

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council

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Planning committee Monday 21st July 2025, 7pm Roysse Room MINUTES

Present:

Cllr Mark Giddins
Cllr Margaret Crick
Cllr Gwyneth Lewis
Cllr Lorraine Oates
Cllr Colin Sanderson

Chair

In attendance:

Jo Blackmore

Clerk to the meeting

SECTION 1 - open to the public and media

P39/25 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Halliday and Cllr Walker.

P40/25 **Declarations of interest**

None.

P41/25 Public participation

None.

P42/25 Minutes

It was **proposed** by Cllr Giddins, **seconded** by Cllr Crick and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning committee of 30th June 2025 be confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting, to be signed by the chair.

P43/25 Planning Decisions and Notifications

District planning applications can be viewed online

a. The following planning decisions were noted:

Vale of White Horse District Council

Application Ref	Address	Town Council Recommendation	VWHDC Decision
P25/V1002/HH	176 South Avenue Abingdon Oxfordshire OX14 1QU	No objections	granted
P23/V2861/O	Land north of Copenhagen Drive Abingdon, OX14 1RF	See below	Granted VWHDC Planning Committee - 22.01.2025 report
P25/V1043/HH	42 Oxford Road Abingdon OX14 2DZ	No Objections	Granted
P25/V0665/S73	The Clock House 28 Ock Street Abingdon OX14 5SW	Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council would like to see that this application adheres to the Heritage Officer s comments and affordable housing comments.	Granted
P25/V0712/S19	The Clock House 28 Ock Street Abingdon OX14 5SW	Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council would like to see that this application adheres to the Heritage Officer s comments and affordable housing comments	Granted
P25/V0968/HH	3 Bostock Road Abingdon OX14 1DP		Granted
P25/V1025/HH	The Spot Radley Road Abingdon OX14 3PP	No Objections	Granted
P25/V0118/HH	4 Mill Road Abingdon OX14 5NS	See below	Granted
P25/V0861/S73	8 Ock Street Abingdon OX14 5AP	No Objections	Granted
P25/V0975/S19	8 Ock Street Abingdon OX14 5AP	No Objections	Granted
P24/V2509/S73	Darcey House Drayton Road Abingdon OX14 5FU	No Objections	Granted
P25/V1113/HH	6 Ethelhelm Close Abingdon OX14 2RE	No Objections	Granted
P25/V1055/A	Santander 23 Bury Street Abingdon OX14 3QT	No Objections	Granted

P23/V2861/O

07/02/2024

The town council has a number of concerns over this application, in particular with regard to traffic, water management at the proposed site and environmental risks to the potential new residents. - The town council notes that any development at the site will cause significant additional traffic onto Wootton Road and the busy Wootton Road roundabout, which must be addressed in any plans. If the planning authority approves the application, the town council requests a condition that new housing and care home cannot be occupied before the Lodge Hill roundabout is introduced expected to be 2-3 years. - The town council is also concerned about the risk of flooding as excess water will use the drain installed by Aldi and will end up in Larkhill stream. There has recently been flooding around Larkmead School, which may have been exacerbated by pressure on Larkhill stream, which runs close to the site. This is likely to be worsened by the proposed development. - There is a concern over the environmental impact on residents in the proposed development due to the proximity to the A34. The potential for noise and pollution must be taken into account. The town council asks that the planning authority takes into account the need for adequate provision of NHS services in Abingdon, which are already under increased pressure following recent expansion of the number of residents in the town. The town council supports sustainable development but asks that essential services are considered for all such plans

25/11/2024

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council's comments on the latest amendments to the planning application:

- 1. Should the application be granted we require that the Lodge Hill interchange is opened before there is any occupation of the site.
- 2. The comments from Thames Valley Police and the Vale of White Horse Waste and Tree officers are addressed.
- 3. Abingdon Town Council have serious ongoing concerns over the lack of NHS services in Abingdon and although we note the Integrated Care Board's requested contribution, we feel that this is insufficient for the extra demands created by a care home of this size and the additional residential housing included in this application.
- 4. Abingdon Town Council still considers that a care home and residential this close to the A34 raises severe concerns over noise and air pollution to the residents and their resulting quality of life.
- 5. Abingdon Town Council recognises local residents' comments that irrespective of any traffic surveys local knowledge confirms that the traffic problems in this whole area will deteriorate further with traffic related incidents becoming more likely.

