

23/01203/RES - Reserved matters approval for local centre and associated infrastructure pursuant to outline permission 12/0084/P/OP. Land East Of Isabelle Spencer Way Witney Oxfordshire

Witney Town Council acknowledge the revised plans and welcome the new siting of Block A, and the improved location and number of cycle racks.

Witney Town Council had previously asked for a commitment to a full Zebra Crossing on the Western side of the development, crossing Isabelle Spencer Way – a walking route from the Community Hub to the school. However, Members note that Oxfordshire County Council has stipulated a signalised crossing, since OCC are the technical consultee on these matters, Witney Town Council defer to OCC as the recognised authority and agree; The times at which this pedestrian route is busiest, is the time that signalisation will improve safety for pedestrians, especially children.

In earlier comments Witney Town Council wrote that swift sightings are now prevalent on the site. Is there a commitment to swift bricks on the site?

Witney Town Council would like to take this opportunity to reiterate the earlier request for Grampian conditions to be imposed, which require that both this Community Hub development, and the Sports Pavilion development (23/01202/RES) be completed ahead of the construction of 74 homes sought by planning application 23/01206/FUL. Planning and construction conditions that protect the access to the football pitches during construction of the Pavilion and the Local Centre are imperative so that safe and screened-off access is available in the eventuality that the pitches are brought up to a playable standard, as they should be.

Witney Town Council see value in assigning one of the proposed retail units as a flexible community space/cafe, to be used for daytime and evening activities. The Council ask that the developers consider handing one space over to the community, or to a council to run for the community, as a public hall.

Where possible, members ask that the developer considers options which will reduce fossil fuel emissions and therefore improve carbon offset, by way of minimising energy demands and energy loss and demonstrate resilience to future climate change. In line with plan policies OS3 and OS4.

The Town Council also has little confidence in the capacity provided for local water and sewerage infrastructure on this development and asks for reassurances this area and Witney as a whole will be able to absorb the increased capacity required from further dwellings.