

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting of the
Planning and Highways Committee
held on Tuesday 26th September 2023 at 7pm
in the Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road, Thatcham

Present: Councillor Simon Pike (Chairman)
 Councillors Jay Lunn, Tom McCann, Justin Pemberton and Val Watts

In attendance: Mel Taylor (Town Clerk)

PH/2023/142 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
 There were no apologies for absence received.

PH/2023/143 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
 Councillor Watts declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item number 5(3) (PH/2023/146(3)) as her residence neighboured the Travellers Friend site.
 Councillor Pike declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 6 (PH/2023/147) as Chair of the Mid & West Berks Local Access Forum.

PH/2023/144 MINUTES
RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 5th September 2023, having been previously circulated, be taken as read, confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

PH/2023/145 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING
 There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

PH/2023/146 PLANNING APPLICATIONS
 Members considered the following planning applications:

| Plan No. | Ward | Application No. | Location: | Proposal: |
|----------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Thatcham North East | 23/01998/FULMAJ | Land to rear of 12-16 Chapel Street | Construction of 9 No. one bedroom apartments and 2 No. two bedroom houses, including parking and stores RESOLVED: No Objection but with reservations regarding obstruction of the footpath from exiting vehicles, and potential congestion from vehicles entering from the east causing backup to traffic light junction of A4 and The Moors |

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PH/2023/146 PLANNING APPLICATIONS continued

| Plan No. | Ward | Application No. | Location: | Proposal: |
|----------|------------------------------|-----------------|--|---|
| 2 | Thatcham North East | 23/01999/FUL | Land to rear of 12-16 Chapel Street | Construction of 6 No. three bedroom dwelling houses RESOLVED: No Objection but with reservations regarding obstruction of the footpath from exiting vehicles, and potential congestion from vehicles entering from the east causing backup to traffic light junction of A4 and The Moors |
| 3 | Thatcham Colthrop & Crookham | 23/01699/FULMAJ | Travellers Friend Crookham Common Road | Demolition of existing pub and reconstruction of 18 new flats with reception facilities for young people with autism and learning disabilities (falling within class c3 residential use) and alterations of existing B and B facilities into 2 no. of flats for young people with autism and learning disabilities (falling within class c3 residential (b) use) and alterations to existing shop and café to include alterations to windows and doors RESOLVED: Support with a condition that the shop is open to local residents, and a condition that future use of the accommodation is retained for the use stated in the application and not general use class (advice from planning as to how this can best be achieved) |
| 4 | Thatcham Colthrop & Crookham | 23/02084/HOUSE | 6 The Martins | Side extension over existing Garage/Utility Room and single-storey side/rear extension RESOLVED: No Objection |

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PH/2023/146 PLANNING APPLICATIONS continued

| Plan No. | Ward | Application No. | Location: | Proposal: |
|-----------------|---------------|------------------------|------------------|---|
| 5 | Thatcham West | 23/02118/HOUSE | 36 Elmhurst Road | Development of roof space to include construction of a dormer in existing bungalow roof to provide additional bedroom and a 1 st floor bathroom RESOLVED: No Objection |

PH/2023/147 WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2023-2033

Notification had been received that, following previous engagement with the Town Council in 2021, West Berkshire Council had launched a further consultation on its draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2023-2033, which took into account feedback following previous stakeholder engagement. The consultation opened on 31st August 2023 and was open until 23rd November 2023.

It was agreed that the Chairman would draft a proposed response to the consultation for consideration at the meeting on 14th November.

PH/2023/148 DECISION NOTICES

Members noted planning decisions published since the last meeting of this Committee.

PH/2023/149 PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning matters arising since publication of the agenda.

PH/2023/150 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT / HIGHWAYS / ROAD SAFETY MATTERS

a. Outstanding Highways Matters

Members noted an update to the 'Outstanding Highways Matters with West Berkshire Council' report.

b. Closure of High Street

It was noted that the High Street was closed on 18th September 2023 and would reopen on 3rd October 2023. The closure was outside The Mug & Brew, between its junction with The Broadway and Bath Road. This was an emergency road closure to enable Thames Water to repair a collapsed sewer.

c. Closure of Colthrop Lane

It was noted that Colthrop Lane would be closed between 09:30 and 15:30 on 27th September 2023, between its junction with Bath Road and Gables Way, to enable Openreach to carry out desilting on duct for cabling/jointing works for fibre network delivery. An alternative route was via A4 Bath Road, Gables Way and vice versa. Business access would be maintained throughout.

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PH/2023/151 FUTURE MEETINGS SCHEDULE

It was noted that at a meeting of Full Council on 25th September 2023 (FULL/2023/90), Council approved a recommendation to amend this Committee's meeting cycle from 3-weekly to 4-weekly, with a review in March 2024.

PH/2023/152 REPORTS FROM TOWN COUNCIL APPOINTEES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Thattham Surface Water Management Plan Funding Committee & Thattham Flood Forum

Councillor Lillycrop had advised that the planning application for flood alleviation works in the Memorial playing field had been submitted and discussions continued with stakeholders and the Environment Agency. Also that the North East Thattham flood alleviation schemes were progressing well and were expected to be completed in February 2024.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.59pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____