03/02/2025

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council noted that the Care Home application, P23/V2861/O was granted planning permission by the Vale of White Horse Planning Committee.

Abingdon Town Councillors attended and spoke at the planning panel.

- The decision was a majority decision with Abingdon District Councillors voting against the application.
- It was noted that the report from NHS Integrated Care Board (Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West (BOB), Integrated Care Board -BOB ICB) had not helped.
 - o BOB ICB had not objected to the care home.
 - However, the Town Council had independently checked with the two closest GP practices receiving email confirmation stating that they have no available capacity to support a care home at the surgeries. This will be the case even after the planned expansion of the practices.

P25/V0118/HH

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council comments of 24/02/2025, 28/04/2025 and 16/06/2025 (as authorised by the Chair of Planning):

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council would like to restate their comments of 24th February 2025 and 28th April 2025 planning committee meetings: There have been three surface / ground water flood events since January 2024 in areas close to this property. Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council will have no objections providing the Drainage Officer is satisfied with: - The provided Flood Risk Assessment. - Agrees that this application will not increase the flooding risk. - Or can suggest suitable mitigation measures in addition to the surface water drainage connection if considered necessary for this application.

b. The following planning applications were noted:

i. Certificate of Lawful Development

From the Vale of White Horse District Council planning letter:

The applicant maintains that the proposed development can be carried out as permitted development under the allowances of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) and, on that basis, can proceed without the need for a planning application to be submitted

The certificate seeks confirmation from the Local Planning Authority that the proposed development is lawful.

P25/V1268/LDP

13 Hendred Way Abingdon OX14 2AN

Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed internal works to enable the dwelling to be used as Specialised Supported Housing

P25/V0997/LDP

50 Thesiger Road Abingdon OX14 2DX

Creation of new drop kerb and installation of permeable standard gravel system for driveway surface.

P25/V1152/LDE

Peachcroft Farm (Units 7-10) Whites Lane Radley Abingdon OX14 2HP Certificate of Lawful Use use of Units 7-10 for mixed uses comprising storage (use class B8) and light industrial/workshop (use class B2)

P25/V1153/LDE

Peachcroft Farm (Units 12-14) Whites Lane Radley Abingdon OX14 2HP

Certificate of Lawful Use of units 12, 13 and 14 for workshop (Use class B2) and /or Storage (Use class B8)

P25/V1154/LDE

Peachcroft Farm (Unit 11) Whites Lane Radley Abingdon OX14 2HP

Certificate of Lawful Use for the mixed sui generis use of Unit 11 for storage (use class B8), workshop (use class B2) and workshop/office space (use class Eg)

ii. Discharge of conditions

P25/V1361/DIS

Land North of Dunmore Road and Twelve Acre Drive Abingdon

Discharge of condition(s) PART 7 (SUDS compliance) on planning reference: P22/V0680/RM Reserved Matters Application (Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale) - Residential development for erection of 371 dwellings, pavilion and sports pitches within 2 phases of the North Abingdon Development: Eastern Parcel Areas A and B. Associated landscaping and infrastructure works together with additional details as required by conditions attached to outline planning permission (Ref: P17/V0050/O) (As amended by plans and information received 29 July 2022, 3 August 2022, 20 September 2022, 2 & 23 November 2022, 9 & 19 December 2022, 9 & 17 January 2023). Discharge of Conditions 9 (Lighting Details), 10 (Watercourse Buffer Zone Scheme), 11 (Landscape RMAs Maintenance Schedule), 12 (Biodiversity Enhancement Plan), 13 (Landscape and Ecology Management Plan), 15 (Energy Delivery Strategy), 17 (Housing Delivery Document), 21 (Tree Protection), 23 (Woodland Management Plan) and 39 (Construction Environmental Management Plan) as attached to the outline planning permission (Ref: P17/V0050/O).

