

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting of the
Planning and Highways Committee
held on Tuesday 27th August 2024 at 19:00hrs
in the Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road, Thatcham

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

In attendance: James Pye (Place Manager)

PH/2024/068 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Val Watts.

PH/2024/069 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Justin Pemberton declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item no.7 (PH/2024/074) - Gambling Act 2005- Statement of Principles Consultation - as a West Berkshire District Councillor who may be involved in the consultation at some stage.

PH/2024/070 MINUTES
RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the meeting held on 30th July 2024, having been previously circulated, be taken as read, confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

PH/2024/071 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Committee considered the following planning applications:

24/01476/FUL	Land rear of 123 to 125 Bath Road	Proposal for construction of two detached bungalows together with associated parking and access off Bath Road RESOLVED: No objections- Cllr Lunn raised need to edit section 1 of the TTC representation
24/01522/LBC	Cedar Dental Practice, 3 Bath Road	The erection of a 40cm diameter blue plaque as per the historic blue plaque scheme. Full permission provided by the freeholders and tenants. RESOLVED: No Objections
24/01501/FULMAJ	Thatcham Business Village, Colthrop Way	Demolition of office building and construction of a storage and distribution warehouse for use within Class B2 and/or B8 with ancillary office space, together with access, parking and landscaping. RESOLVED: No Objections to demolition, if redundant. Preference is for Solar Panel installation on roof space, EV charging points for cars and HGV, and many employment opportunities provided

PH/2024/072 DECISION NOTICES

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

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- PH/2024/073** **WEST BERKSHIRE LOCAL PLAN REVIEW 2022-2039**
 Councillor Pike provided the following updates, following his attendance at the West Berkshire Local Plan Review hearings, including changes to the National Planning Policy Framework from Government in relation to Town and Parish Councils, and the Inspector's preliminary statement.
- RESOLVED** that Councillor Pike draft a response to the Inspector's preliminary statement and circulate to all Councillors for comment and, subject to Councillors' agreement to the draft, that the response be submitted ahead of the deadline of 6th September 2024.
- PH/2024/074** **GAMBLING ACT 2005 - STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES CONSULTATION**
 Notification had been received from West Berkshire Council of a consultation required under the Gambling Act 2005. In its capacity as the Licensing Authority, West Berkshire Council must formulate a new Statement of Principles at least every 3 years. The last Statement of Principles was produced and became effective from January 2022. This policy therefore needed to be reviewed by the end of January 2025. The consultation period would run Thursday 18th July 2024 to 12th September 2024.
- RESOLVED** to respond to the consultation seeking clarification on statistics on monitoring of 'Vulnerable Persons' as detailed on page 14 of the consultation, and how were vulnerable people identified.
- PH/2024/075** **PLANNING MATTERS**
 Committee noted the following information:
- i. Planning application reference **24/01163/REG3 Age Concern, The Laburnum Centre, Stirling Way**, deferred from the last meeting (PH/2024/063(1)), the requested further information regarding the usage of land in front of the building for potential EV charging points and parking bays was still awaited from West Berkshire Council.
 - ii. Planning application reference **22/00180/CERTE Hire Co Ltd, Colthrop Lane**, an appeal was made by Hire Co Ltd against the decision of West Berkshire District Council, reference APP/W0340/X/23/3325974, the appeal was dismissed.
- PH/2024/076** **TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT / HIGHWAYS / ROAD SAFETY MATTERS**
 Committee noted the following information:
- i. West Berkshire Council had issued notification regarding On-street residential electric vehicle charge point installation between 12th August – 26th August 2024, 08:00hrs-17:00hrs with Urquhart Road included within the Project.
 - ii. West Berkshire Council had notified of proposals for cycle direction signing on Linkway 2: Phase 1 Thatcham Town Centre to Newbury.

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PH/2024/076 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT / HIGHWAYS / ROAD SAFETY MATTERS
continued

- iii. West Berkshire Council had notified of the following amendments to parking fees and charges and operational days and hours. These changes were designed to provide a charging regime that was consistent across the whole of the district and to generate income to continue to provide maintenance and enforcement activity, to support the district's economy, noting the Department of Transport statutory guidance which stated that enforcement authorities should aim to increase compliance with parking restrictions through clear, well designed, legal and enforced parking controls:

	Days of operation	Charging days	Maximum period for which vehicles may be parked	Parking Charges
	Hours of operation	Charging hours		
Aylesford Way & Pipers Lane	All days	Monday to Sunday	None	Up to 4hrs £1.00
	All hours	All hours		Over 4hrs £1.70

- iv. West Berkshire Council had advised of an emergency road closure at Henwick Lane to enable Thames Water to fix a water leak. Expected to be resolved by 29th August 2024.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 19:50hrs.

Signed: _____

Date: _____