

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

Held on Tuesday, 31 August 2021

At 6.00 pm in the Main Hall, The Corn Exchange, Witney

Present:

Councillor R Smith (Chair)

Councillors:	A Prosser	V Gwatkin
	J Aitman	M Jones
	L Duncan	
Officers:	Claire Green	Administration Support - Planning & Stronger Communities
	Simon Wright	Democratic & Legal Services Officer
Others:	0 members of the public.	

P442 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors O Collins and A McMahon.

P443 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors J Aitman, L Duncan, V Gwatkin, M Jones and R Smith declared a non-prejudicial interest in Applications WTC 155 & 156 by virtue of knowing the applicant.

P444 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

P445 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

Resolved:

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

P446 PLANNING APPEAL DECISION

The Committee received notification of a planning appeal decision at 2 Springfield Park, Witney.

Resolved:

That, the planning appeal decision be noted.

P447 **STREET NAMING - MILL WALK, WITNEY**

Consideration was given to a street naming request at Mill Walk, Witney.

Resolved:

Witney Town Council object to the proposed building name 'Arya House' for the development off Mill Walk. This is a prominent, historic building, in Witney Town Centre. The building has a rich history, strongly connected to the Methodist Church and over the years has been used by schools and community groups in the heart of the Town. Councillors ask that the proposal be denied and that the developers put forward a recommendation relevant to the history of the building or linked to Witney town history.

P448 **21/02210/FUL - WITAN PARK, WITNEY**

The Committee considered the report of the Democratic & Legal Services Officer regarding additional information received in respect of Application 21/02210/FUL.

Resolved:

That Witney Town Council maintain the objection to this application and in addition to the previous response, add the following;

The Transport Design Technical Note fails to recognise that Avenue Two is not a dead end for pedestrians and cyclists. It is a public right of way and the main access point to the Lake & Country Park.

To ensure safe cycle and pedestrian access to the Country Park, Lake and ongoing footpaths and cycle routes, the vehicular movements within the site need to be redesigned to exploit and optimize entry and exit for HGV and customer vehicles to the section of Avenue Two that runs East to West, on the Northern boundary of the development site.

This map shows that a marked cycle route links Ducklington to the Southern end of Avenue Two and is marked again at the Northern end of Avenue Two. The North section is wider, with more robust infrastructure, making the presence of HGVs turning into the northern side of the application site more acceptable in relation to cycling and walking. It is wholly inappropriate to introduce HGVs to the narrow unmarked linking Southern stretch of Avenue Two that currently has only traffic for commerce and light industry, not HGVs. Planning priorities should be seeking to reduce motor vehicle traffic on that stretch and to enhance the active travel link.

The suggestion that parking restrictions be introduced to facilitate the HGV access penalises Witney residents who are currently able to park for access to the country park and lake. There is no alternative parking for such recreational use, particularly for residents of limited mobility.

The meeting closed at: 7.17 pm

Chair