P25/V1322/DIS

Land North of Dunmore Road and Twelve Acre Drive Abingdon

Discharge of condition 8 (Landscaping, highways works, visibility splays, street lighting, drainage and servicing) (S38 and S278 works) on application P22/V0680/RM (Reserved Matters Application (Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale) - Residential development for erection of 371 dwellings, pavilion and sports pitches within 2 phases of the North Abingdon Development: Eastern Parcel Areas A and B. Associated landscaping and infrastructure works together with additional details as required by conditions attached to outline planning permission (Ref: P17/V0050/O) (As amended by plans and information received 29 July 2022, 3 August 2022, 20 September 2022, 2 & 23 November 2022, 9 & 19 December 2022, 9 & 17 January 2023). Discharge of Conditions 9 (Lighting Details), 10 (Watercourse Buffer Zone Scheme), 11 (Landscape RMAs Maintenance Schedule), 12 (Biodiversity Enhancement Plan), 13 (Landscape and Ecology Management Plan), 15 (Energy Delivery Strategy), 17 (Housing Delivery Document), 21 (Tree Protection), 23 (Woodland Management Plan) and 39 (Construction Environmental Management Plan) as attached to the outline planning permission (Ref: P17/V0050/O).

P25/V1266/DIS

Selleck Dance Studio Swinburne Road Abingdon OX14 2HF

Discharge of Condition(s) 3 (Surface Water Drainage Scheme), 4 (Landscaping Scheme), 5 (External Materials), 6 (Foul Water Drainage Scheme) and 7

(Biodiversity Enhancements) on planning application <u>P24/V1245/FUL</u> Demolition of existing dance studio and erection of two 4-bedroom detached family dwellings and a store.

P25/V1262/DIS

5 Ock Street Abingdon OX14 5AL

Discharge of condition(s) (3) (Roof Tiles - Photo Schedule) on application reference P24/V1762/LB Repairs to roof, the replacement of four windows and repair of one.

P25/V1205/DIS

55 East St Helen Street Abingdon OX14 5EE

Discharge of conditions no. (3) (Schedule of Works (Full) on application P24/V2654/LB (Repair and strengthen existing fascia at front (east) elevation and replace existing plastic and cast iron rainwater goods with PVC-u cast effect goods with downpipe in new (central) location)

P25/V1428/DIS

4 Mill Road Abingdon Oxfordshire OX14 5NS

Discharge of conditions application for Condition 4 (Surface water) on P25/V0118/HH. (Rear extension to detached house.)

iii. Non-Material Amendment

P25/V1238/NM

The White Horse Leisure And Tennis Centre Audlett Drive, OX14 3PJ

Non-material amendment to planning permission <u>P25/V0502/FUL</u>-Change in the location of the Sub Station and addition of 2 no. GRP Housing units at Roof level. The installation of Air Source Heat Pumps with fencing to compound, Solar PV to roof, substation and new ship ladder to roof.

iv. Withdrawal of Planning Application

P25/V0549/LDE

Spring Gardens Cemetery Spring Gardens Abingdon OX14 1AZ

Proposed use of polytunnel used for bringing on plants for planting in the cemetery: 14.98m L x 5.16m W x 2.42M H.

P44/25 Planning Consultations & Applications

District planning applications can be viewed online.

a. The following **Planning Consultations** and **Amendments** from the District and County Councils were considered.

i. Change of Use

P25/V1161/FUL

10 Darrell Way Abingdon OX14 1HG

Change of use Family House (C3) to HMO (C4) Proposed 6 bedrooms and Double Story Rear Extension along front Porch

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council object to this planning application.

Abingdon Town Council is concerned about

- Overoccupancy of the house as the bedrooms sizes indicate that the house could potentially be home to between 6 and 10 adults. Please confirm that all the bedrooms would be enforced as singles although even at an occupancy of 6 adults it is felt that the amenities particularly the two small shower rooms are not adequate and cause worries about sanitary conditions.
- Parking in the residential area. The application states that this is a no parking development, so how is this going to be monitored and enforced especially as cars are already being parked by driving over grass verges and street open space indicating that there is already a shortage of parking spaces.
 - It is also noted that parking issues in this area have caused it to be under consultation regarding Oxfordshire County Council's Abingdon Central North Area parking proposals. So, would residents of this property be excluded from the residents parking permits as are houses converted into flats in the Central Abingdon Residents Parking Scheme? Both ways the potential number of new cars will cause additional problems in an area already having parking problems.
- Fire safety. Please ensure that the application is fully fire compliant.

b. New Planning Applications

The new planning applications from the District Council were considered.

P25/V1214/FUL

81 Oxford Road Abingdon OX14 2AB

Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of building comprising 5no. two bedroom flats and associated bin and bike storage, parking and amenity space.

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council **object** to this planning application.

Abingdon Town Council is concerned about

- The development being out of proportion for the area.
- Parking. Accepts that the development meets the Oxfordshire minimum parking standards with 5 spaces provided. However, the potential number of cars the development is likely to generate with five 2 bed up to 4 person sized flats will at least be double that. The site access is on to a primary critical transport corridor in and out of Abingdon, and very close to a major junction and busy bus stops the potential for additional off site car parking required by this development is likely to cause problems.
- For the reasons mentioned above the additional car movements are also likely to cause extra safety concerns and disruption on this section of road.

- The refuse provision is for Euro wheelie bins so there is concern that with the
 refuse lorry not being able to service the bins by driving onto site, this will add
 further traffic disruption. Due to the road concerns and conditions mentioned
 above this obstruction of the Oxford Road will cause further safety concerns
 in this busiest section of the road.
- The impact that this development will have on the neighbouring properties.
 Being overlooked with the resulting loss of privacy in their homes and gardens and loss of light.

P25/V0751/A

Hartwell UK Drayton Road Abingdon OX14 5JU

Erection of a totem sign

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council comments: No Objections

P25/V1228/HH

Andersey View Wilsham Road Abingdon OX14 5HP

Bungalow uplift extension

<u>Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council</u> has no objections to this planning application providing that the Vale of White Horse Drainage officers are satisfied that all sustainable drainage and flood prevention conditions (suds and floods) are met.

P25/V0469/FUL

9 Bath Street Abingdon Oxfordshire OX14 3QH

Construction of two storey building comprising of retail space on the ground floor and residential space on the first floor. Demolition of storage shed.

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council has no objections to this planning application subject to the Heritage and Archaeology officers' conditions being adhered to with a view to improve the overall building and its safety.

P25/V1292/LB

9 Bath Street Abingdon Oxfordshire OX14 3QH

Construction of two storey building comprising of retail space on the ground floor and residential space on the first floor. Demolition of storage shed

<u>Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council</u> has no objections to this planning application subject to the Heritage and Archaeology officers' conditions being adhered to with a view to improve the overall building and its safety.

P25/V1107/LB

52A Ock Street Abingdon OX14 5BZ

Proposed external and internal works

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council fully support the principle of this proposal and look forward to seeing the final design. Please could scale drawings including the bracket and hood profiles of the proposed canopy be submitted. Abingdon Town Council would also like the Heritage Officers comments being adhered to.

P25/V1222/HH

Maple House 107 Swinburne Road Abingdon OX14 2HF

Internal alterations with first floor extension

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council comments: No Objections

P24/V2484/HH

162 Ock Street Abingdon OX14 5DT

The erection of a dropped kerb to serve existing property at 162 Ock Street, Abingdon and associated landscaping with parking. No alterations to the existing property.

<u>Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council</u> rely on Oxfordshire Highways decision regarding this due to access over the pavement and the proximity to a pedestrian crossing.

P25/V1090/A

Unit 8 8 Bury Street Centre Abingdon OX14 3QY

1 x illuminated fascia sign, 1 x projecting sign and manifestation signage

<u>Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council</u> has no objections but notes that there are two projecting signs.

P25/V1324/FUL

Abingdon School Park Road Oxfordshire OX14 1DE

Erection single-storey extension to the rear of Mercers Court to provide two new toilet cubicles and one DDA-compliant accessible toilet.

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council comments: No Objections

P25/V0920/FUL

4 St Helens Wharf Abingdon OX14 5EN

To remove the existing timber shed and replace with a garden room.

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council comments: No Objections

P25/V1160/LB

5-7 Stert Street Abingdon OX14 3JF

Add a receiver for WiFi to an existing aerial post at the rear of No 5 Stert Street.

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council found this a confused application, is for an aerial or for a window. If it is for an attachment to an existing aerial, please could a photo of the existing aerial be included in the application.

P25/V1114/HH

14 Picklers Hill Abingdon OX14 2BA

Single storey rear extension, front porch extension and additional drive entrance.

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council comments: No Objections

P25/V1430/T28

65 TO 111 Shelly Close Abingdon Oxfordshire OX14 1PR

28 days notice that BT intends to install fixed line broadband electronic communications apparatus at 65 TO 111 Shelly Close, Abingdon. 9m light wooden pole.

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council comments: No Objections

P45/25 Other Consultations

a. Abingdon Central North Area Parking Proposals

This includes the Harwell part of the Fitzharry's estate and from Withington Court to Abbot Road. (Withington Court already operates a Residents parking scheme).

- Public Notice
- Consultation Plan
- Statement of Reasons
- Draft Traffic Order

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council response

b. Ock Street Parking Proposals

This covers Conduit Road to Spring Road and from Albert Park down to the River Ock.

- Public Notice
- Consultation Plan
- Statement of Reasons
- Draft Traffic Order

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council response

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council comments on both surveys

The planning committee felt that whilst in support of these proposals due to the number of issues over parking, the effect on Abingdon Town Council regarding the Michaelmas Fair must be considered. The Ock Street parking scheme will affect the Michaelmas Fair and the parking restrictions it requires. This generates potential cost implications for Abingdon Town Council which has a legal requirement to hold this fair as it is a Charter Fair, reinforced by both the 1972 Local Government Act and the 1985 Oxfordshire Act. The chair of planning is to write to Abingdon's Oxfordshire County Councillors regarding the impact this scheme will have on Abingdon Town Council and how to avoid this.

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council would like confirmation that houses converted into flats or HMOs would be excluded from any residents parking schemes in operation.

c. Certificate of Adoption

Highway works at land North-West of Dunmore Road, Abingdon – Signalised Crossing

Highways Act 1980 - Section 278 Agreement dated 18 Oct 2019

The following works have been adopted by Oxfordshire County Council as highway maintainable at the public expense from 3 Jul 2025:

PARISH	ROAD NAME	S278 WORKS WITHIN EXISTING HIGHWAY				
Abingdon	Dunmore Road	 Installation of a toucan crossing approximately 38 metres east of Parsons Mead 				
		 Construction of an emergency access on the northern kerb line of Dunmore Road approximately 28 metres east of Parsons Mead 				
		 Resurfacing 50 metres if carriageway in either direction from the toucan crossing. 				

The attached 1:2500 scale plan shows the location of the completed S278 highway works.

- S278 Certificate of Completion
- S278 Works Completion Plan

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council noted this.

P46/25 **Abingdon Development Updates**

i. North Abingdon Development (Original applications: <u>P17/V1336/O</u> & <u>P17/V0050/O</u>)

Oxford Roadworks

The traffic lights have failed on the two weekends of 12 / 13th and 19 / 20th July. The lights weren't manned as County Highway's permit requires and the contact number displayed on the road signs wasn't answered. County Councillor Ley rang the Hope and Clay management on both incidents to get the traffic lights back working.

Oxfordshire Highways are involved with a very aggrieved Highways officer having emailed Hope and Clay stating that they are in clear breach of the conditions of the road working permit. Any further breaches and the permit will be cancelled again.

An incident of materials being stollen from the works compound has been reported. This happened on the afternoon of Saturday 19th when the works weren't manned but were witnessed.

North Abingdon Development

The Leader of Abingdon Council, Councillor Halliday attended and spoke at the Full Council meeting of the Vale of White Horse District Council

Regarding the suffering of residents due to the extremely poor developer performance on the Oxford Road Roundabout Highways works, lack of the regular Developer Forum meetings and what seems to be a general lack of oversight and control of the S106 and related agreements.

A link to the Vale of White Horse Full Council meeting will be created once the minutes have been released.

The chair of planning is to write to the developer to petition them about meeting and keeping to the planning conditions.

ii. Culham Development (Original application: P24/S1759/O)

A road traffic counter has just been placed across the road at the Broad Face pub. As this is the start of the school holidays the chair of planning is to write to the Mr Lee Turner (Team Leader - Traffic & Road Safety, Central Programme Delivery, Highway Maintenance, Environment & Place, Oxfordshire County Council) to request that traffic over Abingdon Bridge is continued to be counted during state and private school term time. Mr Lee Turner has responded to the chair of planning informing him that his team didn't commission the survey and has forwarded the chairs email to the OCC Transport Monitoring team for a response.

iii. Dalton Barracks Development (Link to Dalton Barrack Gardon Village website)

The chair of planning attended the local parishes quarterly online meeting.

