

**MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMITTEE MONDAY 5 OCTOBER 2020**

**Planning Decision Notices issued by Wiltshire Council for the period
12 to 25 September 2020**

- a) **20/05545/FUL** – 21 Chiminage Close, Marlborough
Two storey rear extension
Decision: Approve with Conditions **MTC:** No objection

- b) **20/06969/TCA** – 12 Clarendon Court, Kingsbury Street, Marlborough
(1) – Hornbeam tree – prune & reshape to facilitate parking area
(2) – Mulberry tree – reduce by 20% and reshape & balance
Decision: No Objection **MTC:** No objection

- c) **20/05727/FUL** – 2 Manton Hollow, Marlborough
Replacement of brick garage with timber framed storage and sunroom
Decision: Approve with Conditions **MTC:** Not considered

Planning for the Future – Consultations

Summary - To again note the government White Paper setting out proposed reforms to radically overhaul the planning system in England and consider responses to two consultations around this:

Planning for the future

Transparency and competition: a call for evidence on data on land control

This committee discussed responses to the first of a total of three government planning consultations at the meeting on 21 September 2021.

1. Background

At the meeting of 17 August 2020, Members were introduced to the government's White Paper on the Future of Planning. There are 3 consultations around this. Links to these are as follows:

Consultation	Deadline
1. <u>Changes to the current planning system</u>	1 October 2020
2. <u>Planning for the future</u> - the planning white paper	30 October 2020
3. <u>Transparency and competition: a call for evidence on data on land control</u>	30 October 2020

On 21 September, Members agreed responses to the first consultation on changes to the current planning system and are now asked to consider responding to consultations 1 and 2.

The full version of the White Paper is at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907647/MHCLG-Planning-Consultation.pdf

The above paper was circulated to all Councillors with the agenda papers for the 17 August Planning meeting.

A one page summary of the White Paper is at **Appendix 1**

4. Planning for the Future and Transparency and Competition

The deadline for both consultations is 30 October and copies are at **Appendix 2**.

5. Marlborough Area Neighbourhood Plan (MANP)

The MANP Steering Group has already considered its response to Planning for the Future and is happy to share these with the Town Council. Its responses to questions are at **Appendix 3**.

MANP declined to respond to the third consultation as it was felt to be highly technical and not relevant to the work of MANP.

Town Clerk's Recommendations

The Town Clerk recommends that Members consider responses to the second consultation, Planning for the Future, and whether it needs to respond to the third consultation.

Town Clerk

30 September 2020

Re-opening of the High Street Safely

Summary – This is a standing item and asks Members to consider any feedback and/or changes to pass on to Wiltshire Council about the Re-opening of High Streets Safely initiative now that pavement widening has been implemented in some areas of Marlborough High Street.

1. Background

As agreed, pavement widening was implemented in the High Street on Thursday, 20 August 2020 at five hospitality premises which had opted into the scheme. Feedback continues to be good from those businesses. An extract from the minutes of the Planning meeting of 21 September is as follows:

193/20 **SAFE RE-OPENING OF THE HIGH STREET**

The **Chairman** had been pleased to see so many people making good use of the additional outside seating provided as part of the temporary changes to the layout of the High Street. Discussion points included:

- Kingsbury Street – there was still an urgent need to create safe social distancing space, especially given the current rise in COVID19 cases. A recent CATG meeting had confirmed that there was insufficient funding available but suggested that funding might be available via the Area Board capital fund. Design and costs were not yet known, nor whether or not the Town Council would need to make a financial contribution.
- Whether a future meeting could consider other busy pinch points in the town, such as Cherry Orchard where adults and children from two schools all used the same narrow section of pavement and road
- Traders in Hilliers Yard had passed on their thanks having seen the numbers of customers increase since the new High Street layout had been put in place
- Whether the scheme would still be required in winter, and whether hospitality outlets would or could include outdoor heaters and gazebos as part of their temporary licences

RESOLVED: to pass on feedback about the scheme to Wiltshire Council and to support temporary changes to Kingsbury Street to create safe space for social distancing for pedestrians and to agree to a contribution to the project dependent on the overall cost of the project.

