

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council

Planning & Highways Committee

Minutes of the Planning and Highways Committee held in the Bear Room, Guildhall on Monday 14th July 2014 at 7.00pm

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

Also in Attendance :- Mr Nigel Warner, Town Clerk
Mrs Nina Özdemir, PA to Town Clerk

01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Lorraine Oates (Vice Chairman); Jeanette Halliday; and Aidan Melville.

02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

03 MINUTES

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd June 2014 be signed as a correct record.

04 MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Alice Badcock reported that she had contacted Oxfordshire County Council to ask why there had been no plans to visit Abingdon during the series of Connecting Oxfordshire public meetings. She was told that this was because no major developments were planned for the town. The towns which were having meetings scheduled were due to take large housing developments over the coming years.

05 VWHDC AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN - STATUTORY CONSULTATION

Members commented that parts of the report were difficult to understand due to the technical language being used. There was also some ambiguity over which particulates were being referred to in parts of the report. Members agreed that the Town Clerk should liaise with Cllr Lesley Legge in this regard and contact the District Council accordingly.

It was agreed that the discussion should therefore be deferred until the next meeting of the Committee.

06 CONVERSION OF OFFICES AND NAMING OF PROPERTIES

Members noted:

1. Conversion of roof space of existing building to create two new flats to be known as: 47B and 49B Ock Street, Abingdon, OX14 5AG.
2. Conversion of existing offices to create 9 new flats to be known as: Flats 5-12 & Suite C The Loft Apartment, The Courtyard, Lombard Street, Abingdon, OX14 5FG.

07 CERTIFICATE OF LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT

Members noted:

1. Single storey rear extension
AT: 79 Gibson Close
Abingdon
OX14 1XS
REF: P14/V1388/LDP

2. Proposed single storey rear extension
AT: 54 Foster Road
Abingdon
OX14 1YW
REF: P14/V1244/LDP

08 PLANNING DECISIONS

The latest list of planning decisions from the Vale of White Horse District Council were presented to members.

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 P14/V1134/FUL Plot Ref :- Type :- OTHER
Applicant Name :- Snaith, Mr and Mrs H Date Received :- 08/07/2014
Location :- 91 Oxford Road Date Returned :- 15/07/2014
Oxford Road
Abingdon
OX14 2AB

Proposal : Variation of condition 2 of planning permission P13/V1062/HH.

Observations : Recommend refusal. Members considered that the original condition to undertake the development in accordance with the agreed plans should be adhered to as an important part of the planning process; non-compliance would undermine the process by allowing a development which was not in accordance with what had been agreed.

09- 2 P14/V1334/HH Plot Ref :- Type :- OTHER
Applicant Name :- Ahier, Mr and Mrs Graham Date Received :- 23/06/2014
Location :- 22 Picklers Hill Date Returned :- 15/07/2014
Picklers Hill
Abingdon
OX14 2BA

Proposal : Single storey and two storey extensions, alterations, loft conversion and replacement garage.

Observations : No objections.

09- 3 P14/V1422/FUL Plot Ref :- Type :- OTHER
Applicant Name :- Gibson, Mr J Date Received :- 30/06/2014
Location :- 2 Fullwell Close Date Returned :- 15/07/2014
Fullwell Close
Abingdon
OX14 1JX
Proposal : Proposed extension and conversion to form 4 x 2 bed flats.

Observations : No objections.

09- 4 P14/V1428/HH Plot Ref :- Type :- OTHER
Applicant Name :- Suckling, Mr Nick Date Received :- 30/06/2014
Location :- 105 Northcourt Road Date Returned :- 15/07/2014
Northcourt Road
Abingdon
OX14 1NN
Proposal : Extend existing house and provide integral self contained annexe. New roof incorporating rooms within roofspace. Resubmission of application no. P14/V0605/HH.

Observations : No objections.

