

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting of the
Planning and Highways Committee
held on Tuesday 30th July 2024 at 19:00hrs
in the Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road, Thatcham

Present: Councillor Simon Pike (Chairman)
 Councillors Jay Lunn and Justin Pemberton

In attendance: Mel Taylor (Town Clerk) and James Pye (Place Manager)

PH/2024/060 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dave Lunn, Tom McCann and Val Watts.

PH/2024/061 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
 There were no declarations of interest.

PH/2024/062 MINUTES
RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd July 2024, having been previously circulated, be taken as read, confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

PH/2024/063 PLANNING APPLICATIONS
 Committee considered the following planning applications:

24/01163/REG3	Age Concern, The Laburnum Centre, Stirling Way RG18 3FW	Proposal is to change the usage from F2 to E for WBC staff offices. There will be 2 dedicated staff on site and ASC colleagues dropping in to work from the locality. Signed resident petition objecting against proposed EV charging points RESOLVED: to defer to the next meeting, pending further information from the WBC Planning Officer regarding proposed installation of EV charging points within Stirling Way
24/01243/HOUSE	28 Buttercup Place, Thatcham RG18 4BT	Proposed application for single story side extension to dwelling. RESOLVED: No Objections

PH/2024/064 DECISION NOTICES
 Committee noted Thatcham related planning decisions published since the last meeting of this Committee.

PH/2024/065 WEST BERKSHIRE LOCAL PLAN REVIEW 2022-2039
 Councillor Pike provided the following updates, following his attendance at the West Berkshire Local Plan Review hearings:

- a) Changes to the NPPF from Government in relation to Town and Parish Councils.
- b) A draft report would be drawn up with modifications required, this would be sent to all Councils for their consideration and comments.

Planning and Highways Committee
30th July 2024

PH/2024/066 PLANNING MATTERS

Committee noted the following information:

- i. **23/01999/FUL Land to Rear of 12-16 Chapel Street, Thatcham**
 An appeal had been made to the Secretary of State against the decision of West Berkshire Council to refuse planning permission. The appeal would be determined on the basis of written representations. The procedure to be followed as set out in Part 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Appeals) (Written Representations Procedure) (England) Regulations 2009, as amended.

All representations made had been forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate and the appellant. These would be considered by the Inspector when determining the appeal. Further representations must be received by 21st August 2024.

When considered by the Town Council on 26th September 2023, Committee resolved no objections.

- ii. The obstructed pedestrian access to the Memorial Playing Field, previously discussed, had generated more complaints from residents. All enquiries passed onto the Memorial Foundation to respond accordingly.

PH/2024/067 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT / HIGHWAYS / ROAD SAFETY MATTERS

Committee noted the following information:

- a) **Lower Way closure between Glebelands and Paynesdown Road from 12th August to 31st August 2024**
 Notification received from West Berkshire Council that a full road closure to be in place to undertake gas and electric works for the new development. Diversion to be found on OneNetwork and blue light access to be maintained.
- b) **Traffic Management / Highways / Road Safety matters arising since publication of the agenda:**
- i. The Place Manager informed that Thatcham Town Council and West Berkshire Council Officers were progressing on suitable site locations for the Bus Shelter Improvement Plan, suggested locations were currently being assessed further.
- ii. The Place Manager informed of a consultation letter distributed by West Berkshire Council regarding the Crown Mead/A4 Cycle, Pedestrian and Highway Improvements. This was noted by the Committee.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 19:40hrs.

Signed: _____

Date: _____