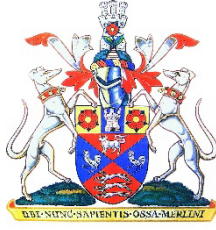


# Marlborough Town Council



## Planning Committee

### Minutes of a meeting of the Planning Committee held Monday, 21 October 2024 in the Court Room, Marlborough Town Hall at 7pm

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|                         |                              |                                  |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>PRESENT</b>          | Councillor James Sheppard    | Chair                            |
|                         | Councillor Kym-Marie Cleasby | Town Mayor ( <i>ex officio</i> ) |
|                         | Councillor Nicholas Fogg     |                                  |
|                         | Councillor Lisa Farrell      |                                  |
|                         | Councillor Mervyn Hall       | Vice Chair                       |
|                         | Councillor Mark Cooper       |                                  |
|                         | Councillor Caroline Thomas   |                                  |
|                         | Councillor Kelvyn Shantry    |                                  |
|                         | Councillor Susannah O'Brien  |                                  |
|                         | Councillor Emily Trow        |                                  |
|                         | Councillor Caroline Sadler   |                                  |
|                         | Richard Spencer-Williams     | Town Clerk                       |
|                         | Dawn Whitehall               | Corporate Services Officer       |
| <b>ALSO<br/>PRESENT</b> | Neil Goodwin                 | Marlborough.News                 |
|                         | Plus 9 members of the public |                                  |

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#### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were questions relating to agenda item 10 (Traffic Study) and in particular one part of a model which referred to the removal of parking at Pewsey Road:

**Robert Sadler** – asked whether the Town Council would support the ‘do nothing’ option presented in the Traffic Study report, particularly with regard to parking at the end of the High Street

**Jane Green** – also supported ‘do nothing’: living opposite the parking spaces there would be no access to her property for deliveries or dropping off elderly relatives if parking was removed

**Martin Sims** – was concerned that removing parking in Pewsey Road would increase traffic speeds, leading to more risk of accidents

**Felicity O’Sullivan** – a resident of the west end of the High Street commented that the pedestrian crossing slows traffic somewhat; referred to the behaviour of drivers passing along Pewsey Road, and the reliance of residents on parking; she questioned whether increasing speed here would slow traffic in other adjoining roads, add to air

pollution, increase the risk of accidents (drivers and pedestrians) and asked whether something could be done to help residents without their own parking  
**The Chair** thanked everyone for their questions, which would be taken into consideration at agenda item 10.

**217/24 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence had been received from **Councillors Davies, Beaumont, Luson, Ross and Kohrt.**

**218/24 DECLARATIONS**

**Councillor Sadler** – agenda item 10 (Traffic Study) – non-pecuniary. **Councillor Thomas** – agenda item 11(a) (Highway and Footway Improvements) – non-pecuniary.

**219/24 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**220/24 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held 30 September 2024 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair

**221/24 ACTION LOG**

Members noted the updated action log.

The need for a safe crossing point between Port Hill and The Common (Action Log Ref. #89) was still being discussed at the Local Highway and Footway Improvements Group (LHFIG) with a second opinion being sought about the feasibility of introducing a buffer zone to slow down incoming traffic.

**222/24 PLANNING DECISIONS**

Members noted the planning applications that had been determined by Wiltshire Council.

**223/24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

a) **PL/2024/07713** – Remove existing timber fence, erect new masonry bin store and the provision of two additional parking spaces at The Priory, High Street, Marlborough for Ms Stephanie Cake, Aster Group

**RESOLVED:** that Marlborough Town Council has no objection to this application

b) **PL/2024/08304** – Replacement of plant equipment/machinery within the roof service area at 17-18 High Street, Marlborough for Oaksmere

**RESOLVED:** that Marlborough Town Council has no objection to this application subject to the satisfaction of the Environmental Health Officer regarding noise disturbance to nearby dwellings

c) **PL/2024/08757** – Conversion of existing storage area to habitable space with partial removal of an exterior wall and replacement side door at Virginia Cottage, 9 Bath Road, Marlborough for Bob Stacey

