

8th September 2020

In accordance with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 this meeting was held virtually.

Minutes of the proceedings of the **PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE** meeting held on this day as a Virtual Meeting, from 19:30 to 20:32

PRESENT

Chairman: **Cllr I Shepherd-Dubey**

Councillors: Cllr N Fox, Cllr K Malvern, Cllr A Tebboth, Cllr A Mather, Cllr T Lack, Cllr M Fumagalli, Cllr P Dennis & Cllr D Hinton

IN ATTENDANCE

Technical Officer (P&T Officer) – Miles Thorne

Cllr Lynn Forbes

Cllr Rachel Bishop-Firth

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

None

MEMBERS' INTERESTS (Agenda Item 2)

None

QUESTIONS FROM THE COUNCIL OR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (Agenda Item 3)

None

PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES (Agenda Item 4)

**RESOLVED
30171**

It was proposed by The Chairman and seconded by Cllr Lack and it was that the Minutes of the Planning & Transportation Committee meeting held on 7th July 2020 (pages 16105 to 16109) and Extraordinary meeting held on 5th August 2020 (pages 16130 to 16132) be received as a true and correct record and that they be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MONITORING REPORT (Agenda Item 5)

The Monitoring Report dated 2nd September 2020 was received and considered.

WOKINGHAM TOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

There were no updates. This will stay on the Monitoring Report for updates.

ACTION P&T OFFICER

CHAIRMANS INITIALS _____



ADDING FLOWER DISPLAYS TO OUR BUS SHELTER ROOFS

Cllr Hinton has been in touch with supplier and they have said that they are currently still on furlough and not working.

ACTION: P&T OFFICER

GOVERNMENT CHANGES TO THE PLANNING SYSTEM (Agenda Item 6)

To discuss the Government changes to the Planning System.

There are two areas within the government planning changes.

1/ Changes to Use Classes and Permitted Development.

These changes have been introduced in 1st September 2020. It is unclear whether, as a Town Council, Wokingham Town Council will be able to discuss and place objections or even receive applications for discussion which fall into these changes.

The P&T Officer will contact WBC Planning to confirm the process.

2/ Changes to the current Planning System

This is the new plan by the Government which will bring major changes to the current planning process. There is a consultation process until 1st October for comments to be received from Councils, organisations, and individuals.

It was agreed that Councillors would like to enter comments in response as both individuals as well as members of Wokingham Town Council P&T Committee as a whole.

Councillors will initially feedback their comments to the P&T Officer. It will then be determined if there needs to be an extra meeting before 1st October so that an agreed list of comments can be sent into the consultation on behalf of Wokingham Town Council.

ACTION:P&T COMMITTEE, P&T OFFICER

CONSULTANCY ON PLANNING FOR WOKINGHAMTOWN COUNCIL P&T COMMITTEE (Agenda item 7)

To discuss the possibilities of hiring a planning consultant, for use by Wokingham Town Council, to advise on complex planning matters.

The P&T Officer stated that six planning consultancies had been contacted to see whether they could offer a service. Only three replied but two stated a possible conflict of interest with Wokingham Borough Council.

CHAIRMANS INITIALS _____



During this process, the Government announced major changes to the planning system so the P&T Officer contacted the Consultants again to see whether they could supply a presentation\training on these changes.

There was a Presentation\Training given to Councillors on the P&T Committee regarding the forthcoming major Planning Changes and this was paid for from the Councillor Training budget.

It was agreed that it would be useful for all Wokingham Town Councillors to have presentation\training on the other changes that have just been put in place by the Government regarding changes to Use Classes and Permitted Development.

The P&T Officer will investigate this.

Cllr Lack stated that although there is a budget for consultants to give presentations\training (from our Training budget) he would like to know if there was a requirement for consultancy on a specific, complex Planning issue whether funds are or could be made available to the Highways and Planning budget.

ACTION:P&T OFFICER

COMMITTEE'S BUDGET (Agenda Item 8)

A report on the Committee's budget as of 31st July 2020 was received and noted

**RESOLVED
30172**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS (Agenda Item 9)

The following applications were received and considered and it was that the Committee would make comment as shown.

201673 Land Between 9-11 Westward Road

Outline application with landscaping reserved for the proposed erection of 1no. two-bedroom dwelling with access, appearance, layout, and scale to be determined.

The Committee were concerned over the building apparently being built over a main sewer and that the proposed development had been squeezed into a small space. There are objections to this application on the following.

CP1 Sustainable Development 1/Quality of environment 2/ Emissions of Pollutants (built over sewer).

CP3 D Fauna and Flora (as will lose strip of land).

CP9 Scale and location of development proposals.

CHAIRMANS INITIALS _____



201830

Station House Station Approach RG40 2AP

Application for Listed Building consent for proposed repair works to footbridge

The Committee were glad to see that this repair work will be taking place.

If possible, can the deck and steps be kept as timber replacements? If GRP must be used can this be in keeping with existing as much as possible.

Will the repairs to stonework and pointing be included? This would be welcomed.

Can confirmation be given that the metalwork will be restored within this process?

ACTION: P&T OFFICER

INFORMATION ITEMS (Agenda Item 8)

Cllr Lack asked if there could be funds available for purchase of deeds if this was required when the Committee would be discussing an application.

ACTION: P&T OFFICER

CHAIRMANS INITIALS _____



CHAIRMANS SIGNATURE _____

CHAIRMANS INITIALS _____

