

**MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMITTEE MONDAY 27 JULY 2020**

**Planning Decision Notices issued by Wiltshire Council for the period
27 June to 17 July 2020**

- a) **20/02119/FUL** – 8-9 Oxford Road, Marlborough
Replacement of all 8 windows on front elevation with painted wooden double glazed units
Decision: Approve with conditions **MTC:** No objection
- b) **20/04508/TCA** – 70 High Street, Marlborough
Apple tree – fell
Decision: No objection **MTC:** No objection
- c) **20/05065/TCA** – Masters Lodge, Marlborough College
2 x Lime trees – reduce to 5m
Holm Oak tree – reduce 2nd stem by 2m
Swamp Cypress tree – reduce one stem by 2m
Yew tree – reduce height by 4m
Decision: No objection **MTC:** No objection

Safe Re-opening of the High Street

Summary – This report gives an opportunity for Councillors to consider comments or changes from Wiltshire Council around its plan for widening of pavements under the national Re-opening of the High Street Safely initiative

1. Background

At the Full Council meeting of 29 June, Members voted to support the widening of High Street pavements under the national Re-opening of the High Street Safely initiative. Professional Highways engineers drew up a viable design which was noted at Full Council on 20 July (the final decision rests with Wiltshire Council as the Town Council has no authority on highways issues). At that same meeting, many comments were made by the local business community and residents raising objections to the scheme. (These are set out in the meeting minutes at Item 4). A summary of these points for input into the scheme design has been sent to Wiltshire Council. This is at **Appendix 1**.

Feedback on how these points will be incorporated into the design is awaited and an update will be given at the meeting

2. Points to Note

- Promotion and marketing associated with Marlborough's recovery is being dealt with via the Tourism Officer
- There will be a standing item to monitor progress of the scheme and request changes on every Planning Committee meeting agenda
- The Town Council will proceed with organising the use of its free parking allocation (as already agreed) as soon as the date of implementation is known

3. Financial Implications

There is no cost to the Town Council for the widening of the pavements, that is covered by the European Regional Development Fund which is administered by WC. The costs of promotion and marketing the town to help recovery will be a cost to the Town Council.

Town Clerk's Recommendation

The Town Clerk recommends that Members consider any comments on changes to the proposed scheme as presented by Wiltshire Council.

Town Clerk

23 July 2020

Marlborough Town Council – Full Council Meeting – 20 July 2020

On 29 June, Town Councillors agreed to support the scheme to widen Marlborough's High Street pavements under the Re-opening the High Street Safely initiative. The plan (received on 14 July) and drawn up by Highways engineers was noted at Full Council on 20 July 2020. At that meeting a number of views were expressed by some local retailers who were vehemently against any removal of free car parking spaces in the High Street and concerned about the impact on trade (verbal objections at the meeting received from Marlborough Photos, Susie Watson Design, Beauty FullTime, Elaine's Travel). There was though recognition that pavement widening would be beneficial to those in the hospitality sector as well as appreciation that the temporary measures were primarily for the safety of pedestrians, enabling them to socially distance.

Constructive suggestions about changes to the plan itself were:

- A request that WC provides compensatory free parking spaces in the centre of the High Street so counteracting adverse impact on trade (estimated in the plan at 42 spaces) and make room for safe distancing with pavement widening
- That it was disappointing that no provision had been made at all for problems at Kingsbury Street as it comes into the High Street where the pavement is particularly narrow (see photographs). It was felt unsafe and difficult to socially distance outside the bike shop, the barbers, Costa and other shops along that stretch



There was a particularly dangerous area as pedestrians came out of Patten Alley (next to the Estate Agents) and straight out onto narrow pavement in Kingsbury Street

- That no provision had been made for pavement widening in The Parade
- That the scheme needed to be implemented as soon as possible (changes could be made later – there would be a standing item on all Planning Committee meeting agendas so the success or otherwise of the scheme can be monitored). Non-essential shops had been open since 15 June
- Safety concerns around cars rolling from the centre of the High Street into the south side
- Loss of the disabled bay near to the Wellington Arms (*Highways officers are already looking into this*)
- Impact of the scheme on the October Mop Fairs and Christmas shopping period.

Town Clerk

21 July 2020