

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of Planning Committee held 26 May 2020 were approved as a true record

Due to technical problems, Cllr Barrett-Morton left the meeting

28/20

PLANNING DECISION NOTICES

Members noted the Planning Decision Notices that had been issued by Wiltshire Council.

29/20

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Cllr. Castle took no part in the discussions for (a) and (b) and did not vote

- a) **19/10631/FUL** – Conversion of former school building to form a 23 bedroom hotel with restaurant and bar, conversion and extension of outbuildings to accommodate an ancillary gym/spa and to form a dwelling, and the construction of 7 new-build dwellings at rear, together with parking and associated works at St Peters Junior School, The Parade, Marlborough for Shelbourne Developments Ltd

Members noted that the revised application no longer took away four kerbside parking spaces from The Parade and that the dwellings had been relocated further away from the river. Some Councillors were disappointed that no additional parking provision had been added within the site itself, particularly for staff and diners.

Members recognised this was a valuable scheme that would provide employment in the town and was a very good use of the former school building.

The impact on parking for local residents was recognised (The Parade, Kennet Place, Town Mill) and a residents parking scheme should be explored as a separate issue.

RESOLVED: that Marlborough Town Council has no objection to this application and welcomes the proposed new hotel

- b) **19/11249/LBC** – Conversion of former school building to form a 23 bedroom hotel with restaurant and bar, conversion and extension of outbuildings to accommodate an ancillary gym/spa and to form a dwelling, and the construction of 7 new-build dwellings at rear, together with parking and associated works at St Peters Junior School, The Parade, Marlborough for Shelbourne Developments Ltd

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

A member of the public left the meeting.

Cllr. Fogg took no part in the discussion for (c) and did not vote

- c) **20/02119/FUL** – Replacement of all 8 windows on front elevation with painted wooden double glazed units, similar to existing at 8-9 Oxford Street, Marlborough for Mr Max Wheatley

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

- d) **20/04136/FUL** – Replacement of garage at 22 Chiminage Close, Marlborough for Mrs Gillian Richards

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

- e) **20/03852/FUL** – Single storey rear extension at 14 Dando Drive, Marlborough for Nicholas Sherlock

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

30/20

PLANNING APPEAL

Members noted that an appeal had been lodged under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (As Amended) against the refusal of a household application 19/11555/FUL:

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Appellant's name | Mrs B Iorio |
| Appeal site | 15 Edwards Meadow |
| Proposed development | Two storey rear and front extensions |
| Inspectorate reference | APP/Y3940/D/20/3249516 |

31/20

RE-ALLOCATION OF ROAD SPACE

Members considered what actions could, in the short term, be taken to help with the safe re-opening of the High Street and support High Street retailers and businesses.

A positive meeting via Zoom took place on 3 June with representatives from a cross section of High Street businesses and their suggestions, as well as those from Councillors, had been passed to Wiltshire Council. These included High Street pinch points where a wider pavement would be welcome, use of pavement space for cafes, hand sanitizer stations, proper signage and more.

The Town Clerk provided a verbal update:

- That two relevant schemes were currently being administered by WC – i) Re-allocation of Road Surface (a Department for Trade (DfT) initiative to promote walking and cycling) and the Re-opening of High Streets Safely Fund, to help safely re-start the local economy
- Highways Engineers had already made site visits to investigate options for physical changes. Initial views were that it may not be possible to include a temporary cycle path in the High Street though options to widen pavements were being investigated including the possibility of incorporating outdoor café space, but no firm decisions had yet been made
- That she had already been in touch with the WC Economic Recovery Officer administering the new Re-opening High Streets Fund about scheme criteria
- Some businesses were concerned about the loss of free parking spaces that would result from widening the pavements and felt that alternative parking arrangements should be investigated
- Options for parking might include a 'first hour free' scheme for two months in Wiltshire Council owned car parks (something already underway in other Wiltshire towns, funded by town councils). This was being investigated but, may prove prohibitively expensive. Other measures might be temporary parking on The Common or at the Recreation Ground at Salisbury Road
- Firm proposals from Wiltshire Council were expected soon

