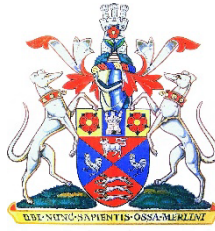


Marlborough Town Council



Planning Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the Planning Committee held Monday, 30 September 2024 in the Court Room, Marlborough Town Hall at 7pm

PRESENT	Councillor James Sheppard	Chair
	Councillor Kym-Marie Cleasby	Town Mayor (<i>ex officio</i>)
	Councillor Nicholas Fogg	
	Councillor Andrew Ross	
	Councillor Mervyn Hall	Vice Chair
	Councillor Mark Cooper	
	Councillor Mark Luson	
	Councillor Kelvyn Shantry	
	Councillor Susannah O'Brien	
	Councillor Emily Trow	
	Councillor Caroline Sadler	
	Councillor Abi Beaumont	
ALSO		
PRESENT	Richard Spencer-Williams	Town Clerk
	Dawn Whitehall	Corporate Services Officer

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present.

187/24

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from **Councillors Farrell, Davies, Thomas and Kohrt**.

188/24

DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations of interest.

189/24

CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Two applications for tree works had arrived too late for this agenda. Members could view them and comment individually online if they wished: both were for reductions to the height of trees and the application numbers were PL/2024/08681 and PL/2024/08096.

190/24

MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held 9 September 2024 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

191/24 ACTION LOG

Members noted the updated action log. Verbal updates included:

#1 – Traffic Survey. Members of the project group had submitted their comments in response to the draft report: the final report was now awaited.

#89 – Safe crossing point Port Hill to The Common. **Councillor Sheppard** had asked Wiltshire Police to hold another speed check in this area – none had been conducted here since early 2023.

192/24 PLANNING DECISIONS

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

193/24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) **PL/2024/07163** – to repaint the whole of the front elevation facing the A346 main road at 5 Barn Street, Marlborough for Mr Brian Redpath

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council has no objection to this application subject to the satisfaction of the Conservation Officer

b) **PL/2024/07695** – replace rotten window to the front elevation at 26 Kingsbury Street, Marlborough for Mr & Mrs Cockroft

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council has no objection to this application subject to the satisfaction of the Conservation Officer

c) **PL/2024/08006** – alteration to modern metal external escape staircase at rear of building at Flat 1, 115 High Street, Marlborough for Fairlynx Ltd

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council objects to this application on the grounds that it will impede disability access to the neighbouring property

194/24 WORKS TO TREES

PL/2024/08306 – crown reduce the following trees by up to 50% and shape: 3 x Beech, 2 x Hawthorn, 1 x Apple, 1 x Horse Chestnut, 1 x Ash, 1 x Oak, 1 x Sycamore, 1 x Hornbeam at 9 High Street, Manton for Mr Morrison

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

195/24 HIGHWAY AND FOOTWAY IMPROVEMENTS

Members noted:

a) that the request to extend the 40MPH speed limit at Frees Avenue was to be readvertised and

b) Wiltshire Council had issued an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to introduce a 40MPH speed limit at A4 Bath Road, Marlborough from a point 234 metres west of its junction with College Fields to a point 52 metres west of its junction with Downs Lane.

196/24 SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES (SIDs)

Members noted the most recent data downloaded from the Town Council's SIDs at Herd Street (11 June-18 September) and Kingsbury Street (4-17 September).

Discussion points included:

- Concern that a small percentage of traffic was still travelling up the hill at Herd Street at up to 109MPH
- That **Councillor Sheppard** would reinforce the requirement for Police speed checks and draw their attention to the SID data

197/24 TOWN CENTRE WORKING PARTY

Councillor Shantry gave a verbal update following the most recent meeting of the working party:

- Some of the visitor signage (finger posts) had been measured incorrectly by the signage company. It was disappointing that the delay meant these had not been in place for visitors during the Literature Festival held at the weekend, but it was hoped they would be in place before the end of the year
- New designs for Welcome to Marlborough gateway signs were being drawn up by a Highways Engineer and it was likewise hoped that they would be in place before the end of the year
- Work was ongoing to draw together a report in response to the 2022 town centre survey, to highlight "you said" and "we did", and to issue a press release to update residents on actions taken in direct response to the survey
- Cllr Shantry had raised the general lack of weeding on the town's streets with the leader of Wiltshire Council: 'Street scene' had been highlighted as the second most common area noted for improvement by residents in the survey and the number of weeds around the town didn't help give a good impression. The working party was considering whether grant money could be used towards clearing this if Wiltshire Council's contractors were unable to clear them
- Cllr Shantry had also raised some type of 'Blooming Marlborough' competition for 2025 to encourage residents and businesses to take pride in the town – and whether the working party could consider whether grant funding would help towards enabling this
- The **Town Clerk** explained the timescale for the Wiltshire Towns Programme grant applications which needed to be submitted by the end of October. He reminded members that it was possible to combine two years' grants into a bigger fund. The main priority was to fund a service ultimately leading to a long term 'vision' document for the town centre, and whilst the majority of the budget would be spent on this he was also looking at whether a smaller amount could be used for the other areas already mentioned above
- Although the Council had already agreed the two-year application for the vision commission, any changes to the grant application would be brought before the Council and included in the budgeting process
- **Councillor Shantry** elaborated on the scope of the visioning document – where experts on town planning, road layouts etc would incorporate input from the 2022 survey, the working party's brief and their own research to draw up a

report showing what could be achieved. This could include the layout of roads and pavements in the town centre, use of the Parade and Hilliers Yard, the location of the market, space for pop-ups, a better balance between traffic and pedestrians, a safe crossing point on the High Street, improved access for the disabled and cyclists and more.

198/24 TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES

Members noted that Wiltshire Council had issued orders to close temporarily to all traffic:

- George Lane between Pewsey Road and Ducks Meadow on 29 September between 08:00-16:00 to enable Openreach to carry out urgent access to underground structure to clear blockage and rope duct
- High Street, Kingsbury Street (part) and New Road (part) from 12:00 on 4 October until 08:00 on 6 October and between 12:00 on 11 October until 08:00 on 13 October for the two Marlborough Mop Fairs
- A346/Herd Street (part) on 29 October between 19:00-23:59 to enable Wiltshire Council to carry out bobcat patching works
- A345/Pewsey Road (part) from 19:00-23:59 for 4 days starting 5 November to enable Wiltshire Council to carry out carriageway resurfacing and associated maintenance works
- A blanket order for various roads, various parishes

Councillor Fogg questioned the wording of the notice concerning the Mop Fairs, believing it should more correctly be issued under the Fairs and Markets Act and that it was a Statute Fair, not a Chartered Fair. This distinction was important as the right to hold Statute Fairs could only be abolished by an Act of Parliament. He could provide the Town Clerk with more information to feed back to Wiltshire Council.

Councillor Cleasby appreciated that works were being scheduled to avoid business hours, and it was pleasing to see that Wiltshire Council Highways was planning works in this way. It was hoped that other organisations could also be encouraged to plan their works to avoid peak traffic hours.

The meeting closed at 7.42 pm

Signed:
Chair

Date: