



Marlborough Town Council Planning Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the **Planning Committee** which was held on **Monday, 15 November 2021** in the Assembly Room, Marlborough Town Hall at 7pm

PRESENT: Councillor Nicholas Fogg Chairman
Councillor Mark Cooper Town Mayor (*ex officio*)
Councillor Andrew Ross
Councillor Noel Barrett-Morton
Councillor Mervyn Hall
Councillor Vanessa Hillier
Councillor Jo Waltham
Councillor Richard Allen
Councillor Kymee Cleasby
Councillor Jane Davies
Councillor James Sheppard
Councillor Caroline Thomas

ALSO PRESENT: Richard Spencer-Williams Town Clerk
Dawn Whitehall Administrator
Neil Goodwin Marlborough.News
Plus 1 member of the public

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

274/21 APOLOGIES
Apologies for absence were received from **Councillors Loosmore, Farrell and Heath.**

275/21 DECLARATIONS
Councillor Fogg – agenda items 8(d) – work to trees – and 9(a) – Highways improvement request – non-pecuniary interest.

276/21 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS
There were no announcements.

277/21 MINUTES
RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held 25 October 2021 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman

278/21 TOWN CLERK'S ACTION LOG
The Town Clerk's Action Log was noted, and there were verbal updates on several items:

- At Poulton Hill, the speed limit sign had been put back into position and vegetation had been cut back
- Traffic Survey: Highways Officers had agreed to provide an introduction to Atkins in order to discuss possibilities
- Requests for changes to waiting and parking restrictions (yellow lines) would be collated and submitted to Wiltshire Council in January

279/21 PLANNING DECISION NOTICES

Members noted the planning decision notices that had been issued by Wiltshire Council.

280/21 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) **PL/2021/09986** – Rear terrace and basement kitchen extension, addition of air conditioning to the first floor bedrooms, garden study, relocation of kitchen extract, garden hot tub at Riverside, 51A High Street, Marlborough for [REDACTED]

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council has no objection to this application

b) **PL/2021/09678** – Rear terrace and basement kitchen extension, addition of air conditioning to the first floor bedrooms, garden study, relocation of kitchen extract, garden hot tub at Riverside, 51A High Street, Marlborough for [REDACTED]

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council has no objection to this application

c) **PL/2021/10231** – Proposed side extension at South View, Cold Harbour Lane, Marlborough for Mr and Mrs Card

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council has no objection to this application

281/21 WORK TO TREES

a) **PL/2021/10006** – Fell Leylandii. This quick-growing and unsightly Leylandii tree is growing into a characterful and established Ash tree, and also into a very established and large Lime tree, which is a TPO. It is a dense and ugly tree, and is obscuring the shape of these other, more established trees, as well as hindering their growth. Currently the land the tree sits on is unkempt and in need of taming. Removing this tree is the first phase of that. Eventually we intend to plant fruit trees, hedging and wildflowers at Upcott Cottage, Bath Road, Marlborough for Mrs Emma van Gijn

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council has no objection to this application

b) **PL/2021/10409** – 3 x Yew trees – reduce by up to one-fifth and crown raise at 37 River Park, Marlborough for Mr C Rogers

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council has no objection to this application

c) **PL/2021/10411** – 1 x Sycamore tree & 1 x Holly tree – fell at 37 River Park, Marlborough for Mr C Rogers

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council has no objection to this application

Councillor Hall took the Chair and Councillor Fogg did not vote

d) **PL/2021/10247** – 1 – Walnut tree – fell. 2 – Bay tree – fell. 3 – Holly Oak tree – reduce by one-fifth at Rose Tree House, Silverless Street, Marlborough for Mrs Caroline Mitchell

RESOLVED that Marlborough Town Council objects to this application. There are no documents online to support this application therefore not enough information is available to make a decision.

Members noted two applications for which the comments date had expired:

PL/2021/09976 – Ash tree – pollard at 20-30ft at 5 Culvermead Close, Marlborough for Mr Clyde Nancarrow. Members had no objection.

Councillor Fogg resumed the Chair

PL/2021/09610 – T1 – Walnut tree – approx. 6m in height, reduce radial by approx. 2m. T2 – Walnut tree – approx. 4m in height, reduce radial by approx. 1m. T3 – Cypress tree – approx. 4m in height, remove to ground level. T4+T5 – Holly trees – approx. 3m in height, remove to ground level at 9 River Park, Marlborough for Rees

282/21

COMMUNITY AREA TRANSPORT GROUP (CATG)

Members considered two Highways Improvement Requests:

Councillor Hall took the Chair for the following item and Councillor Fogg did not vote

a) Oxford Street

A request had been received to resolve issues affecting residents of Oxford Street, as well as pedestrians. Solutions suggested included reviewing the speed limit, adding a no entry sign to one end and/or introducing a residents parking scheme. Members discussed:

- The criteria required to qualify for inclusion in a 20 mph zone
- Whether Oxford Street had been included in the 2018 20mph project
- Whether more than one person had raised the issue
- Whether to review in isolation, or as part of a whole town traffic survey

