



Wokingham Town Council

Town Hall, Market Place, Wokingham, Berkshire RG40 1AS

Tel: 0118 978 3185 www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk

Town Clerk: K. Hughes

This Council Meeting is open to the Public and Press
Please notify the Officer or Chairman if you wish to record the meeting

26th February 2025

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend the meeting of the **Planning & Transportation Committee** to be held in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Wokingham** at **7.30pm** on **Tuesday 4th March 2025** for the purpose of considering and resolving upon the subjects and matters set out in the agenda below.

Yours sincerely

K Hughes

Town Clerk

Contact Officer Miles Thorne, Technical Officer

Direct line: 0118 974 0885 Email: planning@wokingham-tc.gov.uk

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

To receive any declaration of interests from Members on the business about to be transacted.

3 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OR PUBLIC

The Chairman to answer questions raised by members of the Council or public.

This is an opportunity for the people of Wokingham to ask questions of, and make comments to, the Town Council. Members of the public are requested to restrict their questions and comments to three minutes. Questions which are not answered at this meeting will be answered in writing to the person asking the question. To ensure an informed response, please send your questions to the Town Clerk at least three working days prior to the meeting.

4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

To receive and confirm the Minutes of the proceedings at the meetings of this Committee held on 4th February 2025 (pages 17150 to 17153) copy attached as a true and correct record.

5 MONITORING REPORT

To receive and consider the Monitoring Report dated 26th February 2025

6 COMMITTEE'S BUDGET

To receive and consider a report on the Committee's budget as of 31st January 2025 (copy attached).

7 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

To receive and consider current planning applications. Details of the applications are on the Town Council's web site and will be presented at the meeting. <https://www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk/planning-applications/>

8 INFORMATION ITEMS

To receive items for information or to be referred to at a future meeting.

Planning & Transportation Committee: Imogen Shepherd-Dubey (Chair), Nagi Nagella (Vice Chair), Chetna Jamthe, Adrian Betteridge, Warren Dixon, Andy Croy, Basit Alvi, Heather Richards and Louise Timlin

Copy to: Cllr Robert Comber

In order to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, all persons attending this meeting are hereby notified that this meeting will be recorded. The purpose of recording proceedings is that it acts as an aide-memoir in assisting the clerk of the meeting in the compilation of minutes. The recordings are held in a secure location and deleted once it has been resolved that the minutes are a true and correct record.

In accordance with The Openness of Local Government Bodies regulations 2014, persons attending this meeting may make their own recordings of the proceedings subject to the Council's Policy on Filming, Recording & Reporting on Council and Committee Meetings (copy available on request).

4th February 2025

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 20:28

PRESENT

Councillors: Cllr I Shepherd-Dubey (Chair), Cllr N Nagella (Vice Chair), Cllr A Betteridge, Cllr A Croy, Cllr C Jamthe, Cllr H Richards Cllr L Timlin,

IN ATTENDANCE

Town Clerk

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

Cllr B Alvi
Cllr W Dixon

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 3)

**RESOLVED
31007**

It was proposed by Cllr N Nagella and seconded by Cllr L Timlin, and it was that the minutes of the Planning & Transportation Committee meeting held on 17th December 2024 (pages 17120 to 17124) be received as a true and correct record and that they be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

MONITORING REPORT (Agenda Item 5)

The Monitoring Report dated 29th January was received and considered.

SECURE BICYCLE STORAGE IN WOKINGHAM TOWN

The Town Clerk gave a verbal update on the cycle lockers and noted that the P&T Officer had been liaising with two officers at Wokingham Borough Council to identify a location within the town to move two of the cycle lockers from the Denmark Street carpark.

Cllr A Betteridge requested that a location near Waitrose be considered and will follow up with officers in the My Journey team at WBC.

CHAIRMANS INITIALS _____



BUS SHELTERS

The Town Clerk reported that the damaged bus shelter on Wellington Road had been repaired.

ACTION: PT OFFICER

LICENSING ACT 2003 HEARING FOR BURGER KING ATTENDED BY CLLR A CROY 16 DECEMBER 2024 (Agenda Item 6)

Cllr A Croy gave a verbal report on the licensing hearing for Burger King. He thanked the Town Clerk for providing details on the licensing objectives, and noted that the committee should consider these when reviewing future licensing applications.

Members noted that the application for extended operating hours was refused.

ACTION: PT OFFICER

WOKINGHAM PILOT ACCESS AND RIGHTS OF WAY CAMPAIGN (Agenda Item 7)

Members reviewed a consultation from the British Horse Society. The following responses were agreed:

Q1. Recreation, Active Travel and health and wellbeing need to hand in hand to offer increased connectivity and safer off road alternatives to increasing busy and dangerous roads for vulnerable , non motorised road users.

➤ The Committee agreed.

Q2. Wokingham needs to move towards a greener, healthier, safer future that also addresses the inequality in the current Public Rights of Way network.

➤ The Committee agreed.

Q3. The current Public Rights of Way network, for having such a high percentage of footpaths which only allow use by walkers, with limited access by disabled, those with buggies and prams, in an undervalued resource that holds enormous potential. There is potential in the footpath network to provide improved connections throughout the borough for more non-motorised, vulnerable road user groups than are currently unable or not permitted to use it.

➤ The Committee agreed.

