

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council
Minutes of the Planning, Highways & Consultations Committee
Held 7.00 pm on Monday 30th January 2017
In the Guildhall, Abingdon-on-Thames.

Present

Cllr Margaret Crick
Cllr Mike Badcock
Cllr Robert Hall
Cllr Brian Hedley
Cllr Vicky Jenkins
Cllr David Pope

Chairman
Vice-Chairman

In Attendance

Mrs Nina Özdemir
Mr Nigel Warner

PA to Town Clerk
Town Clerk

One member of the public

1 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Jeanette Halliday, Patrick Lonergan, Helen Pighills and the Mayor, Cllr Alice Badcock.

2 **Declarations of interest**

None.

3 **Minutes**

Resolved that the minutes of the meetings held on 9th January 2017 be signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

4. **Matters Arising**

- Oxfordshire County Council (Abingdon) (Designation and Regulation of Parking Places) Order 20

Members noted the Statement of Reasons and draft Traffic Regulation Order regarding the above.

- The Town Clerk gave a verbal update on Item 8 (Draft Moorings Policy) and Item 9 (Highway Matters) of the previous meeting of this committee (see attached appendix).

Minute Item 8. It was noted that the District Council was not proposing to provide specific areas for fishing within land under its ownership as it was believed there were plenty of alternative sites outside of the Vale Council owned mooring locations for residents to exercise their fishing rights. Members did not consider that this was acceptable because the area of Vale owned land along the riverbank within Abingdon was considerable and included particularly important sites which were regularly fished by local residents, specifically the south bank of the River Thames opposite St Helen's Church, the section between the lock and Abingdon Bridge, and the area alongside Wilsham Road at its junction with Saxton Road. Besides the fisheries being an historic right of the town's residents under the Charters, this was an activity which was particularly enjoyed and of benefit to younger people in the town. Consequently members requested that the Town Clerk make further representations to the District Council in this regard and also copy in Cllr Mike Murray (District Council Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Development, and Property); Nicola Blackwood, MP for Oxford West & Abingdon; and John Howell, MP for Henley, (within whose constituency some of the land falls).

5. **Public Participation**

None

6. **Consultation on draft Public Spaces Protection Order for Abingdon**

Members noted and commented as necessary on the draft Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO). They welcomed the PSPO. However it was noted that there were provisions within the PSPO in relation to drinking alcohol in public spaces and members asked for assurance that the PSPO would be administered in a sensitive and sensible way so as not to adversely affect traditional events which are enjoyed by the town such as Morris Dancing by the town's Morris Dance teams, the Election of the Mayor of Ock Street, and Mr Hemmings' Day of Dance.

7. **Radley Parish Council Draft Neighbourhood Plan: Regulation 14 Consultation**

Members noted the above.

8. **Consultation on the South Oxfordshire District Council Draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) 2017.**

Members noted the above.

9. **Development Forum – NW Radley**

On this occasion, members agreed that Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council would not be sending a representative.

10. **Community Governance Reviews**

The Committee had no comment to make in relation to the matters being considered by the Community Governance Reviews currently being undertaken by the District Council. However it was noted that at the Town Council meeting of 25th January 2017 that the Town Council had resolved to request a Community Governance Review in relation to Abingdon-on-Thames, including consideration of the parish boundary. It was noted that this would include the boundary between Abingdon-on-Thames and both Radley and Sunningwell, and that the current Community Governance Reviews were also considering the boundaries of Radley and Sunningwell. The Town Clerk would contact the District Council to make them aware of the Town Council's intentions to request a Community Governance Review and also to enquire whether this would be pertinent to the current reviews undertaken.

11. **Abingdon-on-Thames War Memorial: Notification of Designation Decision**

Members noted and welcomed the notification that the Abingdon-on-Thames War Memorial had been added to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. The memorial was now listed at Grade II.

For information, the Town Clerk reported that he had requested Andrew Townsend Architects, who currently undertake the quinquennial inspection for the Albert Memorial in Albert Park, to give a quote for carrying out a full inspection of the War Memorial so that its condition could be ascertained and any necessary works be considered. This matter would be reported direct to the Amenities and Recreation Committee in due course.

12. **The Abingdon Marathon**

Members noted the advance notice for this year's Abingdon Marathon which was scheduled to take place on Sunday 22nd October 2017.

13. **Certificate of Lawful Development**

Members noted the following application:

RE: Construction of single storey rear extension
AT: 18 Mons Way, Abingdon, OX14 1NJ
REF: P16/V3152/LDP

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

Noted.

15. **Planning Applications**

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 schedule).

The meeting rose at 8.05pm.