

Marlborough Town Council



Planning Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the Planning Committee held Monday, 20 March 2023
in the Court Room, Marlborough Town Hall at 7pm

PRESENT Councillor Nicholas Fogg Chairman
Councillor Mervyn Hall
Councillor Mark Cooper
Councillor Kymee Cleasby
Councillor Caroline Thomas
Councillor Mark Luson

ALSO

PRESENT Richard Spencer-Williams Town Clerk
Dawn Whitehall Corporate Services Officer
Neil Goodwin Marlborough.News
Plus 3 members of the public

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were two questions from residents:

- A recent speed survey at C6 Poulton Hill showed a combined 85%ile of 38.5mph and 73.6% of drivers exceeding 30mph, referred to a planning application for an Equine centre on a blind bend, and asked (i) how the Local Highway and Footway Improvements Group (LHFIG) process would now progress (ii) what solutions were proposed and (iii) in what timescales.

The **Town Clerk** reminded Members that this matter was at agenda item 11 for further consideration, with a recommendation to consider a Community Speed Watch (CSW) Scheme at the location, although Mr Exeter believed that some time ago the police had deemed the area too dangerous for CSW. **Councillor Thomas** outlined the LHFIG process, with the next meeting being in May. If the group agreed that C6 Poulton Hill should be a priority area, an engineer would be asked to suggest possible solutions for consideration by LHFIG. If agreed, but above the LHFIG budget, another option would be to bid for a substantive scheme in the Autumn.

- Agenda item 7(c) – planning application PL/2023/00375 at Kelham Gardens – and asked whether the Committee was aware of a linked application that Wiltshire Council had disallowed.

The **Chair** confirmed that the Committee was aware of this and it would be taken into consideration at the appropriate agenda item. **Councillor Thomas** added that the Committee could only consider the applications before them, and it would be for Planning Officers at Wiltshire Council to consider other points.

- **Neil Goodwin (Marlborough.News)** – asked:
 - Whether there was any update available about a planning application for an equine centre at Poulton Mill (*PL/2021/04663*) and whether there were any related legal issues that might stop the upcoming Referendum for the Marlborough Area Neighbourhood Plan. **Councillor Hall** knew of no legal restrictions to prevent the referendum going ahead on 23 March. **Councillor Thomas** would receive an update should there be any material change to the status of the application, which had been called in for consideration at the Eastern Area Planning Committee as and when the applicant was able to satisfy any remaining objections.
 - Whether Councillors were aware of any plans for broadband companies to dig up the High Street – there was concern among traders about potential disruption, especially to weekend trade. **Councillor Thomas** confirmed that nothing was shown on one.network which was usually very reliable. Officers would be able to set conditions against applications for permits, e.g. to specify scheduling or time conditions. She had emailed Highways and the **Town Clerk** would also contact the companies concerned to ask about their intentions.

282/22 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence had been received from the **Town Mayor** and **Councillors Ross, Barrett-Morton, Heath, Davies, Sheppard** and **Shantry**.

283/22 DECLARATIONS

Councillor Hall – agenda item 7(g) – planning application for The Merchant’s House – non-pecuniary interest.

284/22 CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

285/22 MINUTES

RESOLVED: that, with one addition to the draft, the minutes of the meeting held 27 February 2023 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair

Councillor Thomas provided an update on the idVerde contract, which had been renewed. The primary change from 1 April would be that the contract would be output based rather than resource based: it would be up to idVerde to meet statutory requirements for litter cleansing and emptying. Should they not meet these

requirements, the Town Council (or anyone) could log issues via the MyWilts app and the situation should be quickly rectified.

286/22 ACTION LOG

Members noted the updated action log. Verbal updates included:

#1: Traffic survey/modelling – Wiltshire Council had been waiting for a possible agreement with Bradford on Avon Town Council who are also looking at a Traffic survey/modelling exercise. Cllr Thomas confirmed this had now been agreed and would expect both to be moved forward now both were agreed.