Q4. A footpath review is a more attractive and viable option than 'The right to roam'

➤ The Committee disagreed

Q5. Offering more off-road connections between areas of settlement and to places of interest e.g. country parks and schools. Also off road routes for more non-motorised groups is important to my group/organisation/charity

➤ The Committee agreed.

CHAIRMANS INITIALS _____



Q6. The criteria set out in the information document, for how the footpath network can be improved, is appropriate and necessary to gain a much-needed facility for the Wokingham Borough community as a whole.

- The Committee disagreed.

Other comments:

The Committees main interest would be in improving provision for walking and wheeling users of the network.

The Committee recognises that these improvements will be expensive, and it is currently unclear where funding for such improvements would come from.

The Committee agreed to receive updates on the campaign.

COMMITTEE'S BUDGET (Agenda Item 8)

A report on the Committee's budget as of 31st December 2024 was received and noted. Cllr A Betteridge asked whether the report can be expended to include projected spend to year end. The Town Clerk noted that this was not possible with the current report, as it is a direct download from the finance system, but that a manually created report was being developed for Committee Officers by the RFO and should be in place soon.

ACTION: PT OFFICER

**RESOLVED
31008**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS (Agenda Item 9)

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

242967 Wokingham Theatre Twyford Road RG40 5TU

Full application for the proposed erection of a two-storey extension to form a studio block, plus the erection of a link between the main building and the storage barn (which is to be retained on a permanent basis); closure of the old access and creation of public parking spaces, formation of a new access and installation of hardstanding to form on-site parking.

The Committee support this application.

242957 1-2 Bush Walk Wokingham RG40 1AT

Application for advertisement consent for the proposed installation of 1 no. non-illuminated fascia sign and 18 no. window vinyls.

The Committee support this application.

243132 201 Reading Road Wokingham RG41 1LJ

Full application for the proposed erection of 1 no. detached dwelling and detached double garage with associated landscaping and entrance gate, following demolition of the existing dwelling and garage.

The Committee raise no objection to this application.

CHAIRMANS INITIALS _____



250010 71 London Road Wokingham RG40 1YA

Full application for the proposed change of use of the property to supported living accommodation (Use Class C2), plus erection of a two-storey front/side extension and a single storey side/rear extension, associated landscaping, parking, installation of PV panels and bin storage, following demolition of the existing attached garage and single storey rear extension.

The Committee support this application.

INFORMATION ITEMS (AGENDA ITEM 10)

There were no items.

CHAIRMANS SIGNATURE_____

CHAIRMANS INITIALS _____



WOKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Monitoring Report: Planning & Transportation

Date: 26th February 2025

Date Action Agreed	Item for Action (to include any resolution number)	Person Actioning	Proposed Completion Date	Progress
29 Sep 2021	Secure Bicycle Storage In Wokingham Town	PT Officer	June 2025	<p>Feb 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The usage figures have reduced in line with what is expected for the winter months. There was an issue with the reporting of figures for December and the usage was higher in Denmark Street than Carnival Hub. We will keep an eye on this to see whether this is an upward trend or an anomaly The PT Officer is investigating the possibilities of moving the Denmark Street Secure Lockers to another location in the Town that will be more viable on the request of the Committee. Spokesafe have quoted a price of £600 per locker to move and set-up. They have suggested keeping 2 lockers at Denmark Street and moving 2 to a different location as a possibility. There is also a cost of £250 for a new location activation. I have had conversations with Julie Pillai (MyJourney) regarding possible locations. She thought that Waitrose and Peach Place were worth investigating. I have contacted Waitrose & Carl Grint (Peach Place) and am awaiting a response.
20 June 2022	Bus Shelters maintenance	PT Officer	March 2025	<p>Feb 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No updates this month.

WOKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Monitoring Report: Planning & Transportation

Date: 26th February 2025



WTC strategy:

Wokingham Town Council embraces our past, celebrates our present and builds for our future.

Principles:

Being sustainable

Working to reduce our negative impact on our local environment and use our financial resources and physical assets as efficiently and effectively as possible.

Involving everyone

Striving to ensure the council's events, activities and democratic processes are open, accessible and welcoming to everyone in our community.

Fostering Town Pride

Protecting, enhancing and celebrating what's good about our council, our community, our town and our heritage. We will learn from our past, acknowledge where there's room for improvement, and prepare for the future.

Enriching community

Creating and supporting opportunities to bring our community together and help it to thrive.

06/02/2025

Wokingham Town Council

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09:35

Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 31/01/2025

Month No: 10

Cost Centre Report

	Actual Last Year	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available
401 Highways and Planning						
1106 Grant Funding (External)	1,901	3,299	2,640	(659)		
1163 Cycle locker income	155	145	300	155		
1256 Misc. Income	0	5,825	0	(5,825)		
Highways and Planning :- Income	2,056	9,269	2,940	(6,329)		
4111 Bus Shelter Repairs	696	6,650	3,000	(3,650)	313	(3,962)
4529 Cycle lockers	1,901	787	2,640	1,853		1,853
Highways and Planning :- Indirect Expenditure	2,597	7,437	5,640	(1,797)	313	(2,109)
Net Income over Expenditure	(541)	1,832	(2,700)	(4,532)		
Grand Totals:- Income	2,056	9,269	2,940	(6,329)		
Expenditure	2,597	7,437	5,640	(1,797)	313	(2,109)
Net Income over Expenditure	(541)	1,832	(2,700)	(4,532)		
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(541)	1,832	(2,700)	(4,532)		