09- 5 P14/V1431/HH Plot Ref :- Type :- OTHER
Applicant Name :- Corrigan, Mrs Gillian Date Received :- 30/06/2014
Location :- 12 Pykes Close Date Returned :- 15/07/2014
Pykes Close
Abingdon
OX14 2QL
Proposal : Erection of two storey rear extension.

Observations : No objections.

09- 6 P14/V1434/LB Plot Ref :- Type :- OTHER
Applicant Name :- Davies, Mr Roy Date Received :- 30/06/2014
Location :- 133 Ock Street Date Returned :- 15/07/2014
Ock Street
Abingdon
OX14 5DL
Proposal : Convert existing first floor storage area into a hobby room, insert rooflights, windows & stair, general repair and refurbishment.

Observations : No objections subject to the Conservation Officer being satisfied with the application.

09- 7 P14/V1454/HH Plot Ref :- Type :- OTHER
Applicant Name :- Alvarado, Mr Teodorico Date Received :- 04/07/2014
Location :- 3 Heathcote Place Date Returned :- 15/07/2014
Heathcote Place
Abingdon
OX14 3YQ

Proposal : Two storey rear extension, single storey rear extension and single storey side extension. (revision of P14/V0815/HH).

Observations : No objections.

09- 8 P14/V1458/HH Plot Ref :- Type :- OTHER
Applicant Name :- Buchanan, Mr & Mrs Stephen Date Received :- 30/06/2014
Location :- 8 Otwell Close Date Returned :- 15/07/2014
Otwell Close
Abingdon
OX14 2QR
Proposal : Proposed two storey side extension.
Observations : No objections.

09- 9 P14/V1469/HH Plot Ref :- Type :- OTHER
Applicant Name :- Whiting, Mr & Mrs S Date Received :- 04/07/2014
Location :- 1 Darrell Way Date Returned :- 15/07/2014
Darrell Way
Abingdon
OX14 1HL
Proposal : Erection of two storey side extension and single storey rear extension.
Observations : No objections subject to appropriate building materials being used so the property is in keeping with the area.

09- 10 P14/V1476/FUL Plot Ref :- Type :- MINOR
Applicant Name :- Hawthorn Leisure Acquisitions Date Received :- 04/07/2014
Location :- Cross Keys, 148 Ock Street Date Returned :- 15/07/2014
Ock Street
Abingdon
OX14 5DT
Proposal : Part demolition of existing public house. Proposed conversion, extension and external alterations to the roof and fenestration to create six residential, one bed flats with associated parking, amenity space and landscaping.
Observations : No objections; however, whilst the Committee did not consider that there were any actual planning grounds for refusal, it expressed regret about the loss of community amenity in the longest street in Abingdon.

The Committee disagreed with the statement made in the documentation that residents were still within walking distance to other amenities: "4.9 Within Abingdon there are seven other public houses within easy walking distance towards the town centre, which provide the residents of Abingdon with facilities to meet their day to day needs". Certainly, for those with limited mobility and elderly people, this was not the case.

They were also concerned that there will be more issues with cars and access when events such as the Michaelmas Fair take place.

Finally, Members expressed their disappointment regarding the paucity of environmental measures within the application, such as the installation of solar panels.

10 OTHER BUSINESS

1. Members noted the application from Clarke Telecom Ltd:

RE: Proposed upgrade to telecommunications radio base station installation at CTIL
115742_VF40613_TEF69826 SW on 12 Acre Drive, Abingdon, OX14 2PQ.

2. The Town Council will be commemorating the start of the First World War on Monday 4th August 2014 and therefore Members agreed to change the start time of the meeting to 6.15pm that day.

3. Cllr Lesley Legge commented that the Flood Relief Scheme is going ahead in Oxford and asked that the Town Clerk could check if there was an update for Abingdon. The Chairman commented that we are awaiting further details from the Environment Agency and would update the Committee in due course.

The Meeting closed at : 7.40pm

Signed : _____ Chairman Date: _____

On behalf of :- Abingdon-on-ThamesTown Council