

**From:** Address Management (WODC)

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2023 10:17 AM

**Subject:** SNN2023088 - New Development @ St Marys Court Witney- Planning application 21/02628/FUL

Mrs Groth

Following my email dated 9<sup>th</sup> June regarding the above development and the use of The Crofts, the developer has now proposed a building/court name for the development. (awaiting Royal Mail information to decide between building/ court name).

Cottsway have requested to name their new building replacing St Marys Court off The Crofts in Witney after their former CEO Vivian Rosser, the address format would be as below (with the suffix still to be agreed):

Rosser Court/House  
The Crofts  
Witney

Cottsway have provided the following justification:

*Vivian Rosser was CEO of Cottsway from 2015 to March 2022, when he died following a short illness. Vivian was passionate about affordable housing and the need to develop new affordable homes for rent and shared ownership. His work impacted the lives of many in West Oxfordshire. St Mary's is a stone's throw from Cottsway's offices in Station Lane, Witney, and naming this scheme after our late CEO would be a tribute to him. His family agree that this would be a fitting commemoration for Vivian and the work he did. Cottsway provides over 5,300 homes for rent and shared ownership for over 11,500 customers.*

The issue is that our street naming policy has the following restriction which applies to street names:

Streets may be named after a deceased individual, provided permission is granted from next of kin. It is recommended that a period of 20 years should pass before using an individual's name. Exceptions to this will need to be approved by Cabinet.

Plus we also have the following in our policy which says building names should follow the same guidelines:

Where possible blocks of flats and buildings will be given a name and addressed off of an existing road. The developer can propose a name for consideration. The criteria for a building name should follow the same guidelines as a new street name.

As the 'Rosser' name will not be a street name but instead will be a court/building name addressed off 'The Crofts' we approached our CEO Giles Hughes so he could advise whether we could use this name, as it does not meet the 20 year guideline. Giles opinion was that given Viv's contribution to Cottsway and West Oxfordshire he would be happy to use the "Rosser" name.

As this is a building/ court name (not a street name) the plan is to approve the name 'Rosser' unless the Parish Council would like to raise any valid objections to the name. If the Parish Council would like to make any comments please can they be sent to us by Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

Address Management Officer

West Oxfordshire District Council



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