

MALMESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 30th MAY 2013 IN THE TOWN HALL, MALMESBURY AT 7 PM

Present: Councillors: His Worship the Mayor Cllr J Gundry, RE Budgen, FE Caton, S Cox, JM Exton, L Penfold and ACR Woodcock

Members of Public: Five

In attendance: S Poole and K Power

1. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Councillor S Cox informed the Committee about damage around the War Memorial, especially the 'sink-plungers'. He also stated that water from the BT chamber along Holloway had still not been addressed.

James Whittleton to determine the responsible bodies and ask them to take action.

Councillor FE Caton highlighted the state of the Abbey steps which are overgrown and have become slippery due to detritus from the trees.

James Whittleton to write to Abbey House Gardens, asking them to carry out further works and to ask the Town Council's maintenance team about cleaning the steps.

Councillor K Power stated that the issue of Hyams parking in Cross Hayes had been raised as an issue sheet. The Issue will be discussed by this Committee at its next meeting. **James Whittleton**.

Councillor ACR Woodcock stated that the roundabout outside the Co-Op (Gloucester Road) is in poor repair. Some flag stones are broken and fallen in the road, also some chevrons are not visible anymore. **James Whittleton** to contact Wiltshire Council.

Councillor S Poole stated that there was a broken slab along Birdcage Walk which needed attention. **James Whittleton** to ask Town Council's maintenance team to look at.

Councillor ACR Woodcock Stated that there were broken paving slabs in the Market Cross. **James Whittleton** to ask Wiltshire Council to replace the slab(s).

Councillor S Poole stated that the litter bin at the bottom of the Abbey steps was broken and that part of it was missing. **James Whittleton** to enquire about replacing the bin.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor MH Snell.

3. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 16th April 2013

Resolved: To approve the Minutes as a correct record.

4. PROGRESS ACTION POINTS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(12/12) Provision of a dropped kerb outside St Joseph's School. The Committee Clerk stated that he had written to Wiltshire Council, thanking them for their swift action. Councillor K Power stated that she had received a letter from Mrs Youngs, thanking the Council. **Councillor K Power** to send a copy to the Committee Clerk to append to the Minutes.

(4/13) Satellite dishes in the Conservation Area. To consider the response of Wiltshire Council at the next meeting of the Committee. **James Whittleton**.

(2/13) Overhanging trees on the path from the long-stay car park. The Committee Clerk stated that he had written to the Parish Office concerning a tree blocking the path.

(2/13) Provision of litter bins in Filands (To install a litter bin between Mrs Thompson's house and David Hendry Cars - Strategic Planning Budget). The Committee Clerk stated that he was attempting to speak to Wiltshire Council about who would empty the bin. **James Whittleton** to provide an update at the next meeting

(4/13) The Clerk stated that a letter had been written concerning wheelie bins for the Gloucester House Flats. **James Whittleton** to inform the Council when a response is received.

(4/13) The Clerk stated that a letter had been sent to Wiltshire Council requesting new grit bins. **James Whittleton** to inform the Council when a response is received.

(4/13) Inspection of Core Strategy. The Clerk informed the Committee that any site visits carried out by the inspector will be unaccompanied. To confirm the date of the Malmesbury Hearing (**postscript 16th July**).

(4/13) The Clerk stated that a letter had been sent to Wiltshire Police about the Committee's concern at funding for Community Speed-watch. **James Whittleton** to inform the Council when a response is received.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor FE Caton declared an interest in Application M5 36 Gloucester Street – She runs a retail premises in the neighbouring property.

Councillor S Cox declared an interest in Application M11 8 Crabtree Close – The applicant is a friend.

6. PLANNING ISSUES

M1– 29 St Johns Street

Issues discussed included:

- That Wiltshire Council are expecting the Town Council's views after the decision date;
- That the conservatory does not affront the street; and

- Recent flooding.

Resolved: To Support the application.

M2– 43 Baskerville

Resolved: To Support the application.

M3– 8 Worthneys Close

Resolved: To Support the application, on the condition that the Highways Authority do not object.

M4– 4 Ron Golding Close

Representations were received from Mr Williams, the applicant. He addressed issues relating to overlooking and overshadowing neighbouring properties and added that a letter of support had been sent today.

Resolved: To Support the application.

M5 – 36 Gloucester Street

Representations were received from the applicant, Mr Andrews. He stated:

- That he did not purchase the property as a residential unit;
- That the footfall is 10% of that on the high street;
- That he doubted the property was viable as a shop; and
- The recent use of the property.

Issues discussed by the Committee:

- That both the Core Strategy and Neighbourhood Plan support the maintenance of secondary retail areas;
- The history of premises;
- The recent 'Kit Box' application; and
- The viability of the premises for retail use.

Resolved: To recommend Refusal. The proposed development represents the loss of a retail unit, contrary to policies in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan, the emerging Core Strategy and the North Wiltshire Local Plan 2011.

M6– The Forge

Representation were received from Mr A Poynton, the applicant. He stated:

- That the majority of neighbours were supportive;
- That the proposals will retain the character of the building;
- That there will be a minimum of building work as the majority of the external build will remain; and
- That the building is sited in a residential area.

Representations were received from Mrs Price in support of the application. She stated:

- That were the site sold, a developer might propose radical, un-neighbourly changes; and
- The proposals were sensitive to the site and neighbouring properties.

Issues discussed included:

- Whether the property should be marketed as B1 use before it can be changed to residential.

Resolved: To Defer consideration of the application in order to clarify the procedure for changing use (whether the site must be marketed first). **James Whittleton.**

M7– Abbey News

Resolved: To Support the application.

M8– 20 Burnham Road

Resolved: To Support the application.

M9 & M10– 10 St John’s Street

The Committee noted that permission had been granted by Wiltshire Council and that the Tree Warden’s comments concerning wildlife friendly planting had been forwarded.

M11– 8 Crabtree Close

Resolved: To Support the application.

ACTION – To forward the Committee’s comments to Wiltshire Council - **JAMES WHITTLETON.**

6b. FLOOD PLAN / EMERGENCY PLAN

A discussion took place concerning work to produce an emergency plan.

Issues discussed included:

- That an Emergency Plan Working Group was established through this Committee;
- That Minutes of the Group’s meetings have not been thoroughly circulated;
- That some members of the Group have not been invited to all meetings;
- That a draft Householders Guide has been produced;
- The apparent speed of some work is due to the requirements of the Environment Agency, who are looking to re-model the river and potentially carry out flood alleviation works; and
- The event taking place on 15 June to gather people’s evidence/experience of flooding in Malmesbury.

Resolved:

- 1) To write to Councillor RF Sanderson, thanking him for his work and stating that the Committee wishes to gain a full appreciation of work carried out and to what purpose. **Cllr J Gundry.**
- 2) To look into the possibility of reconstituting the Group. **P&E Committee.**

7. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING UPDATE

Councillor K Power provided an update on the Neighbourhood Plan. She stated that the Steering Group were in the process of collating the consultation work and that over 800 people took part in the nine event.

8. COMMUNITY SPEED-WATCH

The Committee noted that a response had not yet been received from the Police.

9. INFORMATION FROM THE CLERK & EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The Committee Clerk stated that he was trying to arrange planning training for new (and existing Members) through Wiltshire Council.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 18 JUNE IN THE TOWN HALL AT 7 PM