#86: Tin Pit parking – the **Town Clerk** reported that the request by residents for more parking at Tin Pit had come in at the same time as a request from other residents for yellow lines to prevent parked cars blocking access to driveways. To investigate the possibility of improvements to either, he had recently had an on-site meeting with a Highways Engineer. Given the nature of Tin Pit it wasn't clear whether anything could be done to meet either request.

#123: Residents Parking scheme for Kennet Place – this had not been supported by the LHFIG. **Councillor Thomas** believed it would come back round for consideration, but noted the applicant had been concerned that Marlborough Town Councillors hadn't sufficiently supported the proposal at the meeting.

Other items would be discussed at agenda item 10.

287/22 PLANNING DECISION NOTICES

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

288/22 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) **PL/2023/00959** – Replacement of slabbed and Tarmac surfaced footpaths around Court and to the south side of C House with new diamond cut York slabs with grey granite kerb stones at Marlborough College, Bath Road, Marlborough for Mr Geraint Morgan

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

b) **PL/2023/01359** – Alterations to approvals ref 15/02364/FUL and PL/2022/00548 to include additional porch to approved dwelling at 13b London Road, Marlborough for Mr John Black

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

c) **PL/2023/00375** – Erection of detached dwelling and associated works including dropped kerb and parking arrangement at land south of Kelham Gardens, Marlborough SN8 1PW for Ms Tiffany Maugham

The **Chair** noted that the Town Council had objected to an earlier application (*Min. 243/20, 26 October 2020: 20/08715/FUL for the proposed erection of detached dwelling and associated works including dropped kerbs: objected on the*

grounds of the removal of a vehicular right of way for Thames Water or its contractors, concerns about the risks from contamination, highways safety at the access point and possible risk of the loss of roadside parking spaces). In addition he read out a letter received from Wiltshire Council Development Services referring to unlawful activity at the site related to conditions linked to the earlier application.

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council objects to this application on the grounds of the removal of a vehicular right of way for Thames Water or its contractors, concerns about the risks from contamination, highways safety at the access point, possible risk of the loss of roadside parking spaces, and the applicant ignoring planning conditions related to 20/08715/FUL

Members noted that enforcement action had been taken and asked the Town Clerk to urge the Officers to progress a resolution as soon as possible. **Councillor Thomas** agreed to call in the application for discussion at the Eastern Area Planning Committee.

- d) PL/2023/01384** – Removal of existing garage and erection of two storey extension, external insulation and render to the main house, internal refurbishment at Sherwood House, Back Lane, Marlborough for Mr & Mrs Jonathan Brunskill

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

- e) PL/2023/01433** – Proposed roof space conversion, reconfiguration of existing ground floor layout to produce wider entrance hall and new staircase to roof space, single storey rear infill extension at 18 Manstead, Manton Hollow, Marlborough for Mr & Mrs Seemungal

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

- f) PL/2023/01654** – Alterations to dormer roof openings including introduction of Juliet balcony; change to facing materials at Sycamores, Back Lane, Marlborough for Mr A Jackson

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council has no objection to this application subject to a condition that there will be no removal of mature trees

- g) PL/2022/06013** – Structural repairs to the main staircase and to two fireplaces in The Pannelled Room at The Merchants House, 132 High Street, Marlborough for Mr A M Bumphrey

RESOLVED: Members noted this application and welcomed the essential work to preserve the building

289/22

WORK TO TREES

PL/2023/01731 – T1 Yew – fell to as near ground level as possible by careful dismantling. Stump grinding – grind down stump to 300mm below current ground level and grindings to be left in hole for settlement at Sycamores, Back Lane, Marlborough for Mr Alan Jackson

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council objects to this application on the

grounds that the tree appears healthy; no valid reason for felling has been provided and there is no provision to mitigate the loss of a tree

290/22 SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES

Members noted the most recent data collected in George Lane. **Councillor Thomas** noted that this data would be useful to support the proposal to revisit the speed limit in George Lane in the event that the Town Council should be unsuccessful in requesting a Metro count.

