

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council
Minutes of the Planning, Highways & Consultations Committee
Held 7.00 pm on Monday 9th January 2017
In the Guildhall, Abingdon-on-Thames.

Present

Cllr Margaret Crick	Chairman
Cllr Mike Badcock	Vice-Chairman
Cllr Samantha Bowring	(substitute for Cllr Jeanette Halliday)
Cllr Robert Hall	
Cllr Brian Hedley	
Cllr Vicky Jenkins	
Cllr Patrick Lonergan	
Cllr Helen Pighills	
Cllr David Pope	

In Attendance

Mr Nigel Warner	Town Clerk
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1 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Jeanette Halliday, David Pope and the Mayor, Cllr Alice Badcock.

2 **Declarations of interest**

Those members who were also District Councillors, namely Cllrs Mike Badcock, Margaret Crick, Robert Hall, Vicky Jenkins, and Helen Pighills declared non-pecuniary interests in relation to the application at Agenda Item 12.15 – Vale of White Horse District Council, Public Toilets – on the basis that they were District Councillors. However, in accordance with the Code of Conduct and associated guidance they remained in the meeting and were able to speak and vote in relation to this matter.

3 **Minutes**

Resolved that the minutes of the meetings held on 19th December 2016 be signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

4. **Matters Arising**

None.

5. **Public Participation**

None.

6. **Notification of adoption of Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 Part 1 and public consultations on Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document and Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule**

Members noted the correspondence from the District Council in relation to the above.

7. **Section 106 Funds – Update**

Members received an update from the District Council in relation to Abingdon section 106 funds. It was noted that this update, together with further information, could be obtained via the following link:

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/planning-policy/delivering-infrastructure/section-106/se-0

The Committee requested that the following enquiries be made of the District Council:

- Planning permission in relation to the Old Gaol site (P08/V1237). It was noted that £20,401 had been received towards work of art to be erected and installed on the site of which £2,500 had been allocated / spent. Members requested an update on the status of this matter.
- In relation to the same scheme it was also noted that instalments 1 and 2 of contributions towards affordable housing had been received, totalling £280,000. However there were no sums shown as allocated or spent and members asked for an update on this matter.

8. **Draft moorings policy**

Members noted that the District Council had published its draft moorings policy for the management of District Council owned moorings in Abingdon

Members considered that the policy needed to specify some areas where boats would not be allowed to moor in order that local residents can continue to exercise their fishing rights. It was agreed that suitable areas would be 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.

It was noted that the area along the north bank of the River Thames, at St Helen's Wharf (close to the Anchor Public House), was not shown as land owned by or

leased to the Vale of White Horse District Council and therefore did not show as District Council moorings. It was understood that the Oxfordshire Act 1984 did not allow moorings along the north bank of the River Thames between Abingdon Bridge and the confluence of the River Ock adjoining St Helen's Wharf. However, it was agreed that this matter should be queried with the District Council.

It was noted, at paragraph 40 of the policy, that boat owners or users must apply in writing to use the Vale Council's local residents' moorings and that there was an application process to be followed. However, there was no mention of any requirement that a boat owner or user must have a current insurance certificate, particularly in terms of their public liability. Members considered that such insurance may be a requirement of the Environment Agency but nonetheless felt that this should be queried with the District Council.

It was **resolved** that the policy be noted and the above queries / points be raised with the District Council.

(Cllr Samantha Bowring entered the room at this point, it being 7.08pm)

9. **Highways matters**

Members noted the County Council's Highway Works newsletter for the Vale of White Horse District for the period December 2016 to February 2017.

It was noted that in the newsletter the phrase "sweep and fill" was used in the context that the County Council was seeking to save expenditure on defect repairs on all non A and B roads by employing this technique. Members requested that the Town Clerk make enquiries of the County Council regarding what "sweep and fill" was.

10. **Abingdon Residents' Parking Schemes**

Members noted the Parking Order from the County Council in relation to the above, which was currently the subject of public consultation. Members noted that on the Order it stated that Pay and Display parking charges for the public were only payable between 9am and 6pm Monday to Saturday (residents exempt from payment) whereas in fact the scheme provided for Pay and Display parking charges to be payable between 8am and 6pm Monday to Saturday. The Town Clerk would be drawing this to the attention of the County Council.

In relation to the scheme more generally, the Committee noted that residents of Christ's Hospital were not entitled to permits and it was agreed that the Town Clerk should make further enquiries of the County Council in this regard with the suggestion being made that it would be appropriate for a couple of spaces to be allocated within the scheme.

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

An update on the latest decisions from the District Council would be submitted to the next meeting of this Committee.

12. **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 7.40pm.