**RESOLVED:** that Marlborough Town Council has no objection to this application

- d) **PL/2024/08793** - Single storey rear flat roof extension, new raised flat roof to existing garage and associated internal alterations at 13 Five Stiles Road, Marlborough for Miss H Porter and Mr W Eastmond

**RESOLVED:** that Marlborough Town Council has no objection to this application subject to the satisfaction of the Highways Officer regarding off-road parking arrangements

**224/24 LICENCE APPLICATION**

**RESOLVED:** that Marlborough Town Council strongly supports the application for a licence at St Peter's Church, High Street, Marlborough for:

- The provision of plays Friday to Saturday between 19:00-22:00, and Sunday 15:00-19:00
- The provision of live music Monday to Friday 19:00-23:00, Saturday 14:00-23:00 and Sunday 14:00-21:00
- The supply or sale of alcohol Friday to Sunday 19:00-23:30 (with seasonal variations)

**225/24 APPLICATION FOR STREET TRADING CONSENT**

**RESOLVED:** that Marlborough Town Council supports the application for street trading consent for:

- **Trading name:** Breakfast Delicious Food
- **Articles for sale:** Bacon, eggs, sausages, hot and cold food and drinks
- **Trading location:** Layby on the A346 between Marlborough and Ogbourne Maizey
- **Trading times:** Monday-Sunday inclusive from 7am to 4pm
- **Description of stall:** Van

**226/24 TRAFFIC STUDY**

Members noted the final traffic study report and considered what actions, if any, should be progressed. Comments included:

- The study was led by Wiltshire and Marlborough Councils with the expertise of Atkins to look at traffic issues faced by the town today, and whether there was anything that could be done to improve the position both now and going forward into the future.
- The study report is not a proposal to do anything; it provides a reference that can be used now and in the future.
- When commissioning the study, Councillors had asked in particular to consider the junction of Salisbury Road, George Lane and the A4, and investigate whether there would be any benefit from having intelligent traffic lights in place of the two roundabouts. The conclusion was that there would not be any benefit.
- Comments about parking spaces on Pewsey Road (raised during public question time) had arisen because the study looked at traffic flows in 2041 when there will be considerably more traffic than there is today. Pewsey Road becomes a pinch point in the traffic flow in that future model.

- The study shows clearly that increased volumes of traffic mean that within 15 years Marlborough will be gridlocked on a regular basis. The sheer weight of traffic will cause those stoppages, not roadworks.
- The report highlights changes being made at the A417/Air Balloon junction in Gloucestershire and the predicted increase in traffic on north-south routes, including Marlborough, as a result. Those works are due to complete within the next 3-4 years so this adds urgency to taking action now, even though the predicted impact on Marlborough of just under a 5% increase was below the Highways England 5% threshold for taking action.
- Marlborough's Wiltshire Councillors have recognised that doing nothing is not an option, and that the only option available to reduce the volume of traffic is to de-prime the north/south A346. This would bring relief to Marlborough and surrounding villages. They are looking at how to engage with relevant authorities (Wiltshire Council Highways and the UK Department of Transport) to investigate the feasibility of doing this, and the study will provide good evidence for the need to do so.
- Whether providing more parking for residents would reduce traffic flows. A pilot scheme had recently been implemented at Kennet Place which could act as a test case for other areas.
- It was expected that the new Toucan crossing being added at the A346 near the Business Park would have a beneficial effect by creating natural gaps in the traffic flowing through the town centre.
- Discussions arising from the traffic study would continue at the Wiltshire Council Area Board Local Highway and Footway Improvements Group. While this wasn't a public meeting, the agendas would be published and members of this Planning Committee would provide reports and updates.
- It was agreed to add the report and a summary to the Town Council website so that residents could have access.
- More information was being requested about a planned January M4 closure for resurfacing works between junctions 14 and 15 to understand how the work was being scheduled and what traffic management plans were in place, including lifting planned roadworks on diversion routes.