- The meeting was also attended by the development's town planner, who is a resident of Vale of White Horse, Oxfordshire, and so is aware of the area
- The Dalton Barracks team said that they had met with BOB ICB in January 2024 regarding the MOD health centre on the development site but have had trouble contacting them since then. In the initial meeting BOB ICB had shown interested in taking over the MOD health centre as it was already equipped to MOD requirements for general medical and dental provision.
- The Dalton Barracks team noted that it was unlikely that the Dalton Barracks development and the SESRO, reservoir development would be able to work together on an integrated transport management plan, but work was still ongoing.
- The town planner reported on his meeting with a representative from GWR and when asked about the sidings being requested by SESRO responded that GWR knew nothing about it. The town planner will liaise with GWR asking them to contact Network Rail and SESRO.

iv. South East Strategic Reservoir Option (SESRO) - Thames Water

The chair of planning attended the Marcham feedback on last year's public engagement with SESRO representatives

- Where it was admitted that the map with Farmoor Reservoir superimposed on SESRO had been created but was mislaid. Water tests and surveys in the area were ongoing.
- The land team was in attendance and when asked how any compulsory purchases, if required, would be valued, they replied made at market value.

In October the public consultation would start.

A map book is available in the Abingdon Town Council office to look at.

There has still been no response from the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) are being chased again regarding a reply to our request that South Abingdon be included in Environmental Impact Assessments due to 2024 severe flooding and OCC Section 19 Flood Report classing it as one of the worst affected areas in Oxfordshire.

v. Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board (BOB ICB)

The request for a meeting with BOB ICB has been sent for support from Abingdon's MP's, whose office have now given it a case number. Apparently, the MP's office is also having difficulty engaging with them. This is still being actioned by the Chair of Planning and Town Council Officers.

P47/25 Neighbourhood Plan

Due to the Deputy Mayor's busy schedule Cllr Skinner has stepped back from the project and has handed over the management to Cllr Giddins.

Cllr Giddins would like to thank Cllr Skinner and the Steering Group for all their hard work to bring the project to its current review status.

Please note that the national government is no longer funding Neighbourhood Plans but will continue to recognise them for planning purposes. The Vale of White Horse has issued assurances that they have a team who will continue to observe and support parishes with their neighbourhood plans.

Abingdon's Neighbourhood plan is currently assessing help required to analyse the comments from the last consultation and what consultant assistance is required.

P48/25 Joint Local Plan (2041) - South & Vale District Councils

No updates.

P49/25 Traffic Advisory Committee

In response to the questions on traffic levels, light timing issues and problems caused by business deliveries affecting peak hour traffic flows in the town centre, it was agreed that a full overall review of traffic levels, flows and parking in central Abingdon is required so further details should come in the October meeting

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 4th June 2025.

The next meeting of the Traffic Advisory Committee is on 29th October 2025.

P50/25 Planning Policy & Legislation changes

There have been three consultations in July. The consultations are summarised below with Abingdon Town Council's response. To view the full consultations please follow this link.

1. Speeding Up Build Out

This explains the reasons why building homes after consent has been obtained can often take too long. It identifies problems stem as much from how the housing development market is structured and operates than from planning policy constraints. It tackles the issues of land banking and price-base absorption rates.

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council response.

2. Reforming site thresholds

Part of the Government's small sites strategy by redefining SME sites into 'minor' (<10 homes or < 0.5 Ha) and 'medium' (10 - 49 homes or < 1 Ha) housing development. Sites of 50+ (or > 1Ha) are then deemed major housing development. It also defines 'very small sites' of < 0.1 Ha that it proposes to address in the new National Development Management Policy, National Model Design Code and 'Brownfield Passport' regimes.

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council response.

3. Reform of Planning Committees

This consultation seeks views on proposals around the delegation of planning functions, the size and composition of planning committees and mandatory training for members of planning committees.

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council response.

P51/25 **Dates of future meetings**

11 August	1 September	22 September
13 October	3 November	24 November
15 December	12 January	2 February
23 February	16 March	13 April
11 May		·

The meeting closed at 20:50

Signed:	 	 	 	 	 	
Date:	 	 	 	 	 	