

Public Document Pack

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

Held on Tuesday, 5 November 2024

At 6.00 pm in the Virtual Meeting via MS Teams - Virtual Meeting

Present:

Councillor A Bailey (Chair)

Councillors:	G Meadows S Simpson G Doughty	J Doughty R Smith
Officers:	Adam Clapton Derek Mackenzie Cara Cannon	Deputy Town Clerk Senior Administrative Officer & Committee Clerk Admin- Communities & Planning
Others:	No members of the public.	

P608 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor J Aitman.

P609 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest from Members or Officers.

(Councillor G Meadows joined the meeting at 6:02pm)

P610 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

(Councillor S Simpson joined the meeting at 6:16pm – From Application 4.6 24/02578/FUL)

P611 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.

P612 **ADDRESS MANAGEMENT - LOCAL CENTRE, WEST WITNEY**

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 a street.

Members agreed that the naming should reflect the current theme of that area of the estate where names of people with historical connections to Witney had been used.

The Committee made the suggestion that the road be named after Sir Frederick Clarke who was an advocate for education reform. The street would be located on land originally assigned for a secondary school which was later dismissed so Members thought this appropriate.

Members were unsure for which suffix would best suit and therefore deferred the decision to West Oxfordshire District Council.

Resolved:

1. That, the correspondence be noted and,
2. That, the request to name the street after Sir Frederick Clarke be forwarded to the Address Management Team at WODC.

P613 **EV MICROHUBS**

The Committee received and considered the correspondence received.

Resolved:

That, the correspondence be noted.

P614 **HAILEY 20MPH CONSULTATION**

The Committee received and considered the correspondence received from Oxfordshire County Council regarding the proposed introduction of a 20mph scheme in the neighbouring parish of Hailey.

The item had been referred to the Committee from the meeting of the Council on 14 October (Minute 589 refers). Officers advised the closing date for the consultation had passed however, OCC Officers had confirmed that a response was still able to be submitted and would be heard verbally when the matter was considered.

Members were in favour of supporting the scheme having seen improvements in the Town since the introduction of the 20mph scheme in 2022. Members wanted to stress the importance of reduction of emissions and the improvement in Air Quality, as well as the potential benefits of road safety.

Resolved:

That, the following response be submitted to Oxfordshire Country Council.

As a neighbouring parish where lower speed limits were introduced in 2022, Witney Town Council supports the introduction of 20mph speed restrictions in Hailey village which will help provide

continuity for residents of Witney and West Oxfordshire. Its introduction would also improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians in the area and compliment the proposed active travel proposals for the Hailey Road corridor which are detailed in the Witney Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)

A reduction to 20mph helps realise Oxfordshire County Council's Vision Zero approach that, no human being should be killed or seriously injured as the result of a road collision; whichever mode of transport you are using. As stated in their Vision Zero Strategy, 'At 20mph a pedestrian is likely to survive an impact with a motor vehicle whereas at 30mph the pedestrian is significantly more likely to be killed.'

Additionally, evidence published by the Welsh Government in June 2024, where a 20mph limit is implemented nationally, shows casualties have reduced on roads since the introduction of the 20mph speed limits in 2023.

The Town Council extols the benefits of 20mph speed limits which result in a healthier and safer walking, cycling, and driving environment. In Witney, Community Speedwatch sessions carried out in 20mph areas is showing evidence that tolerances to the 20mph limits are better than perceived.

Lastly, should the proposed North Witney Strategic Development Area proceed then this will bring Witney much closer to Hailey Village emphasising the need for consistency in the speed limits.

P615 WODC - SECTION 106 INFORMATION LEAFLET

The Committee received an Information Leaflet from West Oxfordshire District Council relating to Section 106 funding requests

Members expressed how useful they found the information and that it highlighted the need to ensure that Section 106 requests be considered and submitted at the outset of consideration of Planning Applications.

The Committee asked that Officers forwarded the information leaflet to all Members of the Council.

