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

Held on Tuesday, 17 September 2024

At 6.00 pm in the Gallery Room, The Corn Exchange, Witney

Present:

Councillor G Meadows (Vice-Chair, in the Chair)

Councillors:	S Simpson G Doughty	J Doughty R Smith
Officers:	Derek Mackenzie	Senior Administrative Officer & Committee Clerk
Others:	No members of the public.	

P496 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor J Aitman.

P497 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest from Members or Officers.

P498 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Climate, Biodiversity & Planning Committee meetings held on 16 July, 6 August & 3 September 2024 were received.

P472 - The Committee Clerk clarified that the submission wording was acceptable to the Committee. The response had been separately circulated to all Members of the Council by email on 11 September and no amendment or additional comments had been received by Officers.

Resolved:

That, the minutes of the Climate, Biodiversity & Planning Committee meetings held on 16 July, 6 August & 3 September 2024 be approved as a correct record of the meetings and be signed by the Chair.

P499 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

P500 **FINANCE REPORT**

The Committee received and considered the report of the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) detailing income and expenditure for budgets which were the responsibility of the committee.

Members were pleased to see that expenditure was on track after four months of the financial year.

A Member noted that the work to de-silt the River Windrush at Bridge Street which was agreed at the meeting of the Committee 30 January 2024 was yet to be actioned. Officers were asked to provide an update and ensure this is budgeted for in the 2025/26 budget.

Recommended:

1. That, the report be noted and,
2. That, the management accounts of the Climate, Biodiversity and Planning Committee for the period 1 April to 31 July 2024 be approved and,
3. That, Officers prepare an update on the progress of the Bridge Street De-silting and,
4. That, funds for the Bridge Street Desilting works are included in the 2025/26 budget.

P501 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

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

Resolved:

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

P502 **PLANNING DECISIONS**

The Committee received and considered a schedule of planning decisions received from West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC).

Resolved:

That, the list circulated advising of WODC planning decisions be noted.

P503 **APPLICATION FOR PAVEMENT LICENCE - GAILS, 17 MARKET SQUARE, WITNEY**

The Committee noted the Pavement Licence Application for Gails, 17 Market Square, Witney under the Business and Planning Act 2020.

Resolved:

That, the following response be forwarded to the licencing team at West Oxfordshire District Council.

"Witney Town Council has no objections to this application"

P504 **ADDRESS MANAGEMENT - SCHOOL LAND, WEST WITNEY (WINDRUSH ESTATE)**

The Committee received and considered correspondence from Address Management at West Oxfordshire District Council in respect of their request for suggestions for the naming of two streets and one building.

Members agreed that the naming should reflect either the current theme in that area of the estate where names of important people to Witney had been used or, that the area backs onto the natural green corridor that passes thorough the estate.

The Committee made the suggestion that the roads be called “Titherington Close” and “Pavilion Place”.

Arthur Titherington was a WW2 labour camp survivor who went on to campaign for compensation for former Japanese prisoners of war and held the position of Chair of the Japanese Labour Camp Survivors Association, he was also a Mayor of Witney and Chair of Witney Urban District Council. Arthur passed away in 2010. Members acknowledged that this did not meet with WODC’s recommendation of 20 years passing before the use of an individual names however, asked that WODC still consider the request.

The name of Pavilion Place would clearly assist visiting sports teams to locate the pavilion, thus ensuring that traffic would be reduced on other estate roads as the access to Pavilion Place would be from the main spine road Centenary Way.

Members agreed that due to the siting of the building being along the edge of the green corridor that passed through the estate then the name of “Green View” should be considered.

Members agreed that these suggestions should be forwarded to all councillors prior to a submission being made by Officers ahead of the 7 October deadline.

Resolved:

1. That, the correspondence be noted and,
2. That, Officers circulate the request to all council members that street names of “Titherington Way” and “Pavilion Place” along with a building name of “Green View” be considered for submission.

P505 **ADDRESS MANAGEMENT - MARKET VIEW APARTMENTS, LANGDALE GATE**

The Committee formally received and considered the correspondence from West Oxfordshire District Council’s Address Management Officer regarding a request to name 10 flats that would be sited above the shops of 21-27 Market Square, Witney.

Given the short statutory timescale for Witney Town Council to respond, by prior agreement of West Oxfordshire District Council, Members considered the request informally on 3 September 2024 and had no objection to the proposed building name ‘Market View Apartments’.