Members then discussed possible temporary parking solutions to help the High Street should parking spaces be removed and other additional changes that might be made:

- It was important to make decisions about areas within the control of the Town Council (Youth Centre, Recreation Ground and The Common) alongside exploring other options to demonstrate to traders that the Town Council was taking action to support local businesses
- Traffic Management Plans would need to be put in place for temporary parking at The Common or the Recreation Ground
- Whether shoppers could use car parks at the towns two hotels, the Leisure Centre, Marlborough Community & Youth Centre, St George's Preshute, the former Police Station at George Lane and other sites not currently in use
- Whether larger retailers could be approached to contribute towards offsetting the cost of providing 'first hour free' parking in Wiltshire Council car parks

- People from outlying villages used cars to come into Marlborough to do their shopping
- Whether The Common could be offered to retail staff for parking, so freeing up space in the town. However, most parked using on street parking outside of the town centre
- Some Councillors expressed strong concerns about using green space for car parks
- Whether additional cycle racks could be added, and whether secure cycle racks were a possibility in The Parade
- There was desire to support ‘Back Local/Buy Local’ campaigns and meetings and dialogue should continue with local retailers and businesses

RESOLVED: to conduct more research on all the options for alternative temporary parking and continue the dialogue and meetings with local retailers and businesses

Members went on to discuss a longer term, more strategic, approach for the re-design of the High Street, creating more space for cyclists and pedestrians and a greener environment.

Cllr. Fogg referred to an aspiration to create a legacy of a greener, safer town centre. Marlborough already had poor air quality due to pollution from vehicles and the Town Council should work towards encouraging improvements to health and wellbeing by encouraging walking and cycling, not find ways to bring more cars into the town centre. He would be appalled to see green spaces (at The Common and the Recreation Ground) being used for car parking and believed it would send the wrong message. Members should seize the wording in the Department for Transport’s initiative – some excellent ideas had already been put forward such as planting trees in the High Street, pedestrianising part of The Parade, introducing a one-way system, extending the cycle path and installing secure cycle racks.

Due to technical problems Cllr. Fogg left the meeting

Discussions included the following points:

Further suggestions included:

- That as vehicle fuels become greener over time that air quality would improve as a result
- Relocating the taxi rank/whether all or part of the taxi rank could be repurposed for hotel tables and chairs
- Whether the bulges at crossing points could be repurposed
- Whether a one-way system could be introduced around the town
- Whether to consult with the public on proposals and elicit further ideas
- A need to provide vehicle access close to the centre for elderly resident shoppers
- A need to check the timescales for drawing down available funding and whether this would allow sufficient opportunity for public consultation
- That some towns had already put forward requests for funding
- Whether Redrow could be approached to provide a temporary route for a continuation of the Railway Path cycle route
- Whether a separate meeting should be scheduled to have a full discussion around green proposals under the DfT scheme

It was agreed that the Town Clerk investigate timescales to apply for funding under the DfT scheme. This would enable a further discussion on longer term strategic options at the next meeting on 6 July.

Cllr Hillier left the meeting

32/20

SUPPORT FOR MALMESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

RESOLVED: to write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to support a proposal that planning permission recently granted for a development in Malmesbury is called in as it is likely to have implications for other Neighbourhood Plans in Wiltshire

33/20

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

The plan was almost ready to go to the first stage of public consultation. Due to the COVID19 pandemic, the consultation period would now be extended from 6 weeks to 10 weeks. This would still allow time to meet a referendum date in May 2021.

Professional advice had been received about Preshute Parish Council's position within the Neighbourhood Plan and this would be discussed by the Steering Group on 25 June, after which an update would be available for the Town Council.

Cllr. Hall stressed that, as the qualifying body, it was important that all Members read the plan once it was completed.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Signed: Date:
Chair