Additionally, the Deputy Town Clerk advised that Members should note that it was possible to make an application for Section 106 funding even if the Committee was minded to object to a planning application in the future.

Resolved:

1. That, the correspondence be noted and,
2. That, Officers forward the Information leaflet to all Members of the Town Council.

P616 **WITNEY SHORES GREEN - CARBON MANAGEMENT PLAN- PLANNING REF: R3.0094/24**

The Committee received correspondence relating to the approval of Planning Application Ref: R3.0094/24 (Carbon Management Plan) at the Shores Green Junction of the A40.

Resolved:

That, the correspondence be noted.

P617 **WITNEY SHORES GREEN - CONDITION 17 (ECOLOGY SURVEYS) AND 19 (EUROPEAN PROTECTED SPECIES MITIGATION LICENCE) PLANNING REF: R3.0097/24**

The Committee received correspondence relating to the approval of Planning Application Ref: R3.0097/24 (Ecology Surveys) and 19 (European Protected Species Mitigation Licence) at the Shores Green Junction of the A40.

Resolved:

That, the correspondence be noted.

P618 **PLANNING APPEAL RECEIVED - 75 OXLEASE, WITNEY - REF: 24/01448/HHD**

The Committee received notice of the Planning Appeal Public Inquiry for 75 Oxlease, Witney Appeal Ref: APP/D3125/D/24/3352870. Original Planning Application 24/01448/HHD

Officers advised that due to the notification being received the day prior to the meeting, that details of the hearing would be circulated following the meeting.

Resolved:

That, Officers forward the Planning Appeal notification to Members.

P619 **APPLICATION FOR PAVEMENT LICENCE - CORN EXCHANGE, 19 MARKET SQUARE, WITNEY**

Members received verbal notification that an application for a Pavement Licence for The Corn Exchange, 19 Market Square, Witney was open for comments. The normal notification of the application had not been issued by West Oxfordshire District Council however, Officers were aware of the application due to the Council being the applicant.

Members agreed that the following submission be made.

Thank you for contacting Witney Town Council with regards to Pavement Licence W/24/01168/PAVLIC for The Corn Exchange, 19 Market Square, Witney.

Witney Town Council offers no comment on this application.

Resolved:

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

The meeting closed at: 6.51 pm

Chair

Witney Town Council

Planning Minutes - 5th November 2024

611

611- 1 WTC/149/24 Plot Ref :-24/02523/HHD Type :- HOUSEHOLDE
 Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 15/10/2024
 Location :- 112 THE CROFTS Date Returned :- 06/11/2024
 THE CROFTS
 Proposal : Conversion of detached garage to create ground and first floor living space.
 Observations : Witney Town Council has no objections regarding this application.

611- 2 WTC/150/24 Plot Ref :-24/02537/HHD Type :- HOUSEHOLDE
 Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 15/10/2024
 Location :- 17 CORNDELL GARDENS Date Returned :- 06/11/2024
 CORNDELL GARDENS
 Proposal : Erection of single storey side and front extensions to replace existing conservatory and sheds.
 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.

611- 3 WTC/151/24 Plot Ref :-24/02475/HHD Type :- HOUSEHOLDE
 Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 15/10/2024
 Location :- 39 SPRINGFIELD OVAL Date Returned :- 06/11/2024
 SPRINGFIELD OVAL
 Proposal : Conversion of existing loft, including alterations to change hip roof to gable and insertion of two dormer windows and rooflights, to create additional living space.
 Observations : Witney Town Council has no objections regarding this application.

611- 4 WTC/152/24 Plot Ref :-24/02104/FUL Type :- FULL
 Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 15/10/2024
 Location :- 37 NEWLAND MILL Date Returned :- 06/11/2024
 NEWLAND MILL
 Proposal : Change of use of land to increase the domestic curtilage along with an increase to the height of the boundary fencing (part retrospective)
 Observations : Whilst Witney Town Council does not object to this application, members were disappointed to see removal of trees resulting in a loss of biodiversity & natural habitat space, which is contrary to policy EH3 (Biodiversity and Geodiversity) of the WODC LP2031 and ask that the householder compensate for the loss by way of replanting.