RESOLVED: (i) to include Oxford Street in the overall traffic survey of the town

Councillor Fogg resumed the Chair

b) Poulton Hill

A request had been received addressing a number of issues related to road safety for pedestrians on a narrow stretch of road between the 30mph restriction on Poulton Hill and the Vicarage Close region of St Martins. There were 6 possible solutions proposed. Members discussed:

- Whether there was enough overall width to safely increase the size of the footpath while retaining enough space in the road for vehicles to safely pass in each direction
- Whether it would be feasible to extend or change speed limit areas, particularly for 20mph which may require the carriageway to be narrowed significantly
- Comments about the narrow pavement near Vicarage Close had been received from several residents
- That the first solution had already been completed, to cut back vegetation and reinstate the 30mph sign
- Whether the implementation of a Speed Indicator Device was appropriate for CATG consideration
- That submitting the request to CATG would allow a Highways Officer to offer advice on how to address the problems raised in the request

RESOLVED: to submit the request to CATG and ask for expert advice about proposals 3-6

283/21

BUS CONSULTATION

The Chairman introduced a request from Wiltshire Council for feedback and suggestions about bus services in Marlborough and Manton as part of the Enhanced Partnership Plan phase of the Bus Back Better process. Wiltshire Council was keen to increase the percentage of bus commuters and was seeking specific, detailed comments to feed into the review. Discussion topics included:

- Whether the request was limited to a focus group – and if not to seek input from members of the public via the Town Council website
- That bus timetables should link with train services, in particular at the beginning and end of the working day (i.e. passengers arriving from London in the evening)
- That the lack of bus services at certain times was a contributing factor to staff shortages in businesses in the town, with potential employees preferring to use a bus to avoid higher costs of using car parks but unable to find services that would allow them to work in Marlborough
- That businesses open in the evening were struggling to find staff: the lack of evening buses meant prospective staff could not get home after work
- It was difficult for people to attend appointments at the Job Centre in Devizes because there was no direct service between Marlborough and Devizes
- That people wishing to take a climate-friendly solution by leaving cars at home did not have a public transport alternative
- Currently different services to Swindon leave Marlborough within 10 minutes of each other: could there be better co-ordination between bus companies to improve the frequency of services
- Whether different sized vehicles (e.g. a double decker at commuter times, minibuses off peak) could help bus companies make routes more economical

ACTION POINT: The **Town Clerk** would feed back all the points raised at the meeting

RESOLVED: that all Members should respond to the request for feedback; and to liaise with Wiltshire Council about encouraging public participation online

284/21

SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES (SID)

Members considered the draft plan for the use of SIDs. Matters arising included:

- Whether the High Street could be added to the locations
- That former Wiltshire Councillor Stewart Dobson had successfully applied to the Area Board seeking financial support for the purchase of a second SID: those funds were now available
- The proposed deployment routine, its timescale, and the likely requirement for staff time and that this would increase if more devices were added
- That implementing a plan, and reviewing data at Planning meetings, would demonstrate the Town Council's commitment to addressing traffic issues
- Whether a priority was needed for the use of the SIDs – e.g. the benefit of a physical presence to slow down traffic, or the analysis of the data, and whether this could determine how frequently the Committee should review downloaded SID data
- Whether a PDF was the only method of providing data, or whether source files could be made available to Members

ACTION POINT: check whether data files can be downloaded from the SID

RESOLVED: (i) that Members accept the impact on staff time to implement the SID plan and will work with the Town Clerk to find a way to help manage staff time

RESOLVED: (ii) to purchase a second Speed Indicator Device

RESOLVED: (iii) to include a regular report at Planning Committee meetings to review the data and understand the benefit from the SID deployment plan

285/21

BUDGET

Members considered any changes to the draft Planning Committee budget for 2022-23.

An amount of £5,000 was agreed to cover the cost of Climate Emergency response work, including an audit of the Council. This would allow time during the year to determine what might be required in future budget years to address climate change. It was agreed to reduce the CATG budget from £10,000 to £7,500 and remove the Neighbourhood Plan referendum line item from the 2022/23 budget.

RESOLVED: that, with 3 changes, the Planning Committee budget was agreed for recommendation to the Finance & Policy Committee

286/21

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES

Members noted that Wiltshire Council had issued Orders under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to close temporarily to all traffic:

C18 (part), Preshute and Marlborough (TTRO 7676) from the entrance to the property known as Manton House Farm for approximately 1,000m south east between 08:00-17:00 from 8 to 10 November to enable Openreach to carry out laying of new ducting and associated works

Vicarage Close, Marlborough (TTRO 7756) from its junction with Stonebridge Lane for its entire length between 09:00-16:00 on 27 January 2022 for 2 days to enable Wiltshire Council to conduct carriageway resurfacing

287/21

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

The Regulation 16 consultation had finished and the Steering Group was in the process of analysing the comments received. Wiltshire Council had appointed an examiner for the plan to move to Regulation 17 scrutiny prior to a referendum.

The meeting closed at 8:30 pm

Signed:

Date:

Chairman