

Malmesbury Town Council

Minutes of the **Planning & Environment Committee Meeting**
Held in Malmesbury Town Hall on **Tuesday 1st June 2021** at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: Councillors: C Doody, J M Exton, P Exton, R P Jones, C Ritchie & E Whatton

ALSO PRESENT: Claire Mann (Acting Town Clerk)
Two members of the public

Cllr Exton welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was resolved to bring item 5c forwards, to follow items 1 & 2 as members of the public had approached the Chair requesting a discussion about the proposed removal of silver birch trees in Bird Cage Walk and that Standing Orders would be suspended to allow members of the public to speak

P&E/21/59 To receive Declarations of Interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct

None received

P&E/21/60 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllrs Sanderson, Jones & Doody

P&E/21/60 Planning Updates

Standing Orders suspended

Members of the public were in attendance to express their disappointment in the decision of P&E at its last meeting not to object to the removal of the Silver Birch trees to accommodate the King Athelstan Statue. It was noted that three petitions had been set up and had gained a great deal of support to save the trees. Councillors responded that at the time of its decision there were no comments of objection on the application and that MTC is not the deciding authority but is a Statutory Consultee.

Cllr Ritchie, as representative of the Town Council on the Project Group, stated that many other stakeholders were involved in the project and had given it full support. It was noted that English Heritage were not happy that the trees had ever been planted at the site and they would be refused if any such attempt were made to plant trees there now.

Councillor P Exton advised that the members of the public expressed their concerns to the Wiltshire Council Planning Department and also the Project Group.

Standing Orders re-instated

P&E/21/61 To receive public questions in respect of items on the agenda

None

P&E/21/62 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 4th May 2021

It was **resolved** that the minutes were a correct record of the meeting held on the 4th May

P&E/21/63 Planning issues – to consider the following;
a. Planning Applications received since previous meeting

PL/2021/03258 - Hillview

It was resolved that the P&E Committee has **no objection** to the application.

PL/2021/04660 – St John’s Court

It was resolved that the P&E Committee has **no objection** to the application.

PL/2021/05123 – 99 Gloucester Rd

It was resolved that the P&E Committee has **no objection** to the application.

PL/2021/05137 – The Nuttery

It was resolved that the P&E Committee has **no objection** to the application.

PL/2021/03591 – The Shambles

It was resolved that the P&E Committee has **no objection** to the application.

PL/2021/04691 – 30 White Lion Park

It was resolved that the P&E Committee has **no objection** to the application.

PL/2021/05419 – 30 St John’s Street

It was resolved that the P&E Committee will **submit comments** on the application, requesting further information which states the reason for the felling and/or a replacement plan.

PL/2021/04530 – 38 West Street

It was resolved that the P&E Committee has **no objection** to the application.

21/00217/FUL – 26 The Maltings

It was resolved that the P&E Committee has **no objection** to the application.

PL/2021/04048 – 2 Avon Edge

It was resolved that the P&E Committee has **no objection** to the application.

PL/2021/05330 – Flying Monk Football Ground

It was resolved that the P&E Committee has **no objection** to the application.

b. Unresolved planning issues

Cllr J Exton reported that she had received comments from a concerned resident of Avenue de Gien about the forced access between the Bloor Homes development and the Play Area. It was noted that the site has become churned up by cyclists and is dangerous as a result. It was agreed that Cllr P Exton would pick this up with Wiltshire Councillor, Gavin Grant, to find out if there has been any progress as this has been raised previously.

Cllr Ritchie stated that nothing has been reported from Persimmon Homes on the Backbridge development and that Council would like to know what the current situation is.

Cllr Ritchie asked if the Committee could approach Cllr Grant to find out the progress on the two sites at Filands. The Government have announced that the new Planning Bill will be started in the Autumn; WALPA are still actively working with WC to seek a way to close the 5yr Land Supply gap.

It was agreed that the P&E Committee would engage with the community as much as possible to make residents aware of the Planning Processes. It was also agreed to propose to FC that the Mayor writes to James Gray, MP, to emphasise MTC’s need to speak to him.

c. Planning updates

It was agreed that in future, items 5b&c would become the same item.

P&E/21/64 To consider additional signage for River Walk at bottom of Betty Geezers Steps and on the wall pointing away from the Maltings.

Members noted the report circulated, it was requested that the clerk investigate necessity of permissions required at sites suggested.

Meeting Closed at 9.04pm