

BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of Town Council Planning Meeting
Held on Monday 26th July 2021 at 7:00pm in the Corn Exchange

DRAFT
Subject to confirmation

PRESENT

Cllr R Carter – Chairman
Cllr L Hitchings – Chairman of Council
Cllr S Hitchings
Cllr P Osborne
Cllr B Quayle
Cllr C Jacques
Cllr P Clark

Cllr R Holmes – Vice Chairman
Cllr C Stevens – Vice Chairman of Council
Cllr N Lacey-Clarke
Cllr H Mieville
Cllr L Lindsay
Cllr A Cross

IN ATTENDANCE

Assistant Town Clerk

Janet Tyson

IN ATTENDANCE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Town Clerk

Operations Manager

Nicci Brown – Press

Cllr H White – left the meeting at 7.16pm due to sound issues

31. PUBLIC SESSION

- 31.1 The Mayor Cllr L Hitchings invited all Councillors to his quiz night this Saturday 31st July in the Corn Exchange.
- 31.2 Cllr Carter invited all Councillors to The Blandford School production which is taking place at the school on 26th, 27th and 28th July.
- 31.3 Janet Tyson – Greener Blandford Day 24th September 2021
Mrs Tyson spoke about her request of planting a tree on 24th September, but as the Mayor will be planting a tree as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee a different day can be chosen. She also spoke about owners and residents to be encouraged to plant trees or perennial shrubs around the town. She spoke about the benefits of trees and asked for the Town Council to request from the Dorset Council a survey of where they can plant trees on their properties. Cllr Lacey-Clarke confirmed that it is on the Dorset Council agenda to plant as many trees as possible.
- 31.4 Cllr S Hitchings spoke about a possible enforcement case in Kings Road relating to a planning application for a garage to be built. The building doesn't have a garage door, but a front door. It has been brought to his attention that this has been turned into rented accommodation, advertised as The Hive. Cllr Lacey-Clarke responded that the Town Council should report this to the Enforcement Team. A straw poll was taken, and it was requested that the clerk sends a letter to the Dorset Council for this to be looked at.
Post Meeting Note: This relates to planning application 2/2019/1239/HOUSE – Kingsway, Kings Road - Erect 1 No. garage and garden store (demolish existing garage).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

32. APOLOGIES

Cllr J Stayt

33. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Cllr Clark declared an interest in agenda items 5.2 and 5.3 as he owns a property in the same building. He will leave the room during discussion and voting.

34. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 28TH JUNE 2021

It was PROPOSED by Cllr L Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Cross and AGREED unanimously that the Minutes be APPROVED and SIGNED.

35. APPENDIX A – NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The paper was noted (see Appendix A).

35.1 P/HOU/2021/01178– 25th June 2021 – Mr P Bailey – 13 Hilcot Way – Erection of UPVC conservatory

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke, SECONDED by Cllr Cross and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council has no objections to the application as there is no impact on neighbouring amenities.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

The Chairman decided to take agenda items 5.2 and 5.3 together.

Cllr Clark left the meeting at 7.25pm.

35.2 P/FUL/2021/01145 and P/LBC/2021/01146 – 6th July 2021 – Trustees of JRF Crouch Will Trust – 13-15 Market Place – Change of use of part of consented dwelling to commercial unit. Amend consented residential unit in the left hand flat above bakery & other associated works

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Carter, SECONDED by Cllr Holmes and AGREED (12 in favour, 1 non-vote) that

The Town Council has no objections to the application as this will preserve the building as well as enhance the conservation area. Furthermore, there is no impact on the visuality of the building.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

Cllr Clark returned to the meeting at 7.28pm.

35.3 P/FUL/2021/01337– 8th July 2021 – Dorset Healthcare University NHS Foundation Trust – Blandford Hospital Milldown Road – Replacement of windows

It was PROPOSED by Cllr L Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council has no objections to the application as it is retaining the same number of windows as existing.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

35. APPENDIX A – NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS (Cont.)

35.4 P/OUT/2021/01467 – 8th July 2021 – CR Aquisitions Ltd – Wilchurch Wimborne Road Demolish existing garage, sever plot & develop land by the erection of 5 No. dwellings. (Outline application to determine access, appearance, layout and scale)

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Carter, SECONDED by Cllr Lacey Clarke but **NOT AGREED** (5 in favour, 7 against, 1 abstention) that The Town Council has no objections to the application, and accepts it conditionally on the grounds that the planning officer is satisfied that the scale, mass and number is not an overdevelopment of the site, and :-