ACTION: add the Traffic Study report to the Town Council website

*Members of the public left the meeting*

**227/24**

## **HIGHWAY AND FOOTWAY IMPROVEMENTS**

### **a) Proposed one-way system at The Parade**

Members welcomed and considered an indicative plan showing a proposal for a one-way scheme, travelling eastwards from the High Street, which included reduction of parking. Discussion points included:

- Strong support for the principle of one-way traffic
- Concern about the proposed reduction of on-street parking, and questions about why it was necessary, noting that the agreed introduction of five additional free on-street bays in the High Street might mitigate the impact in part

- Noted the proposed plan includes the introduction of a loading bay to address issues where lorries currently park across yellow lines and block narrow entrances to residences and businesses at Old Stables Court and Cross Keys House
- Enforcement of parking arrangements would be key in terms of making the scheme work, ensuring access for residents and businesses was available at all times. If this was effective whether there would be any need to change the current parking arrangements
- Whether the area could be pedestrianised at some point in the future
- Whether to consult with residents and businesses on an informal basis before taking a decision, perhaps including a drop-in session for interested parties to view the plans and make comment
- To carry out all actions in time to take comments back to the LHFIG meeting in January 2025

**RESOLVED:** to hold informal consultations with residents and businesses in The Parade and immediately adjoining area and review the results at a Planning Committee meeting before the end of December 2024

**b) Frees Avenue 40MPH zone**

Members noted the decision by the Wiltshire Council Cabinet Member for Highways, Street Scene and Flooding to approve the proposal to extend the 40MPH zone at Frees Avenue to a point beyond Marlborough Cemetery. The proposal is intended to improve road and pedestrian safety and was requested by Marlborough Town Council.

**228/24 SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES (SID)**

Members noted the most recent data recorded by the Town Council's SID at Poulton Hill between 18 September and 1 October and considered the SID location plan. Discussion points included:

- 51.7% of outgoing traffic had been recorded exceeding 30MPH
- 30.5% of incoming traffic had been recorded exceeding 30MPH
- The report provided clear evidence of the safety issues at this location
- A proposal for a safety scheme at this location was in the early stages of development and would be available for consideration soon
- SID data was always shared with Wiltshire Police
- Whilst the speeding traffic did not hit the 85%ile required for police enforcement, Members agreed that it was too high and asked that Wiltshire Police be asked to prioritise speed checks at the location
- Residents in Manton had asked whether a new SID location could be found to face outgoing traffic at A4 Bath Road within 100 yards of Bridge Street; the recently introduced location in the 40MPH may be able to satisfy this request if the SID is positioned to face outgoing traffic

**ACTION:** position the SID to flash at outgoing traffic at the location in the 40MPH zone at Bath Road

**229/24 TOWN CENTRE WORKING PARTY**

Members noted that the Town Council had already agreed in principle the use of Year 2 and 3 funds to commission a service leading to a vision document for the town centre (*Min. 85/24, Full Town Council, 24 June 2024*). They considered a revised proposal for use of the Wiltshire Towns Programme (WTP) grant funds:

- Priority 1: vision document – guide grant allocation £35,000
- Priority 2: address weed issues on town centre pavements and surrounds – guide grant allocation £10,000
- Priority 3: run a ‘blooming Marlborough’ floral competition – guide grant allocation £5,000

**RESOLVED:** that the revised proposal for use of the Wiltshire Towns Programme funds is approved

**230/24 APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE**

Members noted that the Town Council had applied for a temporary road closure to ensure public safety at the Christmas Lights Switch-on event on Friday, 29 November between 16:00-21:00.

**231/24 TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES**

Members noted Orders issued by Wiltshire Council for temporary road closures:

- Remembrance Sunday Parade – Sunday 10 November 2024 between 10:00-11:30 – A4 (part) High Street, C18 Kingsbury Street (part), C6 Silverless Street; A346 Herd Street; A346 Barn Street; A4 (part) New Road, C18 The Parade, Oxford Street, The Green and A4 (part) London Road
- A blanket order for various roads, various parishes

The meeting closed at 8.19 pm

Signed: .....  
Chair

Date: .....