

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

**Held on Tuesday 11 June 2019
At 7 p.m, in the Main Hall, Corn Exchange, Witney**

Present

Cllr R Smith (Chairman)

Councillors: J Altman A McMahon
 L Ashbourne A Prosser
 T Ashby

Officer: Democratic Services Officer

P243 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Bolger and License.

P244 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting.

P245 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public present for this item.

P246 **MINUTES**

- a) The Committee received and considered the minutes of the Planning and Development Committee held on 19 March, 9 April, 30 April and 21 May 2019.

RESOLVED: that the above minutes be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman with the following amendments made to the minutes of 21 May 2019 as follows:-

P197: that 'To an extent the Committee felt that it ha been "bullied" and that the developer "had them over a barrel"' be changed to 'To an extent the Committee felt that the developer had tried to pressure the Town Council into ageing to the removal'.

P198-5, WTC/086/19, 19/00977/FUL to read:

Witney Town Council objects to this application on the grounds of loss of business space and is concerned that the residential parking requirement as proposed may exceed existing provision

b) There were no matters arising from the minutes to be discussed at the meeting.

P247 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Committee received and considered the schedule of planning applications as previously circulated.

RESOLVED: that the comments, as per the attached schedule, be forwarded to West Oxfordshire District Council.

P248 **PLANNING DECISIONS**

The Committee received a schedule of planning decisions notified by West Oxfordshire District Council.

RESOLVED: that the schedule, as circulated, be noted.

P249 **BUS SHELTER ON CORN STREET**

The Chairman asked that this item be moved up the agenda.

The Chairman provided an update on the offer made by the developers which was an offer of £7, 000 to cover two bus stops, cycle racks, bins and art work on the bus shelters. There followed a lengthy discussion during which members debated whether to accept the offer.

A member proposed that as the sum offered was likely to fall short of that required to purchase the items, the Council made a counter request for £8, 500. The Chairman and the Town Clerk were given delegated authority to accept the offer if forthcoming, if this was not then the original offer could be accepted.

After deliberation, all members agreed with this. However, permission would only be given for the removal of the existing bus shelter once the funds had been received into the Council's bank account. The Committee was keen to emphasise that whilst it was pleased at the prospect of a positive outcome for the town, this would not set a precedent and all other future similar requests would be judged individually.

Members discussed where to site the additional bus stop and agreed that the shopping precinct at Burwell would be the best location.

RESOLVED:

1. that the update from the Chairman be noted;
2. that the Town Council asks the developers for an increase in the sum offered to £8, 500 which would cover two new bus shelters, cycle racks, bins and art work for both shelters;
3. that the Chairman and the Town Clerk were given delegated authority to accept the offer if forthcoming, if this was not then the original offer could be accepted;
4. that if the offer is accepted this would not set a precedent and all other future similar requests would be judged individually;

5. that the additional bus shelter should be sited at the shopping precinct at Burwell.

P250 **NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING APPEAL: APP/D3125/W/18/3219106 – LAND SOUTH OF MIDDLEFIELD FARM, NEW YATT ROAD, WITNEY**

The Committee received and considered notification of a planning appeal at Land South of Middletown Farm, New Yatt Road, Witney.

RESOLVED: that the appeal be noted.

P251 **TRAFFIC ADVISORY MINUTES**

The Committee received and considered the Traffic Advisory Minutes of the meeting of 19 March 2019.

RESOLVED: that the minutes be noted.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Chairman