

17<sup>th</sup> December 2024

**Minutes of the proceedings of the PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE meeting held on this day in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Wokingham from 19:30 to 21:00**

**PRESENT**

Councillors: Cllr N Nagella (Vice Chair), Cllr A Croy, Cllr L Timlin, Cllr H Richards, Cllr W Dixon,

**IN ATTENDANCE**

PT Officer

2 members of the public

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)**

Cllr Shepherd-Dubey (Chair)

Cllr C Jamthe

Cllr B Alvi

Cllr A Betteridge

As the Chair was absent the Vice Chair, Cllr Nagella chaired the meeting.

**MEMBERS' INTERESTS (Agenda Item 2)**

None

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

None

At this point in the meeting as there were members of the public who wished to speak regarding Agenda item 7 it was agreed by the Chair to change the order and go to Agenda item 7.

**APPEAL BY BERKELEY STRATEGIC LAND LIMITED (Agenda Item 7)**

To resolve If the town council will make a further representation to the appeal on Land Adjacent to Blagrove Lane, Wokingham. Application: 222306. Appeal: APP/X0360/W/24/3354667. All representations must be received by 24 December 2024.

Just before the meeting there was an update to this appeal, with a change of date for representations. Representations can now be received up until **January 20<sup>th</sup> 2025**.

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The two members of the public were representing the 'Save Blagrove Campaign' They explained that they had contacted Wokingham Borough Council several times regarding the date for representations to be extended and were pleased that they now had been.

They plan to attend the inquiry hearing, hopefully as an active party with Rule 6 status. This would allow them to actively be involved in the process and have access to all the documentation presented. This however would require funding for legal representation which they estimate would be £15,000.

They will be looking at three main areas in this case, but not exclusively. The Ecology report, Traffic Safety and Sustainability.

They spoke about their campaign so far. They have sent leaflets to 1500 local residents, informing them of developments. They have attended Barkham Parish Council meetings and have started a 'Just Giving' fund raising page.

They enquired whether it would be possible for Wokingham Town Council to help in any way.

The PT Officer replied that on financial help this would be out of scope for this meeting. They are welcome to approach the Town Clerk but due to the timescales it was unlikely that any financial help would be a possibility.

The Committee will support by creating a new objection letter.

**RESOLVED  
30973**

It was that Cllr Dixon create a new objection letter and distribute to the Committee via the PT Officer for agreement and collate and implement any changes. Cllr Dixon will create the document at the beginning of January.

**ACTION: CLLR DIXON, PT OFFICER**

#### **PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES (Agenda Item 4)**

**RESOLVED  
30974**

It was proposed by Cllr Timlin and seconded by Cllr Richards, and it was that the minutes of the Planning & Transportation Committee meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024 (pages 17093 to 17097) be received as a true and correct record and that they be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

**ACTION: PT OFFICER**

#### **MONITORING REPORT (Agenda Item 5)**

The Monitoring Report dated 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024 was received and considered.

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### **SECURE BICYCLE STORAGE IN WOKINGHAM TOWN**

The Planning officer updated the Committee on the progress of the project since the last P&T meeting.

The PT Officer stated that the usage figures had fallen slightly in November, but this was expected due to colder seasonal weather.

Cllr Croy noted that the figures for usage were good at Carnival Hub but so for Denmark street. He asked if there were any other locations that would make a move or a new set of lockers more appealing to cyclists. The PT Officer will contact WBC to see if there are any alternatives to locations that could be provided.

### **BUS SHELTERS**

The new method of cleaning graffiti was tested at Crutchley Bus Shelter. Unfortunately, it did not work as hoped. The alternatives of replacing the panels are not viable as this would be a high cost if panels needed to be replaced each time they were subject to graffiti that was hard to clean off.

The replacement shelter at Wellington road is due to be installed in January 2025.

**ACTION: PT OFFICER**

### **CIL CO FUNDING REQUESTS FROM WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL (Agenda Item 6)**

To review and make a recommendation on the 3 proposed road crossing projects that WBC has requested co-funding with Wokingham Town Council. This will provide information for the Finance & Personnel Committee who will be reviewing in their next meeting.

The Committee discussed the three projects. There were several issues within the documents that were not clear, so it made it difficult to give guidance to the Finance & Personnel Committee.

It would have helped if more information could have been provided either prior to the meeting or at the meeting where questions could be asked.

Two of the requests, Wiltshire Road & Warren House Road have already been funded and information has been shared with WBC Ward Councillors.

Documents submitted to the town council are not accurately completed.

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The Committee welcome future requests of funding for road safety improvements within the town area but would require more information and consultation.

#### **Toucan Crossing – A329**

Recommend to finance from CIL – **YES**

The Committee had previously supported this when it was reviewing the proposed cycleway on the A329. This would be recommended to the Finance & Personnel Committee for funding.

#### **Wiltshire Road – Zebra Crossing**

Recommend to finance from CIL – **NO**

Increased safety in this area is actively supported by Wokingham Town Council and this would be welcomed, however funding for this project is already complete. It states that “External funding would assist in funding more projects that improve road safety across the area”. If these are within Wokingham Town, we would welcome discussions on these other specific projects.

#### **Warren House Road - Zebra Crossing**

Recommend to finance from CIL – **NO**

The request seems to contradict itself regarding the installation of a Zebra Crossing.

Increased safety in this area is actively supported by Wokingham Town Council and this would be welcomed, however funding for this project is already complete.

**ACTION: PT OFFICER**

#### **COMMITTEE’S BUDGET (Agenda Item 8)**

A report on the Committee’s budget as of 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024 were received and noted.

**ACTION: PT OFFICER**

#### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS (Agenda Item 9)**

**RESOLVED  
30975**

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

##### **242745 1-2 Bush Walk Wokingham RG40 1AT**

Application for Listed Building Consent to include: refitting of existing shopfitting’s and floor coverings, repair of existing walls, erection of stud wall at rear of the shop

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to provide storage, repair and repainting of timber shopfront, installation of new non- illuminated sign to the front fascia, covering of side windows with vinyl product displays, alterations to existing internal lighting.

The Committee support this application.

**242930 36 Rose Street Wokingham RG40 1XU**

Householder application for the proposed refurbishment of two listed terrace properties to refresh the finishes and repair some legacy water damage to internal plaster walls. No structural alterations are proposed. The removal and making good of a shared non-structural lean-to glazed conservatory roof and enclosure is proposed to reinstate separate access into private garden spaces at the rear of the properties.

The Committee support this application.

**INFORMATION ITEMS (AGENDA ITEM 10)**

Cllr Croy informed the Committee that he attended the licensing sub committee hearing for extended hours for Burger King on behalf of Wokingham Town Council. The result of hearing should be known by 23<sup>rd</sup> December.

**ACTION: P&T OFFICER**

CHAIRMANS SIGNATURE\_\_\_\_\_

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