

**Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council
Minutes of the Planning, Highways & Consultations Committee
Held 7.00 pm on Monday 5th December 2016
In the Guildhall, Abingdon-on-Thames.**

Present

Cllr Jeanette Halliday
Cllr Michael Badcock
Cllr Margaret Crick
Cllr Robert Hall
Cllr Brian Hedley
Cllr Vicky Jenkins
Cllr Patrick Lonergan
Cllr Helen Pighills
Cllr David Pope

Chairman
Vice-Chairman

In Attendance

Mr Nigel Warner
Mrs Nina Özdemir

Town Clerk
PA to Town Clerk

1 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from the Mayor, Cllr Alice Badcock.

2 **Declarations of interest**

Cllr David Pope declared a non-pecuniary interest in Application 13.1, (Rear of Isis, Wilsham Road), as he was acquainted with an objector in relation to this application, and took no part in the discussion of this item.

Cllr Helen Pighills declared a non-pecuniary interest in Application 13.12, (42 Norman Avenue), as she was acquainted with some of the family of the applicant, and took no part in the discussion of this item.

3 **Minutes**

Resolved that the minutes of the meetings held on 14th November 2016 be signed as a correct record by the Chairman, subject to corrections of typographical errors, which were not material to the meaning of the minutes.

4. **Matters Arising**

A-Boards

The Town Clerk gave a verbal update on this matter (see attached appendix).

Particular concern was expressed regarding A-Boards on High Street (near the Narrows public house), Stert Street and Lower Bath Street, where pavements were narrow, and it was **resolved** that the Town Clerk writes to Oxfordshire County Council about this.

5. **Public Participation**

None.

6. **Naming and Numbering of New Properties**

Members noted the following properties which had been named and numbered as below:

1. Erection of one new residential dwelling to be numbered: 133 South Avenue, Abingdon, OX14 1QY
2. Erection of one new residential dwelling to be named and numbered: Ashmere House, 36A Norman Avenue, Abingdon, OX14 2HJ

7. **Tree Preservation Order**

Members noted that the Vale of White Horse District Council made the following Tree Preservation Order:

- Town and Country Planning Act 1990
Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012
Vale of White Horse District Council (Abingdon Area)
Tree Preservation Order No. 16V14
AT: Oxford Abingdon Hotel, Marcham Road, Abingdon, OX14 1TZ

8. **Speed limit, A415 between Abingdon and Culham**

The Committee considered the letter, dated 20th November 2016, from Mr. I Feetenby, an Abingdon resident. It included a request to reduce the speed limit on the A415 between Abingdon and Culham.

As highways are the responsibility of Oxfordshire County Council and the stretch of road referred to is outside the town (in Culham Parish), it was **resolved** that the matter be noted by this Committee and forwarded to the County Council for consideration (copying in Culham Parish Council, in whose area the stretch of road concerned was located).

9. **Permitted Development Rights**

Members noted the following:

- Proposal: Change of use Class A1 to C3 – residential dwelling
Location: Tangerine Hair Salon, 58 Hadland Road, Abingdon, OX14 3YH
Reference: P16/V2838/PRR
- Re: Single storey full width extension with pitched tiled roof to match existing.
Depth:5.4m
Height:4.0m
Height to eaves:2.4m
At: 60 Appleford Drive, Abingdon, OX14 2BU
REF: P16/V2902/PDH

10. **Certificate of Lawful Development**

Members noted the following:

RE: Request to secure consent P13/V14564/FUL – had been started in advance of the expiry date.
AT: 61 & 61A Oxford Road, Abingdon, OX14 2AA
REF: P16/V2771/LDP

11. **Withdrawn Application**

Members noted that application P16/V2333/FUL – 1 Stert Street - had been withdrawn.

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

The list of decisions were noted.

Cllrs Monica Lovatt, Sandy Lovatt and Dennis Garrett entered the room at this point, it being 7.30pm.

13. **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).

A Member referred to the register of self-build which the District Council had agreed to keep and asked that enquiries be made on behalf of this Committee as to the progress made in relation to this matter.

Cllr Jeanette Halliday announced that the first item on the agenda of the next meeting of this Committee would be to appoint a new Chairman. She thanked the Committee for their support. Members of the Committee asked that their thanks to Cllr Halliday be minuted.

The meeting rose at 7.45pm.

Appendix to Item 4 on following page.

Appendix to Minutes

Item 4 – A-Boards in the Town

The Town Clerk undertook some web-based research regarding the legal and planning status of A Boards. This is detailed below.

Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)

Do “A-boards” need express consent?

