

Abingdon Town Council
Planning & Highways Committee

**Minutes of the Planning and Highways Committee held at the
Old Abbey House on Monday 22nd October 2012 at 7.00pm**

Committee Members Present :- Councillor Alice Badcock, Vice Chairman
Councillor Michael Badcock, Chairman
Councillor Lesley Legge
Councillor Hermann Matheson
Councillor Penny McDougall

Also in Attendance :- Mr Nigel Warner, Town Clerk
Mrs Nina Özdemir, PA to Town Clerk
3 Members of the Public

01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Jeanette Halliday; Peter Jones; Angela Lawrence; Katie Nobes; Chairman of Finance and General Purposes, Cllr Sandy Lovatt; and the Mayor of Abingdon-on-Thames, Cllr Monica Lovatt.

02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

03 MINUTES

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 1st October 2012 be signed as a correct record.

04 MATTERS ARISING

A member requested that hard copies of tree work schedules from the previous meeting are kept at reception.

05 WORK TO VARIOUS TREES

Members noted the following work to trees:

1. Fell 1 x Gleditsia, 31 Victoria Road, Abingdon
2. Various works at 16 Conduit Road, Abingdon:

Mixed Screen - back to the wall off the footpath. Reduce the height to uniform ten feet above ground level. Eucalyptus pollard to one and a half metres. Clear BT line.

Large shrub - reduce crown by three metres
Viburnum, Laurel and Holly - reduce crown by two metres
Buddleia - fell to ground level
Rose / Ash - fell to ground level
Goat Willow - pollard to two metres above ground level
Apple - removed deadwood
Birch - reduce crown by two metres
Field Maple - cut back off neighbour's garden by two metres
Bay and Portuguese Laurel - reduce to six feet above ground level. Cut resident's side back.

3. Fell 1 x Cherry tree, fell 1 x Acer Negundo tree and fell 1 x Purple Leaved Plum tree a 22 Park

Road, Abingdon.

4. Re-shape, crown lift and thin 8 x Lime trees at War Memorial Field / Faringdon Road, Abingdon.

06 TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS

Members noted the following Traffic Regulation Orders:

1. Temporary Road Traffic Order - S14(1) Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984
Temporary Road Closure: East St Helen Street, Abingdon

A temporary road closure has been arranged as a contingency to apply to East St Helen Street in the even that unforeseen operational difficulties are encountered during gas main replacement works. It is anticipated that any closures will be of a short duration.

A temporary order will operate from 29th October 2012. The estimated duration of the works is 4 weeks.

Access will be maintained for emergency service vehicles, the works and those residents within the closure area, subject to the progress of the works.

An alternative route is in place.

2. Request for Temporary Road Closure 10 November 2012: Temporary closure of part of footpath 8 (South Avenue to Boulter Drive) from 19:30 to 20:30 whilst the Firework Display run by 2nd Abingdon Scout Group takes place.

07 PROPOSED EXTENSION OF ABINGDON AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA

Members noted the response from the Vale of White Horse District Council.

08 PLANNING DECISIONS

The Town Clerk gave a verbal report to the meeting to explain the administrative changes made by VWHDC in informing the Council of planning decisions. Decisions can now be produced for future meetings. The Chairman of the Committee requested that a link is added to the new Town Council website for easy access to the decisions.

09 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.

09- 1	P12/V1330/A	Plot Ref :-	Type :-	OTHER
	Applicant Name :-	Gee, Mrs Helen	Date Received :-	01/10/2012
	Location :-	5 The Chambers Vineyard Abingdon OX14 3PX	Date Returned :-	23/10/2012
	Proposal :	Erection of a 1 x illuminated signbox, 1 x rear wall sign and 1 x entrance door glass sign.		
	Observations :	No objections as long as the illuminated sign is in keeping with the area and that there are similar signs in the vicinity. If there are not similar illuminated signs, the Committee would object to this as being contrary to Policy DC16		

09- 2 P12/V1896/FUL Plot Ref :- Type :- MAJOR
Applicant Name :- Cranbourne (Abingdon) Ltd Date Received :- 01/10/2012
Location :- Land to rear 20 Marcham Road Date Returned :- 23/10/2012
Marcham Road
Abingdon
OX14 1AA
Proposal : Conversion of school premises to form 6 flats and erection of 8 houses to the rear of the site.
Observations : No objections provided that the planning authority deem that adequate car parking provision has been made within the application; and that the County Archaeologist is content with the application and that any conditions requested by the Archaeologist are complied with.

09- 3 P12/V1947/FUL Plot Ref :- Type :- MINOR
Applicant Name :- Gilley, Mr Graham Date Received :- 27/09/2012
Location :- 87 Northcourt Road Date Returned :- 23/10/2012
Northcourt Road
Abingdon
OX14 1NN
Proposal : Demolition of existing dwelling. Erection of 4 x 1 bed and 3 x 2 bed flats on two and three storeys with parking area served by access from Northcourt Road.
Observations : Object. The Committee supports the holding objection of the VWHDC until such time as an adequate flood risk assessment has been submitted. If, after the assessment has been made and in the eventuality that the VWHDC lifts their objection, then the Town Council will withdraw their objection.