Update:

Kingsbury Street - At the CATG meeting on 17 September, it was agreed that the issue around Kingsbury Street should be treated as a priority project (see agenda item 10). A design is now being drawn up by WC Highways officers.

Scheme in Winter - The Town Council's Tourism Officer has contacted each of the 5 premises for further feedback and asked about winter requirements:

The Royal Oak & Polly Tea Rooms are discussing licensing requirements with WC for heaters for the winter. The Royal Oak is also discussing adding parasols and flower troughs between bollards. The Food Gallery wants to keep seating and barriers but is not interested in pavement heaters.

A response is awaited from Bunces.

Café Nero does not wish to keep the outside seating on through winter

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The Wellington Arms re-opens on Friday, 2 October. It had hoped for barriers, but this is not possible as the parking bay is for the disabled. However, there may still be an opportunity to put one set of tables and chairs outside (in the same style as Rick Stein) in the natural alcove the building has. A pavement licence application has been submitted to WC.

The owners of Polly Tea Rooms have sent an email thanking the Town Council for its help in acquiring the pavement widening and barriers. There have been positive comments from its customers too.

2. Free Parking Fridays

After being extended by WC for another week, this is due to run until 16 October. Members may like to consider whether to offer up some sort of parking concession for Christmas shopping

3. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications for the widening of pavements already in place at 5 premises in the town. If works go ahead under CATG for temporary measures at Kingsbury Street, the Town Council will need to contribute 25% (or more) for these to be implemented. If the Town Council would like to offer up some free parking over the Christmas period then there will be costs involved and this will be dependent on which car parking areas would be included.

Town Clerk's Recommendations

The Town Clerk recommends that Councillors consider any feedback to pass on to Wiltshire Council and any future free parking arrangements.

Town Clerk

1 October 2020

Community Area Transport Group (CATG)

Summary – This report asks Councillors to note the minutes of the CATG meeting of 17 September 2020 and consider any recommendations attached to proposed projects.

1. Background

Relevant decisions from the Planning Committee of 21 September 2020 is as follows:

RESOLVED: that if costs allow, Marlborough Town Council supports the request for an application to CATG/Area Board for funding to widen and improve the public footpath between Van Diemens Close and George Lane (MARL28)

RESOLVED: to pass on feedback about the scheme to Wilshire Council and to support temporary changes to Kingsbury Street to create safe space for social distancing for pedestrians and to agree to a contribution to the project dependent on the overall cost of the project.

The minutes of the minutes of the CATG meeting of 17 September 2020 are at **Appendix 1**.

CATG Update: The Town Council's representative to CATG is Cllr Mervyn Hall. His comments from the last CATG meeting include:

- Social distancing measures at the bottom of Kingsbury Street were discussed. COVID measures have been passed to CATGs but with no funding. With no available funding from Marlborough's CATG, it has been decided that an application for funds be made to the Area Board. It was agreed to elevate this project to the top five projects for action
- Further speed limit review on Frees Avenue was also moved up into the top five for action, (thanks go to Avebury Parish Council for agreeing to move its project to the reserve list to allow this to happen). Again, there is no funding, so Cllr Dobson has agreed to apply to the Area Board for the CATG portion of the funding. If this fails, MTC will need to consider funding the project cost of £2,500 as opposed to just £625 already agreed
- Safety works at London Road (5190) is purely about the entrance junction to Savernake Hospital and is in Savernake Parish and the parish council will part fund the TOPO survey
- The informal crossing enhancement across Kingsbury Street (8-19-1) has been temporarily taken back on to the reserve list due to the proposed COVID scheme. It will require a design and costings by highways once it restarts
- The siting of our SID on Kingsbury street (6784) – have we yet tried the suggestion of using a lighting column?
- No Through Road sign at the entrance to Manton Hollow (8-19-2). No action, awaiting information on frequency of HGV's turning in Manton Hollow
- Traffic lights on A4 Salisbury Road junction (8-19-8) due to excessive traffic build up on the A346 back to Cadley. CATG agreed in principle to a full traffic modelling of Marlborough. We do not yet know how this can proceed, possibly as a WC substantive scheme.
- Manton A4 traffic calming (8-20-4) too complex, awaiting breakdown into smaller separate schemes.

