

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

**Held on Tuesday, 2 August 2022**

**At 6.00 pm in the Virtual Meeting Room via Zoom**

**Present:**

Councillor R Smith (Chair)

Councillors:	A Prosser T Ashby J Aitman	L Duncan V Gwatkin P Hiles
Officers:	Adam Clapton Claire Green  Derek Mackenzie	Deputy Town Clerk Administration Support - Planning & Stronger Communities Senior Administrative Officer & Committee Clerk
Others:	1 member of the public.	

**P425 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

All members were present for the meeting.

**P426 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations by members at this point in the meeting. Councillor R Smith later declared a personal non prejudicial interest in Agenda item 6.

*Councillor A Prosser joined the meeting at 18:06pm*

**P427 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*The Committee adjourned for this item.*

Samuel Lamb addressed the Committee on agenda item 6 – Request to install bollards – Woodstock Road. Questions followed from Committee members.

*The meeting reconvened for planning applications to be considered.*

**P428 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.

P429 **APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE - BLIND TIGER BARS, 8 MARKET SQUARE**

The Committee received and considered a premises licence application for Blind Tiger Bars, 8 Market Square.

Members welcomed a new music venue in the town but were concerned about the proximity to residential properties, so asked that the following response be issued to West Oxfordshire District Council.

**Resolved:**

That, While Witney Town Council welcome a new live music venue for the Town, Councillors expressed some concerns regarding the potential noise levels and how this might negatively affect residential properties immediately neighbouring the venue. Due to the proximity of residential units, Witney Town Council ask that the Licensing Officer ensure that residential neighbours are contacted directly and advised of the application and the relevant neighbour consultation process, rather than relying solely on-site notices.

Further, should the application be approved, Witney Town Council ask that conditions are applied to the licence that allow for monitoring and control of noise levels at the venue.

P430 **REQUEST TO INSTALL BOLLARDS - WOODSTOCK ROAD, WITNEY**

The committee received and considered the report of the Deputy Town Clerk and the associated correspondence from the resident of 89 Woodstock Road.

Members were advised that installation costs would be met by the resident and were happy with the proposed design and size of the wooden posts to be used. Future maintenance of the posts was unclear, but they would not be the responsibility of the Town Council.

**Resolved:**

1. That, the report be noted and,
2. That, the request for bollards to be installed adjacent to 89 Woodstock Road be approved and,
3. That, the Town Council takes no liability for the bollards, including their future maintenance, repair, or replacement.

P431 **SCHOOL STREETS EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER**

The Committee received an update from Oxfordshire County Council on the Safer Streets Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO) which included Tower Hill Community Primary School.

Members were disappointed the scheme would not be continued in Witney. The committee had suggestions for future such projects, which should be included in the response to the County Council consultation.

**Resolved:**

That, Witney Town Council is disappointed that the Safer Streets scheme at Tower Hill Community Primary School is not being progressed following this Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO).

The Council is aware that schools and parents still covet Safer Street schemes to facilitate safer and active travel for schoolchildren. It would like to suggest that any future projects include the provision of enforcement infrastructure from the outset, such as ANPR and/or flashing speeds figures, as these would greatly benefit its viability and success.

P432 **20MPH SPEED RESTRICTIONS**

The Committee received a verbal update from the Deputy Town Clerk on 20mph speed restrictions.

As members were aware, a public consultation had been held by Oxfordshire County Council on the proposals formed by the 20mph Working Party which had been agreed at their recent cabinet meeting.

Correspondence from County Council officers had been received advising all proposals had been accepted and they would be working on implementing the scheme in the coming weeks. At this point there was no confirmed timeframe or communications strategy. Officers would continue to work with the County Council on these when they were forthcoming.

**Resolved:**

That, the verbal update be noted.

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The meeting closed at: 7.03 pm

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Chair