09- 4 P12/V1962/FUL Plot Ref :- Type :- MINOR
Applicant Name :- Maconochie, Mr I Date Received :- 16/10/2012
Location :- 185 Saxton Road Date Returned :- 23/10/2012
Saxton Road
Abingdon
OX14 5HQ
Proposal : Erection of a two storey side extension and conversion of extended property to form 4 flats. Formation of on-site car parking.
Observations : No objections.

09- 5 P12/V2006/FUL Plot Ref :- Type :- MINOR
Applicant Name :- Hartwell PLC Date Received :- 05/10/2012
Location :- Hartwell Abingdon Drayton Rd Date Returned :- 23/10/2012
Drayton Road
Abingdon
OX14 5JU
Proposal : Demolition of existing workshops building for the creation of an outside used car

display area and alterations of existing showroom building.

Observations : No objections. However, the committee raised concerns about possible future floodlighting of the display area and would like to be assured that this is not going to affect nearby residential properties. The Committee also requested that the opportunity be taken to improve drainage in this area.

09- 6 P12/V2014/FUL Plot Ref :- Type :- OTHER
Applicant Name :- Keely, Mr Christopher Date Received :- 05/10/2012
Location :- 9 Larkhill Road Date Returned :- 23/10/2012
Larkhill Road
Abingdon
OX14 1BL

Proposal : Conversion of previously permitted two storey extension into a separate dwelling.

Observations : The Committee objected to this application as it was considered to represent an overdevelopment of the site, and one which was out of character with the locality, and as such, was in contravention of policies DC1 (design) and DC9 (impact of development on neighbouring uses) of the adopted Vale of White Horse District Local Plan 2011. Members were also concerned as to the adequacy of the plans.

09- 7 P12/V2047/HH Plot Ref :- Type :- OTHER
Applicant Name :- Cook, Mr Gordon Date Received :- 01/10/2012
Location :- 39 Mons Way Date Returned :- 23/10/2012
Mons Way
Abingdon
OX14 1NJ

Proposal : Proposed extension of garage into a playroom.

Observations : No objections.

09- 8 P12/V2084/RET Plot Ref :- Type :- OTHER
Applicant Name :- Boswell, Mrs Terry Date Received :- 15/10/2012
Location :- 136 Oxford Road Date Returned :- 23/10/2012
Oxford Road
Abingdon
OX14 2AG

Proposal : Retrospective application for the erection of a garden shed.

Observations : The Committee objected to this application on the grounds that the garden shed is too large and higher than the District Council's guidelines for such structures. Members also considered that if permission were to be granted, this would set a precedent for similar applications.

09- 9 P12/V2091/FUL Plot Ref :- Type :- MINOR
Applicant Name :- Abingdon & Witney College Date Received :- 12/10/2012
Location :- Wootton Road Date Returned :- 23/10/2012
Wootton Road
Abingdon
OX14 1GG
Proposal : Construction of a single storey building for the teaching of advance engineering and associated landscaping.
Observations : The Committee objected to the proposed development on the grounds that:
1. The scale, height and mass of the proposed building in relation to the adjoining property in Northcourt Road adversely affects those attributes that make a positive contribution to the character of the locality, in contravention of Policy DC1 (design) of the of the adopted Vale of White Horse District Local Plan 2011.
2. The development unacceptably harms the amenities of the neighbouring property in Northcourt Road, specifically due to loss of daylight and sunlight, and dominance/ visual intrusion, in contravention of Policy DC9 (impact of development on neighbouring uses) of the of the adopted Vale of White Horse District Local Plan 2011.
3. Car parking provision would be reduced onsite, and therefore there would be inadequate parking provision following the proposed development, in contravention of Policy DC5 (access) of the adopted Vale of White Horse District Local Plan 2011.

09- 10 P12/V2129/HH Plot Ref :- Type :- MINOR
Applicant Name :- Orford, Mr J Date Received :- 16/10/2012
Location :- 75 Oxford Road Date Returned :- 23/10/2012
Oxford Road
Abingdon
OX14 2AB
Proposal : Erection of ancillary building comprising of garage and store with home office above.
Observations : No objections.

09- 11 P12/V2136/FUL Plot Ref :- Type :- MINOR
Applicant Name :- Mays Properties Ltd Date Received :- 17/10/2012
Location :- Unit F (Vineys) & G (Homebase) Date Returned :- 23/10/2012
Fairacres Retail Pk Marcham Rd
Abingdon
OX14
Proposal : External alterations, new store entrances, new rear service doors, new cladding to existing buildings, new dedicated servicing, parking and associated landscaping.
Observations : No objections.

10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS - ABINGDON MARATHON 2012

The Chairman expressed concerns regarding the road closures and traffic management of this year's marathon. It was agreed that the Town Clerk arrange a meeting with the officer from Oxfordshire County Council; the marathon organiser; the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Planning and Highways Committee plus one other member from this Committee (from the opposition group); and the Head of Service Delivery.

The Meeting closed at : 8.00pm

Signed : _____ Chairman Date: _____

On behalf of :-Abingdon Town Council