 and part of footpath WN 23/11 to bridleways from the A303, Queen Camel to Sparkford Hill, Sparkford	<p><b>Resolved:</b></p> <p>That that the application which seeks to upgrade footpath WN 23/11 to a bridleway from the A303, Queen Camel to Sparkford Hill, Sparkford between F and F1 as shown on Appendix 1 be <b>REFUSED</b>.</p> <p>It was further <b>AGREED</b> that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. an Order be made, the effect of which would be to amend the Definitive Map and Statement to upgrade footpaths WN 27/4 and WN 23/15 from G to F2 as shown on Appendix 1 to bridleways.</li> <li>ii. if there were no objections to such an order, or if all objections were withdrawn, it be confirmed (subject to the order meeting the legal tests for confirmation).</li> <li>iii. if objections were maintained to such an order, it will be submitted to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.</li> </ul> <p>(Voting: 5 in favour, 0 against, 2 abstentions)</p>
<b>A6</b>	Progress Report: Phosphates and	<b>Resolved:</b>

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	<p>work undertaken to achieve nutrient neutral development in the Somerset Levels and Moors</p>	<p>That the Strategic Planning Committee <b>NOTED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The content of the report and the activity across the 3 affected river catchments which continued to unlock the delivery of housing and affected development which had been on hold due to the need to ensure nutrient neutrality.</li> <li>b. The anticipated legislative changes flowing from the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, (as summarised in paragraphs 33 to 38 of the report).</li> <li>c. The outcome of the Council’s funding bid to the Government’s Nutrient Mitigation Fund.</li> </ul> <p>That the Strategic Planning Committee <b>AGREED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d. An expansion to the criteria for River Tone P-credit allocation to allow for the allocation of remaining River Tone P-credits to prioritise all full planning applications, applications for the approval of reserved matters or discharge of conditions and Section 73 applications that relate to C3 housing development or traveller accommodation and are otherwise ‘ready to proceed’ in planning terms.</li> <li>e. That 10 River Tone P-credits are ‘ringfenced’ and can only be allocated to minor applications for housing development i.e. proposals for less than 10</li> </ul>

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		<p>dwellingings.</p> <p>f. The River Tone P-credit scheme maintains the requirement that P-credits are allocated to planning applications for ‘implementable development’ (i.e. development that can be commenced within 3 months of planning permission being granted (unless otherwise agreed with the Local Planning Authority)).</p> <p align="right">(Voting: 5 in favour, 0 against, 2 abstentions)</p>
<b>A7</b>	Quarterly report on planning service performance	<p><b>Resolved:</b></p> <p>The Strategic Planning Committee <b>NOTED</b> the content of the Quarterly report on planning service performance.</p>