

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

**Held on Tuesday, 18 April 2023**

**At 6.00 pm in the Virtual Meeting Room via Zoom**

**Present:**

Councillor R Smith (Chair)

Councillors:	A Prosser	V Gwatkin
	J Aitman	P Hiles
Officers:	Adam Clapton	Deputy Town Clerk
	Derek Mackenzie	Senior Administrative Officer & Committee Clerk
	Claire Green	Administration Support - Planning & Stronger Communities
Others:	No members of the public.	

**P215 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T Ashby & L Duncan.

**P216 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest from members or officers.

**P217 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

**P218 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

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

In addition, the Committee received a verbal update from the Deputy Town Clerk in respect of the amended response submitted for 23/00179/FUL regarding a planning application for an Anaerobic Digestion Facility in the neighbouring South Leigh parish.

**Resolved:**

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

**P219 CONSULTATION FROM OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - NORTH WESTERN EXTENSION TO GILL MILL QUARRY, DUCKLINGTON, WITNEY**

The Committee received correspondence from Oxfordshire County Council inviting comments ahead of the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) scoping document.

Members discussed the proposal at length and agreed with concerns raised at the meeting by the Biodiversity & Green Spaces Officer in their response. The concerns focused on the proximity of the proposed development to the Country Park and the potential threat this could have in respect of pollution to the lake or loss and damage to the delicate ecosystem.

**Resolved:**

That, the comments, as per the attached be forwarded to Oxfordshire County Council.

**P220 APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF PREMISES LICENCE - 66 CORN STREET, WITNEY**

The Committee received the application from Olive Branch, 66 Corn Street, Witney to vary a premises licence.

**Resolved:**

That, the Council makes no objection to this application.

**P221 SALT CROSS GARDEN VILLAGE AREA ACTION PLAN - INSPECTOR'S REPORT**

The Committee received details of the Planning Inspectors Report into the examination of the WODC Salt Cross Garden Village Area Action Plan, members agreed that they had no further comments to add.

**Resolved:**

That, the report of the Planning Inspectorate be noted.

**P222 PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS**

The committee received the correspondence from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) in respect of the response NALC had made to the government's consultation on permitted development rights.

**Resolved:**

That, the response of NALC be noted.

**P223 APPLICATION FOR A NEW PAVEMENT LICENCE - BLIND TIGER BARS LTD, 8 MARKET SQUARE, WITNEY**

At the express permission of the Chair the committee discussed an application for a new pavement licence from Blind Tiger Bars Ltd for a new pavement licence under the Business and Planning Act 2020 due to the short timescale of the consultation.

Members had concerns about the location of furniture and the potential obstruction of the pavement if tables were able to be moved by patrons on what is an uneven surface. They were also concerned about the location of the furniture and the impact on sight lines of any vehicles accessing the residential units behind the premises.

Members agreed to carry out a site visit and provide their comments to the Chair for a response to be collated. They also agreed that WODC Licencing Team be asked to carry out a site visit prior to making their decision.

**Resolved:**

That, members provide individual responses to the Chair of the committee in order for a collated response to be returned.

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The meeting closed at: 7.23 pm

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Chair