- that each new building has sufficient space amenity; in accordance with NDDC LP 2016 Policy 24 (design) policies 10.57; 10.59 and Policy 25 10.13; 10.74; 10.75; 10.76 and 10.77
- that the new buildings will not be visually intrusive in the prominent position proposed, especially from the AONB to the north
- that the proposals include the planting of semi - mature trees along the northern (Wimborne Road) boundary to soften the environmental impact and replace the important trees cut down during ground clearance.
- that the proposed entry and exit to the Wimborne Road is viable, sustainable and safe and that the daily vehicle movements are considered in the safe and viable use of the much-needed layby

It was then PROPOSED by Cllr Holmes, SECONDED by Cllr Mieville and AGREED (7 in favour, 2 against, 4 abstentions) that

The Town Council objects to the application due to overdevelopment and access issues as well as impact on residents from Wimborne Road through to Stour Road, who use the layby as a rear access. Councillors fear the effect on the visual impact of the area and on any local trees.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

35.6 P/FUL/2021/01077 – 19th July 2021 – Corporate Real Estate – 17 Market Place - Installation of 1 no. CCTV camera

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Holmes, SECONDED by Cllr L Hitchings and AGREED (12 in favour, 1 against) that

The Town Council has no objections to the application as there is no significant harm to the conservation area and it will provide additional CCTV coverage to the town.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

36. APPENDIX B – DORSET COUNCIL DECISIONS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND APPLICATIONS AWAITING DECISIONS

The paper was displayed.

37. SITE VISITS/DORSET COUNCIL PLANNING MEETINGS

The Assistant Town Clerk reported that the next Northern Area Planning Meeting is scheduled for 29th July but no items pertaining to Blandford Forum are on the agenda.

38. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The paper was noted (see Appendix C).

- 38.1 Tin Pot Lane Cycleway – The first phase of improvement works on Milldown Road, Blandford to provide a safe and convenient walking & cycling route linking Milldown CE Academy and residences off Shaftesbury Road is starting on 26th July. It will take four to six weeks and the work will be carried out Monday to Friday 7.30am to 4.30pm.
- 38.2 Wimborne St Giles Neighbourhood Area – On 15th July 2021, the Wimborne St Giles Neighbourhood Area was formally designated. The Wimborne St Giles Neighbourhood Area was proposed by Knowlton Parish Council and includes small areas of two other neighbouring parishes (Cranborne and Edmondsham Parish Council and Vale of Allen Parish Council). At the Planning Committee meeting in April Councillors noted the request and had no objections.
- 38.3 Public Convenience Relief – The Town Council has received confirmation that legislation passed to award the Public Convenience Relief dated back to 1st April 2020. The Town Council has received credit bills relating to the premises in West Street and the Tabernacle.
- 38.4 Vodafone GigaCube – Having won the contract as a service delivery centre for the Census 2021, the Town Council was asked if we would like to be a trial centre for a Vodafone GigaCube. This is a mobile internet modem with unlimited data for 12 months. The Town Council must complete two surveys during that period to help them assess the usage. As indoor market stallholders struggle with internet signal it will be trialled there first and then we will trial other venues/areas.
- 38.5 Railway Arches – Blandford Town Museum are putting on a performance of “The Elves and the Shoemaker” at the Railway Arches on Saturday 7th August at 3pm. A risk assessment has been requested including a Covid risk assessment.

39. TO CONSIDER EXPENDITURE APPROVAL FOR REPLACEMENT PLAY EQUIPMENT AT LARKSMEAD

The paper was noted (see Appendix D).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lindsay, SECONDED by Cllr Clark and AGREED (10 in favour, 3 against) that

The Town Council approves expenditure of £11,310.30 + VAT and selects equipment A to replace the multi-play unit at Larksmead using funds from the Larksmead Play Equipment Standard Asset Replacement Accruals (Expenditure Authority: Localism Act 2011 s1-8).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

It was PROPOSED by Cllr L Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Lindsay and AGREED (10 in favour, 2 against, 1 abstention) that

The Town Council approves expenditure of £4,465.00 + VAT from General Reserves along with the new location (at the end of the outdoor fitness equipment along Preetz Way) for the table tennis table, with 20% of the cost being claimed back from the grant funding (Expenditure Authority: Localism Act 2011 s1-8).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

40. CONFIDENTIAL

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke, SECONDED by Cllr Holmes and AGREED unanimously that

The public and press may be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that publicity might be prejudicial to the public interest as per the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

Cllr Lindsay left the room at 8.19pm and returned at 8.22pm

40.1 To consider nominations to present a certificate of appreciation to members of the community (sent to Councillors separately)

The paper was noted (see Appendix D).

Cllr Lacey-Clarke left the meeting at 8.30pm.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr L Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Mieville and AGREED (12 in favour, 1 non-vote) that

The Town Council approves the nomination to present a certificate of appreciation.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

The meeting closed at 8:34pm.

SIGNED: DATED: