17th April 2018

Minutes of the proceedings of the PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE meeting held on this day in the Council Chambers, Town Hall, Wokingham from 7.30pm to 8.45pm.

PRESENT
Chairman: Cllr A Waters
Councillors: Cllr Mrs A N Drake, Cllr K Morgan, Cllr C George, Cllr C Moore, Cllr M L Richards and Cllr I L Shepherd-Dubey.

IN ATTENDANCE
Technical Officer – Miles Thorne

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)
Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs N Campbell-White, Mark Ashwell and P Lucey (The Mayor).

MEMBERS’ INTERESTS (Agenda Item 2)
Cllr Richards stated that he would not vote on planning matters.

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OR PUBLIC (Agenda Item 3)
None received.

PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES (Agenda Item 4)
It was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr C George and it was that the Minutes of the Planning & Transportation Committee meeting held on 13th March 2018 (pages 15524 to 15528) be received as a true and correct record and that they be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

RESOLVED
29715

MONITORING REPORT (Agenda Item 5)
The Monitoring Report dated 11th April 2018 was received and considered.

To produce final draft of the motion on Planning policy.
The Chairman stated that this would be discussed later in the meeting in Agenda item 7 - Planning Policy.

Circulate draft response to the NPFF consultation
Cllr K Morgan stated that he has not yet completed his analysis of the document and that this requires more discussion and input from Councillors on the P&T Committee. The Chairman suggested a separate informal meeting on this topic and that he would suggest a date for this meeting and circulate the document to the members of the Committee.

ACTION: THE CHAIRMAN
RESOLVED 29716

Cllr C Moore joined the meeting

TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION (Agenda Item 6)
Cllr C George raised the issue of disabled access (wheelchairs) on the pavement due to scaffolding on Rose Street. This would also affect pushchairs and similar as the access is narrow.

Cllr C George raised the question as to whether the project has used any reserve funds.

Cllr I Shepherd-Dubey raised the issue of the discolouration of the new stones when vehicles are travelling over and leaving black residue. Cllr C George explained that the developers will be treating and coating the stones so this would resolve issue.

Cllr C George wanted clarification that completion date was still planned to be 3rd July.

ACTION: P&T OFFICER

PLANNING POLICY (Agenda Item 7)
The Chairman proposed and Cllr K Morgan seconded and it was that Cllr N Campbell-White’s amended Planning Policy document would be sent to the 4 members of parliament and sent as a press release to the local papers. It would also be sent to the members of the public that attended the previous P&T Committee meeting that provided contact details.

The Chairman agreed to create the covering letter with the P&T Officer to distribute and organize Social Media exposure and copy to the local press.

ACTION: CHAIRMAN AND P&T OFFICER

ROAD CLOSURES (Agenda Item 8)
Cllr K Morgan stated that the main issue was that the planning of road closures were uncoordinated. Cllr M Richards stated that the communication between involved parties responsible for the planning of closures was poor.

Cllr I Shepherd-Dubey stated that the supplied website to view closures – www.roadworks.org was not adequate to get a view on closures and impacts.

Cllr M Richards stated that there is a monthly meeting at Wokingham Borough Council, Chaired by Ed Day, to cover road works and closures that is attended by Utilities. However this meeting was within normal daytime working hours so difficult for Councillors to attend.

Cllr M Richards also stated that there is a spreadsheet produced for this meeting. The P&T Officer has access and will distribute to the P&T Committee.

The Chairman stated that there were 4 road closures that required details and confirmation of time of closures and duration. The P&T officer will investigate:

- Wiltshire Road
- Reading Road
- Twyford Road
- Barkham Level Crossing (National Rail)

ACTION: P&T OFFICER
BELL FOUNDRY LANE – NORTHERN DISTRIBUTOR ROAD (Agenda Item 9)
The Chairman stated that the Borough Council had not heeded previous concerns raised by the P&T Committee and that there is laying water in Bell Foundry Lane and the situation will only degenerate. The Chairman is to meet with Cllr David Lee of Wokingham Borough Council to discuss these issues with drainage.

ACTION: CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE BUDGET (Agenda Item 10)
A report on the Committee’s budget as of 28th February 2018 was received and noted.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS (Agenda Item 11)
The following applications were received and considered and it was that the Committee would make comment as shown.

180743 68 Valley Crescent
Full application for the erection of a 2 storey, 3no bed end terraced attached dwelling, to include the erection of a new porch canopy to the front elevation of existing dwelling, widening of the existing vehicular crossover, following demolition of the existing single detached garage.

Objection on the following grounds:

- The proposed dwelling would create a terracing effect which is out of keeping with the character of the area and would not comply with the adopted Borough Design Guide and policy CP3 of the adopted Core Strategy.
- Scale and mass are out of character with the area.
- Road safety. The proposed drop kerb is too close to the junction. Which will cause an issue reversing into driveway.

172787 1 Victoria Walk
Full application for the proposed change of use of amenity land to residential, erection of first floor side extension over existing garage to include two side dormer extensions.

Objection on the following grounds:

- Highway safety. The proposed extension would require exciting into road near bend.

180814 15 Barkham Road
Householder application for the proposed erection of part two storey side, part single storey side/front to form porch, single storey side/rear extension to dwelling plus loft conversion to create habitable accommodation including a rear dormer and three rooflights on the front elevation.

No objection.

ACTION: P&T OFFICER

RESOLVED 29717
INFORMATION ITEMS (Agenda Item 12)
The proposed road names for phase 2 Mulbery Grove at Kentwood Farm was received and noted.

Cllr C Moore would like an agenda item added to the next P&T Committee Meeting - Q&A with Wokingham Borough Council and public on current building development.

Cllr C Moore would like information on the protection of Viking Field.