

Marlborough Town Council



Planning Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the Planning Committee held Monday, 3 February 2025 in the Court Room, Marlborough Town Hall at 7pm

PRESENT	Councillor James Sheppard	Chair
	Councillor Nicholas Fogg	
	Councillor Mervyn Hall	Vice Chair
	Councillor Mark Cooper	
	Councillor Jane Davies	
	Councillor Caroline Thomas	
	Councillor Mark Luson	
	Councillor Kelvyn Shantry	
	Councillor Emily Trow	
	Councillor Caroline Sadler	
	Councillor Abi Beaumont	
	Richard Spencer-Williams	Town Clerk
	Dawn Whitehall	Corporate Services Officer
ALSO		
PRESENT	Neil Goodwin	Marlborough.News

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Elizabeth Cooper asked a question at Full Council on 20 January "The A346 continues to hold substantial risks for anyone attempting to cross over to and from the Common. The speed limit is very frequently exceeded, posing danger for pedestrians, particularly children and older residents. I am very concerned that the recent Marlborough survey did not take account of the issues with the A346. Please could you reassure me - and residents - that the Town Council is looking closely at the concerns so many of us have."

The **Chair** explained that there had been a reply, together with agreement to pass the question to the Planning Committee. Additional comments included:

- The most recent Speed Indicator data from Herd Street showed very high speeds in an out of town, making the wider stretch of this road also unsafe for pedestrians to cross safely
- An ongoing debate at the Local Highway and Footway Improvements Group to push for a slowing-down buffer zone to help reduce speeds at the crossing

point: **Councillor Luson** pointed out an existing slowing-down zone near Collingbourne Kingston which goes 60-40-30MPH which works very well

- Additional risk to stationary traffic waiting to turn left or right off the A346 to The Common or The Acres from speeding incoming traffic
- The original request had been for a pedestrian crossing (*via a petition in 2020*) and was still the ideal situation on safety grounds, albeit that it would not meet technical requirements set by Highways: whether to resubmit this request for consideration at LHFIG, noting that additional houses had now been built at Hawthorn Meadow, which may mean the footfall criteria might be met if the area were to be resurveyed. The matter was still a live action on the Planning Committee action log (#89)
- The crossing installed at George Lane approximately 2 years ago had cost around £60,000: this was likely to be much higher now
- Whether a Toucan crossing would be feasible at this location given the proximity to road junctions nearby; and whether Highways could be asked to confirm whether this would be possible
- That Wiltshire Police had increased mobile speed checks in the past year; Wiltshire Council (along with many other authorities) no longer used static speed cameras (evidence goes against their effectiveness, and the fines go to central government with costs borne by local authorities)
- The **Chair** re-emphasised that Councillors should focus first on steps that could be taken to slow traffic down
- Whether to find a suitable location nearby for a speed indicator device (SID) to gain statistical data of traffic speeds and volumes, and whether those locations would be within the guidelines for the positioning of SIDs – if not, whether the data would be admissible to share with police. Notwithstanding, it should help to slow drivers down.

377/24 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from **Councillors Ross, Farrell, O'Brien, Kohrt** and **The Town Mayor, Councillor Cleasby**

378/24 DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations of interest.

379/24 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amended plans for PL/2023/02738 : Former Gas Storage Site, Kelham Gardens, Marlborough, had been received too late for the agenda for this meeting. The Town Council had raised strong objections to the original application on the grounds that it did not comply with policy MARL1 of the Neighbourhood Plan which identified the site for affordable homes; the **Chair** urged Members to review the amended plans and comment as individuals.

380/24 MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held 6 January 2025 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair

381/24 ACTION LOG

Members noted the updated action log. Verbal updates included:

- #143 20MPH speed limit review – this had been progressed and there would be two areas subject to public consultation as the next stage in the process: the first was for those previously agreed at Hyde Lane, Cross Lane, Back Lane and St John's Close; and, following a cabinet-level decision, George Lane, Culvermead Close and Ducks Meadow. **Councillor Davies** asked the Town Council to reply to the consultation in due course to register its support in light of the number of children crossing the road, and to publicise the consultation to residents
- #219 Illuminated shop signs – the matter of a shop near St Peter's Church was with the enforcement officer

382/24 PLANNING DECISIONS

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

383/24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) **PL/2025/11675** – Refurbishment of boarding house including extensions to the south west and north west wings, increasing the roof height and reconfiguration of the main entrance, energy efficiency upgrades, new ramped access to the main entrance, and external hard and soft landscaping at C2 Boarding House, Marlborough College, Edwards Meadow, Marlborough for Estates Department, Marlborough College.