2. Decisions for the Planning Committee

Members need to be aware of the following decisions:

- i) Frees Avenue Traffic Survey - Members will need to decide whether to agree to extend its contribution of £625 towards the traffic survey at Frees Avenue if an

application for further funds for the Area Board is not agreed. (The total cost will be £2,500.) It is not clear when a decision on the Area Board funding will be made, possible not until the CATG meeting on 3 November 2020.

- ii) Social Distancing at Kingsbury St - Members have already agreed to contribute towards the funding of social distancing measures at Kingsbury Street dependent on the overall costs of the scheme and the success of the bid for additional funds for it from the Area Board, again likely to be on 3 November.
- iii) Whether more research should go into using the lighting column at Kingsbury Street for the SID and/or signage.

3. Points to Note

- Members will want to be aware of the point on the final page of the CATG minutes – that town and parish councils should consider carefully about proposing too many new requests as the available budget for 2020/21 is limited due to commitments at Froxfield

4. Financial Implications

The original 2020/21 allocation for CATG was £7,000 and it remains unspent. However, there are already commitments to the social distancing works at Kingsbury Street (costs tbc), traffic survey Frees Avenue (£625 and possibly more if additional funds to meet £2,500 are not agreed by the Area Board) and the widening of Van Diemens path (costs tbc).

5. Highways Improvement Request Form

There are no requests to be considered at this meeting.

Town Clerk's Recommendation

The Town Clerk recommends that Town Councillors note that decisions around contributions to social distancing measures at Kingsbury Street and the traffic survey at Frees Avenue may need to be made once the outcome of applications for funding from the Area Board are known. Also, that Councillors agree that research around the suitability of a lighting column at Kingsbury Street for the Speed Indicator Device (SID) be taken forward.

Town Clerk

1 October 2020

Update on Progress with Emergency Plan Working Party

Summary - To note an update from the Emergency Plan Working Party to include notes from the last meeting and consultation results

Current Situation

The Emergency Plan Working Group met back in August to discuss the Town Council's response to the pandemic as a public health emergency. Discussions centred around what went well, areas with room for improvement and issues which potentially need addressing should we need to roll the scheme out again. Notes of this meeting can be found at **Appendix 1**.

An action from that meeting was to consult with both the volunteers who put themselves forward to help in the community, and residents within the community who requested and received help through the community volunteer scheme. An online survey was created and promoted via social media, the Marlborough Noticeboard Facebook page, the Town Council's website. It was publicised through Marlborough News Online and emailed directly to volunteers. Paper copies were also made available.

Consultation responses can be found at **Appendix 2** and **3**.

The Assistant Town Clerk is currently working with Communities Prepared, WALC and Wiltshire Council regarding an online training session for town and parish councils across Wiltshire. This training would focus on public health emergencies, how communities responded etc. and would include discussions around community recovery (although we are not quite at that stage at the moment). Dates and details to be confirmed asap however it is hoped that this session take place before the end of the year. This training will be offered out to the volunteers who supported us so well here in Marlborough, in the hope that we can retain and offer ongoing training to those who still wish to be part of a community volunteer scheme going forward.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications.

Recommendation

Members are requested to note the report, the notes of the last Emergency Plan Working Party and the consultation results.

Author – Assistant Town Clerk

29th September 2020