Resolved:

That, Witney Town Council raises no objection to the name “Market View Apartments”.

P506 **WITNEY SHORES GREEN - RIGHTS OF WAY - PLANNING REF: R3.0069/24**

The Committee received correspondence relating to the approval of Planning Application Ref: R3.0069/24 (Rights of Way) at the Shores Green Junction of the A40.

Resolved:

That, the correspondence be noted

P507 **WITNEY SHORES GREEN - SOILS AND AGRICULTURAL LAND - PLANNING REF: R3.0077/24**

The Committee received correspondence relating to the approval of Planning Application Ref: R3.0077/24 (Soils & Agricultural Land) at the Shores Green Junction of the A40.

Resolved:

That, the correspondence be noted

P508 **WITNEY SHORES GREEN - CLIMATE RISK VULNERABILITY - PLANNING REF: R3.0079/24**

The Committee received correspondence relating to the approval of Planning Application Ref: R3.0079/24 (Climate Risk Vulnerability) at the Shores Green Junction of the A40.

Resolved:

That, the correspondence be noted

P509 **WITNEY SHORES GREEN - CARBON MANAGEMENT PLAN - PLANNING REF: R3.0094/24**

The Committee received and considered the Carbon Management Plan under Planning Ref: R3.0094/24 in respect of the works at the Shores Green Junction of the A40.

Members welcomed the detailed information provided in the report as the project proceeded.

Resolved:

That, the following response be submitted to Oxfordshire County Council:

Witney Town Council welcomes the application which will provide benefits for Witney residents and visitors of the Town, including those that will take up residence in the proposed Witney East Housing Development.

Witney Town Council ask that fortnightly updates are provided from this point forward and as the project proceeds in order to be fully aware of any impact that may affect the residents of the Town so that they may be duly informed and notified.

Due to the detailed technical nature of the report the council ask those responses from professionals in the respective field are considered fully.

P510 **WITNEY SHORES GREEN - ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT - PLANNING REF: R3.0095/24**

The Committee received and considered the Arboricultural Impact Assessment under Planning Ref: R3.0095/24 in respect of the works at the Shores Green Junction of the A40.

Members welcomed the detailed information provided in the report as the project proceeded.

Resolved:

That, the following response be submitted to Oxfordshire County Council

Witney Town Council welcomes the application which will provide benefits for Witney residents and visitors of the Town, including those that will take up residence in the proposed Witney East Housing Development.

Witney Town Council ask that fortnightly updates are provided from this point forward and as the project proceeds in order to be fully aware of any impact that may affect the residents of the Town so that they may be duly informed and notified.

Due to the detailed technical nature of the report the council ask those responses from professionals in the respective field are considered fully.

P511 **WITNEY SHORES GREEN - LANDSCAPE ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT PLAN AND BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN REQUIREMENT - PLANNING REF: R3.0096/24**

The Committee received and considered the Landscape Ecological Management Plan and Biodiversity Net Gain Requirement Plan under Planning Ref: R3.0096/24 in respect of the works at the Shores Green Junction of the A40.

Members welcomed the detailed information provided in the report as the project proceeded.

Resolved:

That, the following response be submitted to Oxfordshire County Council

Witney Town Council welcomes the application which will provide benefits for Witney residents and visitors of the Town, including those that will take up residence in the proposed Witney East Housing Development.

Witney Town Council ask that fortnightly updates are provided from this point forward and as the project proceeds in order to be fully aware of any impact that may affect the residents of the Town so that they may be duly informed and notified.

Due to the detailed technical nature of the report the council ask those responses from professionals in the respective field are considered fully.

P512 **WITNEY SHORES GREEN - ECOLOGY SURVEYS AND EUROPEAN PROTECTED SPECIES
MITIGATION LICENCE - PLANNING REF: R3.0097/24**

The Committee received and considered the Ecology Surveys and European Protected Species Mitigation Licence Plan under Planning Ref: R3.0097/24 in respect of the works at the Shores Green Junction of the A40.

Members welcomed the detailed information provided in the report as the project proceeded.

Resolved:

That, the following response be submitted to Oxfordshire County Council

Witney Town Council welcomes the application which will provide benefits for Witney residents and visitors of the Town, including those that will take up residence in the proposed Witney East Housing Development.

Witney Town Council ask that fortnightly updates are provided from this point forward and as the project proceeds in order to be fully aware of any impact that may affect the residents of the Town so that they may be duly informed and notified.

Due to the detailed technical nature of the report the council ask those responses from professionals in the respective field are considered fully.

The meeting closed at: 6.55 pm

Chair

Witney Town Council

Planning Minutes - 17 September 2024

501

501- 1 WTC/125/24 Plot Ref :-24/02131/HHD Type :- HOUSEHOLDE
 Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 09/09/2024
 Location :- 7 WESTFIELD ROAD Date Returned :- 18/09/2024
 WESTFIELD ROAD
 Proposal : Erection of single and two storey rear extensions
 Observations : While Witney Town Council does not object to this application it asks that all possible considerations are given to improve Insulation and drainage.

501- 2 WTC/126/24 Plot Ref :-24/02119/LBC Type :- LISTED BUI
 Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 09/09/2024
 Location :- NEWLAND NURSING HOME Date Returned :- 18/09/2024
 50 NEWLAND
 Proposal : Erection of rear orangery (amendments to previously approved 23/02902/LBC)
 Observations : While Witney Town Council does not object to this application in terms of material concerns and recognises the benefit of the addition to residents, it notes the loss of permeable drainage and lack of SuDS. Whilst the development is small, Members expressed concern that rainfall and surface water is to discharge to existing drainage. The age of the building and its internal infrastructure may not be suitable for this additional capacity, with the possibility of this causing increased flood risk elsewhere. The application site is uphill from an area that suffers from flooding. Members ask that a SuDS strategy and mitigating measures like a soakaway are considered to help decrease the possibility of surface water flooding in nearby areas, in accordance with policy EH7 of the West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031. Further, Members ask that the applicant consider the possibility of rainwater harvesting – given the proximity of WC facilities, could rainwater run-off be re-used sustainably?

501- 3 WTC/127/24 Plot Ref :-24/02090/ADV Type :- ADVERTISED
 Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 09/09/2024
 Location :- 108 - 110 HIGH STREET Date Returned :- 18/09/2024
 HIGH STREET
 Proposal : Erection of a non-illuminated fascia sign
 Observations : Witney Town Council has no objections regarding this application.

501- 4 WTC/128/24 Plot Ref :-24/02212/PN42 Type :- PRIOR NOTI
 Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 09/09/2024
 Location :- 48 PENCLOSE Date Returned :- 18/09/2024
 PENCLOSE
 Proposal : Erection of replacement rear single storey extension (5m x 2.6m height to

eaves/ 2.6m max height)

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

501- 5 WTC/129/24 Plot Ref :-24/02179/FUL Type :- FULL
Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 09/09/2024
Location :- FORMER HACKETTS WESLEY WALK
WESLEY WALK Date Returned :- 18/09/2024
Proposal : New structural opening to accommodate commercial kitchen extraction system and the installation of 3 number external air conditioning condensers.
Observations : Witney Town Council has no objections regarding this application.

501- 6 WTC/130/24 Plot Ref :-24/02253/HHD Type :- HOUSEHOLDE
Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 09/09/2024
Location :- 411 THORNEY LEYS THORNEY LEYS Date Returned :- 18/09/2024
Proposal : Proposed single storey rear extension and extended dropped kerb.
Observations : While Witney Town Council does not object to this application in terms of material concerns, it notes the loss of permeable drainage 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.

501- 7 WTC/131/24 Plot Ref :-24/02154/HHD Type :- HOUSEHOLDE
Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 10/09/2024
Location :- 9 WOODGREEN WOODGREEN Date Returned :- 18/09/2024
Proposal : Erection of a garden shed.
Observations : Witney Town Council has no objections regarding this application.

501- 8 WTC/132/24 Plot Ref :-24/01733/FUL Type :- FULL
Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 11/09/2024
Location :- LAND SW OF WW SPORTS GROUND
BURFORD ROAD Date Returned :- 18/09/2024
Proposal : Construction of a depot building, general storage building and vehicle parking building together with associated works.
Observations : Witney Town Council makes no comment regarding this application.

501- 9 WTC/133/24 Plot Ref :-24/02284/HHD Type :- HOUSEHOLDE
Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 11/09/2024
Location :- 198 COLWELL DRIVE COLWELL DRIVE Date Returned :- 18/09/2024
Proposal : Entrance hall extension.

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

The Meeting closed at : 6:55pm

Signed : _____ Chairman Date: _____

On behalf of :- Witney Town Council