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CLIMATE, BIODIVERSITY & PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday, 9 March 2021

At 6.00 pm in the Virtual Meeting Room via Zoom

Present:

Councillor R Smith (Chair)

Councillors:	A Prosser	V Gwatkin
	J Aitman	M Jones
	L Ashbourne	A McMahan
Officers:	Sharon Groth	Town Clerk
Others:	1 member of the public.	

P118 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr R Bolger.

P119 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared by members at the meeting.

P120 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Committee adjourned for this item.

A member of the public addressed the Committee on agenda item 6, request to purchase Town Council land adjacent to 67 Thorney Leys, Witney,

The Committee reconvened following public participation.

P121 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Committee received and considered a schedule of planning applications received from West Oxfordshire District Council.

RESOLVED:

That the comments, as per the attached schedule, be forwarded to West Oxfordshire District Council.

P122 WITNEY TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Committee received the minutes of the Witney Traffic Advisory Committee meeting held on 12 January 2021.

Members discussed the items debated at the meeting and enquired on the progress of talks on the issues raised, particularly in relation to the bus service at West Witney.

RESOLVED:

1. That the minutes of the Witney Traffic advisory Committee meeting held on 12 January 2021 be noted; and,
2. That Officers enquire on the progress of talks between Oxfordshire County Council and the Parish Transport Representative regarding a bus service at West Witney.

P123 REQUEST TO PURCHASE TOWN COUNCIL LAND - 67 THORNEY LEYS

The Committee received and considered the report of the Operations & Estates Advisor regarding a request by a resident to purchase land at the rear of 67 Thorney Leys, Witney.

Members were concerned of the impact on biodiversity in this area should the land be incorporated into a garden and highlighted the value of this green corridor along the edge of a busy road in the town. The Committee, although understanding of the request, could not agree for the land to be sold as it worked against the climate initiatives of the Council.

RESOLVED:

1. That the report be noted; and,
2. That the request to purchase land at the rear of 67 Thorney Leys, Witney be refused for the reasons listed above.

P124 SALT CROSS GARDEN VILLAGE AREA ACTION PLAN (AAP)

The Committee received and considered the Salt Cross Garden Village Area Action Plan from West Oxfordshire District Council.

RESOLVED:

That the Salt Cross Garden Village Area Action Plan (AAP) be noted.

P125 OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL TRANSPORT AND CONNECTIVITY PLAN - VISION CONSULTATION

The Committee received consultation documents from Oxfordshire County Council concerning a Local Transport & Connectivity Plan.

This was a key document which would shape the County's plans until 2050 and members agreed the Town Council should offer a comprehensive response on behalf of Witney, as a service centre and largest town in the west of the County.

RESOLVED:

That the Town Clerk formulates and submits a response on behalf of the Council based on the comments made at the meeting.

P126 **NEW STREET NAME - ACCESS ROAD FOR NEW SCHOOL - WEST WITNEY**

The committee received and considered a request to name a new school access road at the West Witney development.

Members felt that the suggestions of School Road and School Lane were too generic and an alternative suggestion by the River Learning Trust of River Road did not fit in with the development's naming style.

The Committee suggested an alternative name of Isabelle Spencer Way. Isabelle Spencer was a key figure within education in Witney from 1946 teaching and becoming the School Mistress/Deputy Head at Henry Box. She bequeathed a considerable amount of money to continue to support young people and education via the Witney Educational Foundation. The committee also thought it was in keeping with the other road names in the vicinity – Alice Batt and Mary Box.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Street naming request at Windrush Place be noted; and,
2. That Witney Town Council suggests the alternative name of 'Isabelle Spencer Way'; and,
3. That this suggestion be forwarded to the Address management Office at West Oxfordshire District Council for consideration.

The meeting closed at: 7.26 pm

Chair

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Witney Town Council

Planning Minutes - 9 March 2021

124 Planning Applications

124- 1 WTC/025/21 Plot Ref :-21/00193/FUL Type :- FULL
 Applicant Name :- DAVIS, GEMMA Date Received :- 22/02/2021
 Location :- WITNEY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL Date Returned :- 09/03/2021
 WELCH WAY
 WITNEY

Proposal : Siting of a temporary modular building (retrospective).

Observations : Witney Town Council has no objections regarding this application.

124- 2 WTC/026/21 Plot Ref :-21/00247/HHD Type :- HOUSEHOLDE
 Applicant Name :- DEAN, MR Date Received :- 23/02/2021
 Location :- BEECH HOUSE, 5 WOODSTOCK Date Returned :- 09/03/2021
 ROAD
 WOODSTOCK ROAD
 WITNEY

Proposal : Construction of new carport attached to existing garage.

Observations : Witney Town Council has no objections regarding this application.