611- 5 WTC/153/24 Plot Ref :-24/02454/LBC Type :- LISTED BUI
Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 15/10/2024
Location :- MASONIC HALL 20 CHURCH Date Returned :- 06/11/2024
GREEN
CHURCH GREEN
Proposal : Exterior alterations to include the installation of a defibrillator, a blue plaque and two flag pole holders to the front elevation (Retrospective)
Observations : Witney Town Council has no objections regarding this application, and Members were pleased to see an additional defibrillator provision for the Town.

611- 6 WTC/154/24 Plot Ref :-24/02578/FUL Type :- FULL
Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 23/10/2024
Location :- 5A WEST END Date Returned :- 06/11/2024
WEST END
Proposal : Conversion of existing first and second floor apartment to form two separate apartments.
Observations : Whilst Witney Town Council does not object to this application in terms of material concerns and welcomes the provision of accommodation close to the Town centre, Members note the scale of the proposed apartments and are concerned that they appear very cramped. Within the General Principles of policy OS2 of the West Oxfordshire Local Plan, the development does not appear to be of a proportionate and appropriate scale to its context and does not form a logical complement to the existing scale and pattern of development.

611- 7 WTC/155/24 Plot Ref :-24/02579/LBC Type :- LISTED BUI
Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 23/10/2024
Location :- 5A WEST END Date Returned :- 06/11/2024
WEST END
Proposal : Internal and external alterations to divide the existing apartment into two separate apartments. Works to include installation of timber stud partitioning and the replacement of rear windows to include changing second floor external door with a window.
Observations : Whilst Witney Town Council does not object to this application in terms of material concerns and welcomes the provision of accommodation close to the Town centre, Members note the scale of the proposed apartments and are concerned that they appear very cramped. Within the General Principles of policy OS2 of the West Oxfordshire Local Plan, the development does not appear to be of a proportionate and appropriate scale to its context and does not form a logical complement to the existing scale and pattern of development.

611- 8 WTC/156/24 Plot Ref :-24/02615/HHD Type :- HOUSEHOLDE
Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 23/10/2024
Location :- 15 PARK ROAD Date Returned :- 06/11/2024
PARK ROAD
Proposal : Erection of two storey front extension.
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.

611- 9 WTC/157/24 Plot Ref :-24/02592/FUL Type :- FULL
Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 23/10/2024
Location :- 5 WEST END Date Returned :- 06/11/2024
WEST END

Proposal : Demolition of existing timber shed and erection of a replacement building comprising 2 x 1 bedroom apartments.

Observations : While Witney Town Council does not object to this application in terms of material concerns, the Council ask that the development complies with policy OS4, and that the proposal does not harm the use or enjoyment of land and buildings nearby including living conditions in residential properties. Since the proposal includes development in a high-density area with close proximity to neighbouring properties, can officers pay due regard to ensuring that the development does not cause harmful loss of privacy to neighbouring properties.

611- 10 WTC/158/24 Plot Ref :-24/02656/HHD Type :- HOUSEHOLDE
Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 24/10/2024
Location :- 13A BURFORD ROAD Date Returned :- 06/11/2024
BURFORD ROAD

Proposal : Removal of existing conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension. Enclose front entrance porch and conversion of garage to create additional living space.

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.

611- 11 WTC/159/24 Plot Ref :-24/02638/HHD Type :- HOUSEHOLDE
Applicant Name :- . Date Received :- 28/10/2024
Location :- 22 SNOWSHILL DRIVE Date Returned :- 06/11/2024
SNOWSHILL DRIVE

Proposal : Formation of habitable room in roof space with rear dormer and front Velux roof light.

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

The Meeting closed at : 6:51pm

Signed : _____ Chairman Date: _____

On behalf of :- Witney Town Council