

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council
Minutes of the Planning, Highways & Consultations Committee
Held 7.00 pm on Monday 16th July 2018
In the Guildhall, Abingdon-on-Thames.

Present

Cllr David Pope	(Chairman)
Cllr Mike Badcock	(Vice-Chairman)
Cllr Margaret Crick	(Mayor, Ex-Officio)
Cllr Jeanette Halliday	
Cllr Brian Hedley	
Cllr Vicky Jenkins	
Cllr Angela Lawrence	
Cllr Patrick Lonergan	

Also in attendance:

Mr Nigel Warner	(Town Clerk)
Miss Louise Brown	(Administrative Assistant)
1 member of the public	

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Samantha Bowring and Cllr Lorraine Oates.

2. **Declarations of Interests**

Item 4 – Matters Arising: Oxford – Cambridge Expressway

Councillor Mike Badcock declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to this item as a member of the Oxford Growth Board.

Application 12.2 – P18/V1221/T56 – 12 Knollys Close Abingdon

Cllr David Pope declared non-pecuniary interest in this application as he knew the applicant.

Application 12.5 – P18/V1397/FUL– Christ’s Hospital of Abingdon

Cllrs Mike Badcock and Cllr Margaret Crick declared a non-pecuniary interest in this application as they are governors of Christ’s Hospital of Abingdon nominated into these roles as members of the Town Council.

Application 12.8 – P18/V1474/FUL– 35 Oxford Road Abingdon

Cllr Patrick Lonergan declared non-pecuniary interest in this application as an individual who opposed the application.

3. **Minutes**

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 25th June 2018 be signed as a correct record by the Chairman, subject to the following amendments:

- “Public Participation” to be numbered as item 5;
- Removal of duplicate of “members” at the end of the first paragraph of Item 6.

4. **Matters Arising**

The Chairman asked about the Environment Agency Maps from last meeting and Town Clerk confirmed they have not been sent out due to a query relating to copyright.

Cllr Pope read out a letter from a member of public regarding the deep clean that was carried out by the Vale of White Horse District Council. The letter was complimentary of the work undertaken.

A discussion followed where some members voiced their concerns about areas that still needed improving.

Oxford- Cambridge Expressway

The Committee considered an e-mail from Layla Moran MP in relation to this matter, which included a request regarding whether the Council had a preference for which route is adopted.

Members expressed a variety of views in relation to this matter. Some members queried whether the expressway was required and stated that a better investment would be to improve rail links. Views were also expressed that depending on the route of the proposed expressway, parts of the A34 may be improved to expressway standards and this may also be the mechanism through which a second river crossing of the River Thames could be built. Members requested that these views be conveyed to Layla Moran MP. At that same time the Council requested that it reiterates its previous comments supporting the request for a public inquiry and expressing concern about the possibility of new roads being built through open countryside that is largely green belt, and the belief that such important decisions should not be taken without a full public consultation.

Vale of White Horse District Council Deep Clean – w/b 2nd July 2018

The Waste Team notified the Town Council that with regard to the request for the Wootton Road shops, they were unable to cleanse that area as it did not fall under their responsibility. The District Council no longer owned this land, however they would pass on the request to the new owners so that they could deal with it accordingly.

The Committee noted the above.

5. **Public Participation**

One member of the public, Cllr Samantha Casey-Rerhaye, Chair of Culham Parish Council, spoke regarding her objection to application 12.13, P17/S4416/FUL, Change of use of land from agricultural land to farm park, wildlife and outdoor activity Centre at Culham Hill. The Town Council had been consulted on this application as it was in an adjoining parish. Her main concerns were:

- The amended application had been submitted during the summer and this was a large project with lots of paperwork and therefore Culham Parish Council needed more time to go through the amended application. Consequently they had applied for an extension of time to consider matters.
- The Parish Council was employing an environmental and planning consultant who was looking at the application as it was not clear what was being amended compared to the original application.
- The Parish Council did not see the necessity for the proposed facility, there are many similar facilities in the area.
- The impact of the proposed development on traffic and highways would be significant and would place more pressure on an already busy road network in the area.
- For Abingdon there would be a concern that the increased traffic could have an adverse impact on air quality, noting that Abingdon was already subject to an Air Quality Management Area.

6 **Oxfordshire County Council – Highway Maintenance Briefing - Fact Sheet Summer 2018**

This was noted by the Committee, who considered this to be a useful document.

7 **Premises Licence Application – The Chemist, 23 High Street, Abingdon**

This was noted by the Committee.

8 **Permitted Development Rights**

The Committee noted the following:

RE: Demolition of existing conservatory and proposed rear extension on same footprint.

Depth: 3.5m Height: 3.6m Height to eaves: 2.7m

AT: 47 Kennet Road, Abingdon, OX14 2SU

REF: P18/V1553/PDH

9 **Certificate of Lawful Development**

The Committee noted the following:

RE: Loft conversion to include side facing and rear facing dormers

AT: 47 Abbott Road Abingdon OX14 2DU

REF: P18/V1592/LDP

10 **Vale of White Horse Planning Decisions**

The Committee noted the following:

A list of any recent planning decisions where the Town Council's recommendation was to refuse planning permission or was contrary to the decision by the District Council is attached.

11 **Planning Appeal**

The Committee noted the appeal decisions from the Planning Inspectorate regarding the following applications which was refused planning permission by the VWHDC:

- P17/V2042/FUL – Brookvale, 8 South Avenue, Abingdon, OX14 1QH. Town Council objected to the application. Appeal dismissed by the Planning inspectorate.

12 **Planning Applications**

The Planning Applications were received and considered from the Vale of White Horse District Council. Following consideration of the planning applications, it was RESOLVED that the following comments be forwarded as the Council's recommendations on the various applications: (See separate page)

The meeting rose at 7.57 pm

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Chairman

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Date