“A-boards” on highways (including footways) where vehicular traffic is prohibited will require express advertisement consent. They will also require the consent of the relevant council under section 115E of the Highways Act 1980 for permission to place items such as “A-boards” in highways (including footways) where vehicular traffic is prohibited.

Vale of White Horse District Council (Planning authority)

Advertisements and signs

The council decides whether particular outdoor advertisements or signs can be displayed in the Vale.

The advertisement control system is designed to ensure outdoor advertisements and signs do not harm the attractive environment of the Vale or cause highway safety problems. It's based on rules in the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations 2007. Government advice on the display of advertisements is also in Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) Note 19 Outdoor Advertisement Control (see downloads section of this page).

A Government booklet 'Outdoor Advertisements and Signs, A Guide for Advertisers' explains how the advertisement control system works (see downloads section of this page). It covers:

- How the advertisement control system works*
- What advertisements are normally permitted*
- What advertisements need specific consent and how to obtain it.*

In summary, the council deals with two main types of outdoor advertising:

- Advertisements for which deemed consent exists, meaning that we do not need to grant consent for them so long as the advertisements conform to the regulations*
- Advertisements for which consent from the council is always needed.*

An advertisement includes posters, notices, placards, A-boards, estate agents boards, banners, fascia signs, projecting signs, pole signs, canopy signs, directional signs, price displays, signage on vehicles and captive balloons, and flags.

You are advised to consult the Guide for Advertisers booklet to see if your proposal needs consent. If you're not sure whether you need the council's express consent please contact Planning for advice (see the contacts section of this page).

Some signs can be displayed, subject to caveats, without the need for express advertisement consent from the council. These include:

- Signs on enclosed land which are not readily visible from any public place*
- Signs on moving vehicles which are not used principally for the purpose of displaying signs*
- Temporary signs relating to pending elections*
- Non-illuminated signs inside a building and not within 1 metre of any external door or window*
- Traffic signs*
- National flags of any country displayed on a vertical flagstaff*
- A flag attached to a single flagstaff projecting vertically from the roof of a building*
- Temporary 'For Sale' and building development signs located on the land or building in question*
- Signs on hoardings which enclose land on which building operations are taking place or are about to take place*
- Small non-illuminated signs and plaques at ground floor level on business and institutional premises*
- Non-illuminated signs at ground floor level on business premises*
- Non-illuminated signs on the forecourt of business premises*
- Illuminated signs on business premises within a retail park facing a communal car park wholly bounded by the retail park*
- Illuminated signs on business premises when each character of the sign but no part of the background is illuminated from within*
- Non-illuminated signs on bus shelters*
- Small non-illuminated neighbourhood watch signs*
- Small non-illuminated signs giving direction to a site where residential development is taking place.*

Express advertisement consent is required from the council for many of the above types of signs if the site lies within a Conservation Area or the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

In addition listed building consent will be required to display any signage on a listed building. Carrying out alterations to a listed building, including displaying advertisements without the necessary consent, is a criminal offence.

You are strongly advised to contact Planning if you are in any doubt about whether the sign you propose to display requires express advertisement consent or listed building consent.

If the council refuses consent for your advertisement, or asks you to remove an existing advertise

Oxfordshire County Council (Highway Authority)

Using street or pavement for displays

About permission to use space on the street or pavement for displays.

We do not currently authorise advertising boards or advertising tables on the highway. We enforce where a serious obstruction of the highway takes place, for example where a board or table is on a narrow footway less than 2.5 metres in width.

For further information, please see our page on the consequences of putting [unauthorised signs](#) on the highway.

It is an offence under the Highway Act 1980 to place on the highway any goods or signs which cause an obstruction or include commercial advertising.

Reporting an unauthorised sign

Enter a postcode, or street name/area:

As the Highway Authority, we may remove any picture, letter, sign or other mark which has, without consent or authorisation or an enactment, been painted or inscribed or fixed on the highway or on any tree, structure or works on or in the highway, in order to:

- consider the safety and convenience of all pedestrians, especially those with poor eyesight, elderly or disabled people and those with prams, wheelchairs etc.*
- to ensure the clear visibility which is vital at road junctions, where pedestrians cross, and at other access points*
- to ensure a driver's attention is not distracted by any unnecessary increase in the number of these signs.*

If you are responsible for putting an object on the highway contrary to the Highways Act, please remove it. You should also be aware that you may be liable for any action brought against you if there is an accident or damage due to the object being on the highway.

We can delegate powers to an agent - usually a parish, town or district council, which will carry out the removal on our behalf.