

**Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council**  
**Minutes of the Planning, Highways & Consultations Committee**  
**Held 7.00 pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017**  
**In the Guildhall, Abingdon-on-Thames.**

**Present**

Cllr Mike Badcock (Vice Chairman)  
Cllr Jeanette Halliday  
Cllr Brian Hedley  
Cllr Vicky Jenkins  
Cllr Angela Lawrence  
Cllr Patrick Lonergan

**Also in attendance:**

Mrs Nina Özdemir (PA to Town Clerk)  
Mr Nigel Warner (Town Clerk)

2 members of the public

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Margaret Crick (Chairman) as she was speaking at a Vale of White Horse District Council planning meeting on behalf of the Town Council; Cllr David Pope and the Mayor, Cllr Jan Morter.

Cllr Mike Badcock chaired the meeting.

2. **Declarations of Interests**

Cllr Mike Badcock declared a non-pecuniary interest in application 11.4 (P17/V2827/LB – 12 Thames Street) as he knew the applicant but considered that this did not preclude him from considering the application.

3. **Minutes**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017 be signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

*Cllr Vicky Jenkins joined the meeting at this point, it being 7.02pm.*

4. **Matters Arising**

None

## 5. Public Participation

*Cllr Angela Lawrence joined the meeting at this point, it being 7.03pm*

A member of the public spoke regarding application 11.6 (P17/V2850/FUL – 18 North Avenue). They raised the following concerns and points:

- Overdevelopment;
- Depth and height of the proposal would block out light;
- Not in keeping with the area;
- Other properties nearby have single storey rear extensions – this would be very different and high.
- Overlooking, particularly on the east side of the property and would also impact some residents of Loyd Close;
- Smell, noise and light – it is proposed that bins would still be near the boundary of a neighbouring property;
- Concerns about how six cars would get on and off the property – no turning point as far as the member of the public could see;
- Request for a traffic survey;
- West Waddy have considered the new application on behalf of a group of residents and consider that it should be refused.
- They felt this development would be contrary to Saved Policy DC9 of the Local Plan 2011 and Core Policies 37 and 4 of the Local Plan 2031 (Part 1).
- Parking and traffic issue, also visitor parking would create a problem;
- On street parking would be reduced;
- Inconsistencies in the application, eg it said the property was not vacant, but it is vacant.
- Previously there was only ever 2 parking spaces with one garage – no turning point is shown on the plans;
- The “housing mix” was contrary to Core Policy 22 of the 2031 Local Plan (Part 1) and the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA);
- Concern precedent will be set;
- Feel that the points of the objection the Town Council raised with the previous application for this property should still stand.

The Chairman of the Committee suggested that the members of the public contact their local District Council ward councillors.

A member of the Committee stated that he did not think an application such as this was appropriate for a road like this. It was the wrong location. Another member stated that she felt it was out of character for the area. It was also commented that it was unlikely to be just six cars needing to park there – many couples / families have two cars.

The Committee **resolved** that the application should be recommended for refusal as per recommendation for application P17/V2289/FUL.

6. **Bus Routes from Abingdon to Local Railway Stations**

Members noted that the Council had received confirmation from Oxfordshire County Council that a registration had been received for the re-instated X3 bus service from Abingdon to Oxford rail station, commencing on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2017. This would operate at similar frequencies to the bus service to Oxford station which operated previously (3 buses per hour weekday times, 2 buses per hour evenings and Sundays).

To also note that comments from the last meeting regarding the lack of a Sunday service from Abingdon to Oxford Station have been forwarded to the County Council and Oxford Bus Company. The Oxford Bus Company's Operations Delivery Manager has noted the comments and will pass them onto the relevant section.

7. **M4 Junctions 12 to 13 (West Berkshire): Bridge Refurbishment – Weekend Closure**

Members noted that the above work would be taking place at weekends, (9pm Friday-5am Monday):

- Fri 24 to Mon 27 November 2017
- Fri 8 to Mon 11 December 2017
- Fri 15 to Mon 18 December 2017
- Fri 12 to Mon 15 January 2018
- Fri 19 to Mon 22 January 2018 (contingency)

8. **Planning Matters**

There were no further planning matters.

9. **Oxfordshire Transport and Access to Services 2017 Survey**

Members noted that Community First Oxfordshire was carrying out an online transport survey and that they had been asked to consider if they wished the Town Council to send in a response. The Committee requested that the Town Clerk refer this survey to the Local Transport Representative, Cllr Robert Hall.

10. **Vale of White Horse Planning Decisions**

Members noted the 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.

11. **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 Councils recommendations on the various applications: (See separate page)

The Meeting rose at 7.20 pm.

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Chairman

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Date