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council has no objection to this application, and supports the suggested condition that swift bricks be incorporated into this building

b) **PL/2025/00236** – Rear infill extension. Partial garage conversion at 54 Rogers Meadow, Marlborough for Mrs Hilary Hackwell Atkins

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

c) **PL/2025/00264** – Proposed two storey side extension at 54 Barrow Close, Marlborough for Mrs Yasmin Newman

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council has no objection to this application subject to the satisfaction of the Officer that the parking requirements have been met

d) **PL/2025/00467** – Rear single-storey extension for a wheelchair accessible bedroom and shower room. Ramped access from extension to front of property at 9 Rabley Wood View, Marlborough for Miss Madison Sanders

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

384/24

WORKS TO TREES

a) **PL/2025/00731** – G1, to be re-pollarded at land at rear of Wye House and London Road, Marlborough for Mr Steve Richardson

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council has no comment to make

b) **PL/2025/00813** – Lime trees – re-pollard to previous cuts at St Lukes Court, Hyde Lane, Marlborough for B Bird, Cognatum

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council has no comment to make

c) **PL/2025/00419** – T1 Sycamore – reduce tree to make a new pollard point approximately 2m below the old pollard points to give the tree approximately a 5-6m reduction. The finished height will be approximately 18m from ground level. It has become too large and imposing next to buildings. G2 Dead Elder and Holly – fell to ground level by carefully dismantling. T3 Bay tree in rear garden – fell to ground level by carefully dismantling. S4 Bay tree stump – grind down stump to 300mm below current ground level and grindings to be left in hole for settlement at Sycamores, Back Lane, Marlborough for Mr Edward Mant, EJM Tree Services Limited

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council has no comment to make

d) **PL/2025/00816** – Cherry tree – reduce all laterals on north and north-east sides by 1m-1.5m to clear building at Castle & Ball, High Street, Marlborough for Mr Roberts

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council has no comment to make

e) **RESOLVED:** that Marlborough Town Council has no comment to make against applications previously circulated for Members and where the comments date expired 29 January:

i) **PL/2025/00142** – Maple tree – reduce all lateral overhang to provide 2m clearance of neighbouring building at Lower Lloran, Old Lion Court, Marlborough for Mrs Galvin Wright

ii) **PL/2025/00145** – Silver Birch tree – reduce by 20% at Kingsbury Hill Cottage, 32 Kingsbury Street, Marlborough for Mrs Travis

385/24

HIGHWAY AND FOOTWAY IMPROVEMENTS

RESOLVED: that Members support the highway improvement request for double yellow lines on Poulton Hill to be submitted to Wiltshire Council Area Board Local Highway and Footway Improvements Group

386/24

SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES (SID)

Members noted the most recent SID data reports collected at:

- Bath Road, 23 December 2024 to 8 January 2025
- George Lane, 15 to 23 January 2025

- Herd Street, 19 September 2024 to 28 January 2025

Referring to the matter raised during Public Question Time, Members discussed a potential location for the Town Council's portable SID on the verge at the junction of Port Hill and North View Place. Questions concerning land ownership and the feasibility of positioning a pole would need to be clarified and, if suitable, all agreed a SID flashing speeds at incoming traffic may be helpful both in terms of slowing down traffic and collecting data.

RESOLVED: to investigate the feasibility of placing the portable SID at the junction of Port Hill and North View Place

387/24

TOWN CENTRE WORKING PARTY

Councillor Shantry provided a verbal update:

- The installation of Welcome to Marlborough gateway signs was not expected before May at the earliest. This was disappointing as January 2025 had been the expected date: it was understood that the contractor had been diverted to deal with flooding issues, leading to the delay in planned work
- Town centre visitor signage was anticipated to be installed in the next month or so
- Invitations to tender for the creation of a town centre development plan had been issued today (3 February); with successful shortlisted suppliers making presentations on 9 April
- A presentation was to be made by a Drainage Engineer about proposed rain gardens and rainwater linked floral features at several locations around the town (High Street, Angel Yard car park, The Parade and Kennet Place). This was an exciting, innovative solution proposed to alleviate the impact of rainwater runoff and provide additional floral displays around the town. Action for the River Kennet had experience of rain gardens and would be invited to be involved in the proposed scheme

Councillor Lusson thanked the working party for their continued hard work.

388/24

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES

Members noted Orders issued by Wiltshire Council under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to close temporarily:

- Blanket Order:** Various Roads, Various Parishes (10.02.2025-17.03.2025) (pre surface dressing patching Gazette and Herald area)
- TTRO 10106 – Savernake Court** (part), Marlborough on 3 March 2025 for 2 days to enable Gigaclear to carry out cut from carriageway pot into property
- TTRO10155 Recommencement Notice – A345 (part)** from its junction with A4 to its junction with George Lane between 19:00-23:59 from 13-18 March 2025 to enable Wiltshire Council to carry out carriageway resurfacing and associated

maintenance works

- d) TTRO10151 – C74 (part), Great Bedwyn** from its junction with High Street to its junction with Oxenwood Road between 19:00-23:59 from 24 March to 2 April 2025 to enable Wiltshire Council to carry out carriageway resurfacing and associated works

The meeting closed at 8 pm

Signed:
Chair

Date: