

**BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Town Council Planning Meeting**  
**Held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7:00pm in the Corn Exchange**



**PRESENT**

Cllr R Carter – Chairman  
Cllr E Bray  
Cllr S Hitchings  
Cllr R Holmes  
Cllr H Mieville  
Cllr L Hitchings  
Cllr Cross

Cllr K Herbert – Vice Chairman  
Cllr L Lindsay  
Cllr H White  
Cllr N Lacey-Clarke  
Cllr C Stevens  
Cllr P Clark

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Operations Manager  
Nicci Brown

Committee Clerk

**85. PUBLIC SESSION**

Regarding the TrailTale agenda item, Cllr Cross confirmed that he had spoken to Blandford Museum and the project they are working on is different to the TrailTale so there would be no duplication.

**86. APOLOGIES**

Cllr Quayle  
Cllr P Osborne

Cllr Jacques

**87. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

Cllr Stevens, Cllr S Hitchings and Cllr L Hitchings declared an interest in the planning application for the Williams Opportunity Hall, Whitecliff Gardens, Blandford Forum as they are involved in the group. Cllr Lacey-Clarke proposed a dispensation as they have no pecuniary interests, which was agreed (10 in favour, 3 non-votes) that the three Councillors do not need to leave the room but will not have a vote.

**88. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2023**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Stevens, SECONDED by Cllr Mieville and AGREED (10 in favour, 3 abstentions) that the Minutes be APPROVED and SIGNED.

**89. APPENDIX A – NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The paper was noted (see Appendix A).

**89.1 P/FUL/2022/07272 - 3 Stevens Close Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 7NA**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Cross, SECONDED by Cllr Holmes and AGREED (8 in favour, 4 against and 1 abstention) that

**The Town Council objects to the application as it is contrary to NDDC LP 2016 Policy 24 Design and our principal objection is on this policy. The Council considers it to be overdevelopment leading to cramped development and a diminution of garden amenity in the vicinity. (Blandford + NP policy B1 applies)**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

89. **APPENDIX A – NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONT...**

89.2 **P/LBC/2022/04453 - 11 West Street Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 7AW**

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

**The Town Council has no objections as it is within keeping (Blandford + NP policies B8 and B11 apply).**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

89.3 **P/LBC/2022/06710 - Corn Exchange, Blandford**

Various internal alterations associated with improvements to access including new staircase, lift, ramp, two glazed sliding screens, door reconfiguration and redecoration. The Corn Exchange; reinstate cornices and flooring, new glazing and gantry access and redecoration and insertion of acoustic panels and PV array to west side of the roof. The Council Offices, insertions of new partitions, new DG sash windows and installation of photovoltaic panels to the south slope of the roof. **(Blandford + NP policies B8 and B11 apply)**

The application is noted as the Town Council is the applicant.

89.4 **P/FUL/2022/06707 - Corn Exchange, Blandford**

Various internal alterations associated with improvements to access including new staircase, lift, ramp, two glazed sliding screens, door reconfiguration and redecoration. The Corn Exchange; reinstate cornices and flooring, new glazing and gantry access and redecoration and insertion of acoustic panels and PV array to west side of the roof. The Council Offices, insertions of new partitions, new DG sash windows and installation of photovoltaic panels to the south slope of the roof. **(Blandford + NP policies B8 and B11 apply)**

The application is noted as the Town Council is the applicant.

89.3 **P/FUL/2022/07973 - Williams Opportunity Hall Whitecliff Gardens Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 7BU**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke, SECONDED by Cllr White and AGREED (10 in favour, 3 non-votes) that

**The Town Council has no objections as it is within keeping (Blandford + NP Policies B8 and B11 apply).**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

89.4 **P/NMA/2023/00252 - Site of Nordon (Former NDDC offices) Salisbury Road Blandford Forum DT11 7LL**

This application was for information only and was noted.

89.5 **P/TRT/2023/00216 - Crown Hotel West Street Blandford Forum DT11 7AJ**

T1 - Horse Chestnut - Fell due to safety reasons as the tree has severe decay in main trunk and there are visible signs of fungal decay and fungal brackets. Replant with a healthy tree.

This application was for information only and was noted.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**89. APPENDIX A – NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONT...**

**89.6 TPO/2023/0004 - Bolney, Salisbury Road, Blandford Forum, DT11 7SP on 20 Jan 2023.**

Following receipt of planning application reference P/OUT/2020/00026 and following extensive tree removal works, an assessment of the trees on site was undertaken and it is Dorset Council's view that the trees are considered to contribute positively to the amenity of the locality. Therefore, their long-term protection and retention is sought. The 28-day notice period started from 20<sup>th</sup> January 2023 and ends on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

For information, Cllr Cross reported that Wyatt Homes were found removing trees on a Saturday morning. Once complaints were made removal ceased. Cllr Carter thanked Cllr Cross for his update.

Cllr Lacey-Clarke proposed that the Town Council support all TPO's, Cllr Cross seconded, and it was agreed unanimously in favour.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

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

The paper had been emailed to Councillors prior to the meeting.

**91. SITE VISITS/DORSET COUNCIL PLANNING MEETINGS**

Cllr Lacey-Clarke advised that there is a licence application on Dorset Council's next planning agenda for 3 Salisbury Street (the old boots chemist) for a licence to be able to serve alcohol for a Turkish restaurant. Councillors can comment online. Cllr Carter asked Cllr Lacey-Clarke to keep the Council informed of any developments.

**92. TO CONSIDER INTRODUCING A TRAILTALE TO BLANDFORD FORUM**

Nicci Brown confirmed that, as a member of the Civic Society, she has investigated this proposal. She thinks it is a good idea but feels that more information is needed before deciding. Councillors agreed and have accepted her offer to pursue her enquiries.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr White, SECONDED by Cllr Mieville and AGREED (11 in favour, 2 against) that

**The Town Council has insufficient evidence to make a decision and cannot support the proposal until further evidence is received.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**93. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

Nothing to report.

The meeting closed at 8.02pm.

SIGNED: ..... DATED: .....