124- 3 WTC/027/21 Plot Ref :-21/00236/HHD Type :- HOUSEHOLDE
 Applicant Name :- SMITH, MR AND MRS Date Received :- 23/02/2021
 Location :- 14 TETBURY DRIVE Date Returned :- 09/03/2021
 TETBURY DRIVE
 WITNEY

Proposal : Replace existing conservatory with new single storey rear extension, construction of new front entrance porch and conversion of loft to provide additional bedrooms and shower room.

Observations : Witney Town Council has no objections regarding this application.

124- 4 WTC/028/21 Plot Ref :-21/00033/HHD Type :- HOUSEHOLDE
 Applicant Name :- JONES, MRS SARAH Date Received :- 23/02/2021
 Location :- 12 THE CRESCENT Date Returned :- 09/03/2021
 THE CRESCENT
 WITNEY

Proposal : Erection of a single storey flat rear extension.

Observations : Witney Town Council has no objections regarding this application.

124- 5	WTC/029/21	Plot Ref :-21/00028/FUL	Type :-	FULL
	Applicant Name :-	DURICI, MR CHRIS	Date Received :-	23/02/2021
	Location :-	2 SPRINGFIELD PARK SPRINGFIELD PARK WITNEY	Date Returned :-	15/03/2021
	Proposal :	Construction of detached dwelling and formation of new access onto Burford Road.		
	Observations :	Witney Town Council does not object to this planning application in terms of material concerns, however it supports the condition of the District Council's Drainage Engineer, and would ask that mitigating measures are considered to help decrease the possibility of surface water flooding in this area, in accordance with policy EH7 of the West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031. Witney Town Council also has safety concerns with the access onto the main road - and would request that comments are sought from Oxfordshire County Council Highways.		
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124- 6	WTC/030/21	Plot Ref :-21/00179/FUL	Type :-	FULL
	Applicant Name :-	DOMINIKOWSKI, MR K	Date Received :-	01/03/2021
	Location :-	35 TAPHOUSE AVENUE TAPHOUSE AVENUE OXON	Date Returned :-	15/03/2021
	Proposal :	Conversion of existing garden outbuilding to create self contained living accommodation.		
	Observations :	Witney Town Council objects to this planning application as it concerns regarding the number of people living in the dwelling already, as the HMO register is not up to date on the WODC website. It considers that this would be a loss of storage space for the property. It would also put pressure on residential parking in the cul-de-sac. There is no information on parking or cycle storage facility plans.		
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124- 7	WTC/031/21	Plot Ref :-21/00164/HHD	Type :-	HOUSEHOLDE
	Applicant Name :-	WALTON, MR IAN	Date Received :-	01/03/2021
	Location :-	1 HARVEST WAY HARVEST WAY WITNEY	Date Returned :-	09/03/2021
	Proposal :	Widening of existing gateway to driveway and to create an additional opening to allow access for two vehicles.		
	Observations :	Witney Town Council has no objections regarding this application.		
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124- 8	WTC/032/32	Plot Ref :-21/00321/HHD	Type :-	HOUSEHOLDE
	Applicant Name :-	GINDRE, MR JOAQUIN	Date Received :-	01/03/2021
	Location :-	MILL VIEW 13 CRAWLEY ROAD WITNEY	Date Returned :-	15/03/2021
	Proposal :	Erection of single and two storey rear extensions to provide additional living space at both lower ground and ground floor levels. Alterations to include the enlargement of existing dropped kerb.		
	Observations :	Witney Town Council does not object to this application in terms of material concerns, but given the sensitivity of the area to flooding it would ask that mitigating measures are considered to help decrease the possibility of surface		

124- 9 WTC/033/21 Plot Ref :-21/00306/ADV Type :- ADVERTISIN
Applicant Name :- DOLAN, MS FREYA Date Received :- 02/03/2021
Location :- LIDL Date Returned :- 15/03/2021
DUCKLINGTON LANE
WITNEY
Proposal : Erection of 2no internally illuminated fascia signs, 1 internally illuminated totem
sign and 1 non-illuminated directional sign together with internally applied
window graphics.
Observations : Witney Town Council notes that there is already illuminated signs in place, but
would request the following conditions be made: that in line with climate
emergency declarations and objectives the lighting be solar powered/sourced by
green energy and in order to reduce light pollution to the residential area in the
vicinity the lighting be dimmed after 9pm.

124- 10 WTC/034/21 Plot Ref :-21/00342/HHD Type :- HOUSEHOLDE
Applicant Name :- SMITH, MR & MRS A Date Received :- 02/03/2021
Location :- 53 SNOWSHILL DRIVE Date Returned :- 09/03/2021
SNOWSHILL DRIVE
WITNEY
Proposal : Removal of existing conservatory, erection of single storey rear extension.
Observations : Witney Town Council has no objections regarding this application.

The Meeting closed at : 7.26pm

Signed : _____ Chairman Date: _____

On behalf of :- Witney Town Council

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