291/22 HIGHWAY AND FOOTWAY IMPROVEMENTS GROUP

Members considered three proposals and whether to support their submission to LHFIG:

a) Proposed Street Sign at Poulton Hill

Discussion points included:

- That Wiltshire Council Highways had advised that this request would need to be submitted via LHFIG
- A resident had offered to make a financial contribution
- Whether LHFIG would expedite the request if the Town Council offered a contribution greater than 25%
- Whether it would set a precedent for the Town Council receiving other requests for street signs
- Whether a rough estimate of the cost could be obtained prior to progressing to LHFIG
- That any installation would be subject to meeting Wiltshire Council's specifications about contractor accreditation

RESOLVED: (i) to find out an estimated cost for the sign and installation and revisit the request at a future meeting

b) Frees Avenue/Rockley Speed Limit Position

Preshute Parish Council had now agreed to contribute towards the cost of extending the speed limit to Rockley. Whilst not all Members were convinced that extending the speed limit would change the behaviour of all drivers, it was agreed there was merit in extending the speed limit to slow drivers near the Cemetery/The Common, and that the speed limit would be enforceable.

RESOLVED: (ii) that Marlborough Town Council agrees to a contribution to the 25% (to be split proportionately between Marlborough, Preshute PC and other adjacent Parishes – yet to agreed) of the total cost of £4,500 to reposition the 40mph speed limit to Rockley

ACTION: Town Clerk to investigate options for locating a Speed Indicator Device on Frees Avenue within the parish boundary

c) Handrails at Cherry Orchard Steps

RESOLVED: (iii) that Marlborough Town Council agrees to a contribution of £1,000 towards the total cost of £4,000 to install railings at Cherry Orchard

292/22 TRAFFIC SURVEY

Members noted the survey results demonstrating that the combined 85%ile was 38.5mph, meaning that the C6 St Martins/Poultton Hill was eligible for a Community Speed Watch Scheme.

(During Public Question Time it had been observed that a few years prior the police had deemed the location too dangerous for Community Speed Watch.)

293/22 TOWN CENTRE WORKING PARTY

The Chair, Councillor Davies, was not present to provide a verbal update. The **Town Clerk** confirmed that the current focus remained on improving signage, lighting, litter bins and accessibility.

294/22 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Referendum would take place on Thursday 23 March. Recent open events at the Town Hall had attracted a number of people wanting to find out more information – a further opportunity was a Zoom meeting on Tuesday, 21 March.

Councillor Luson thanked **Councillor Hall** and the Steering Group for their commitment and hard work in getting the Plan through to the Referendum stage.

295/22 TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES

Members noted temporary road closures:

23 April – various roads near ‘High Walls’/High Street(part)/New Road/Oxford Street between 2-3.30 pm to ensure attendee safety at the Savernake Explosion Memorial unveiling ceremony

TTRO 8628 - 1-5 May – Leaze Road to enable Gigaclear to carry out installation of chambers, duct and toby boxes

TTRO 8637 - 3 May between 09:30-15:30 – C265 (part) Savernake – to enable Openreach to carry out access to underground structure to generate service for new customer lines

TTRO 8633 - 8 – 13 May – Cross Lane - to enable Gigaclear to carry out installation of chambers, duct and toby boxes

TTRO 8642 - 15/16 May – St Johns Close - to enable Gigaclear to carry out installation of chambers, duct and toby boxes

TTRO 8640 - 17 May – Cardigan Road - to enable Gigaclear to carry out installation of chambers, duct and toby boxes

TTRO 8641 - 18-24 May – Back Lane - to enable Gigaclear to carry out installation of chambers, duct and toby boxes

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

Signed: Date:
Chair