

BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of Town Council Planning Meeting
Held on Monday 5th June 2023 at 7:00pm in the Corn Exchange



PRESENT

Cllr A Cross – Chairman	Cllr H Mieville – Chairman of Council
Cllr R Carter – Vice Chairman	Cllr N Lacey-Clarke – Vice Chairman of Council
Cllr C Jacques	Cllr P Clark
Cllr H White	Cllr R Holmes
Cllr C Stevens	Cllr B Quayle
Cllr L Hitchings	Cllr P Osborne
Cllr S Hitchings	

IN ATTENDANCE

Town Clerk

Committee Clerk

1. PUBLIC SESSION

There were no members of the public in attendance.

2. APOLOGIES

Cllr K Herbert

Cllr L Lindsay

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

None

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 24th APRIL 2023

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke, SECONDED by Cllr Holmes and AGREED (12 in favour and 1 abstention) that the Minutes be APPROVED and SIGNED

5. APPENDIX A – NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The paper was noted (see Appendix A).

5.1 P/HOU/2023/02139 – 4 Staverton Walk, Blandford Forum DT11 7TN

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke, SECONDED by Cllr Carter and AGREED (10 in favour, 1 against and 2 abstentions) that

The Town Council has no objection to the planning application but asks that a full loss of light study is undertaken (Blandford + NP policy B1 applies and Blandford + Design Code Guidance emphasises retaining the built line).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

5.2 P/HOU/2023/01284 – Ottershaw, 14 White Cliff Mill Street, Blandford Forum DT11 7BW

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Holmes, SECONDED by Cllr Mieville and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council has no objection to the planning application as the scale massing and materials are in keeping with the conservation area (Blandford + NP policies B1 and B11 apply).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

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

5.3 **P/FUL/2023/02069 – Bartletts Country Stores, Shaftesbury Lane, Blandford Forum DT11 7EG**

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

The Town Council has no objection to this retrospective planning application (Blandford + NP policies B2 and B3 apply).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

5.4 **P/HOU/2023/02241 – 163 Salisbury Road, Blandford Forum**

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

The Town Council has no objection to this planning application. The scale, materials and massing are in harmony with adjacent properties and there is no loss of neighbour amenity. (Blandford + NP policies B1 and B11 apply)

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

5.5 **P/HOU/2023/02166 – 153 Salisbury Road, Blandford Forum**

It was PROPOSED By Cllr Carter, SECONDED by Cllr L Hitchings and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council has no objection to this planning application as the scale, massing and materials are in harmony with the surrounding conservation area and there is no impact upon designated or undesignated heritage assets. (Blandford + NP policies B1 and B11 apply).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

5.6 **P/OUT/2020/00026 – Land at E 389445 N 108065 North and East of the Blandford Bypass, Blandford Forum Dorset**

Wyatt Homes confirmed that since our last meeting they have sent out a newsletter to almost 6000 homes which included a response card, they set up a 0800 line, email enquiry line and Freepost address. They have had 120 responses which included a mix of support and opposition and various queries. They are disappointed by the low response rate and Cllr White suggested it may be low as there has been a lot of information made available to residents already and they are waiting for the building to get started. Tim Hoskinson (Wyatt Homes) confirmed that, once planning permission is granted, they hope building will start within a year to 18 months.

Cllr Cross asked for confirmation that heat pumps and solar panels will be used on all the properties. Tim confirmed that they are working to Future Homes standards which includes heat source, ground source, solar panels, additional double glazing and insulation.

Cllr Jacques was concerned that these extra measures may price families out of the market. Tim confirmed that the properties will be sold at market value and pointed out that due to the energy efficiency of the properties there will be significant savings on energy costs.

It was PROPOSED By Cllr Lacey Clarke, SECONDED by Cllr White and AGREED (12 in favour, 1 against) that

The Town Council welcomes the changes to the previous plan and therefore has no objection to this planning application.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

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

5.7 **P/LBC/2023/02694 and P/HOU/2023/03007 – 27 White Cliff Mill Street, Blandford Forum DT11 7BQ**

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

The Town Council has no objection to these planning applications as they are in compliance with B+ NP policy B11 (Blandford + NP policies B1 and B11 apply).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

5.8 **P/FUL/2023/02343 & P/LBC/2023/02344 – Royal Bank of Scotland, 23-25 Market Place, Blandford**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr L Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Carter and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council has no objection to these planning applications (Blandford + NP policies B1 and B11 apply).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

5.9 **P/HOU/2023/02841 – 35 Queens Road, Blandford Forum DT11 7JY**

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

The Town Council object to this planning application because the scale of the extension is considered to be an overdevelopment and the style of windows are not in keeping with the conservation area. The Town Council also objects to the re-landscaping to the garden front of the property as the sloping gardens are an important heritage feature to the properties on the North side of Queens Road. Whilst the removal of front gardens has become more common on the south side of Queens Road, on the north side they are not. No other building built in the Victorian/Edwardian era on the north side, has this feature. There is also concern at the loss of a parking space to the front of the property. (Blandford+ NP policies B1 and B11 apply).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

5.10 **P/LBC/2023/02978 – 67 Salisbury Street, Blandford Forum DT11 7PY**

It was PROPOSED By Cllr L Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Holmes and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council has no objection to this planning application but would like further investigation of the proposal – does the new opening affect the neighbouring Grade II listed building and is this being considered by planning officers? (Blandford + NP policies B1 and B11 apply).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

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

5.11 **P/FUL/2023/02846 – 8 Dorset Mews, Dorset Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7RF**

It was PROPOSED By Cllr Carter, SECONDED by Cllr Mieville and AGREED (12 in favour and 1 abstention) that

The Town Council has no objection to this planning application as there is no perceived harm to designated or undesignated heritage assets. (Blandford + NP policies B1 and B11 apply).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

5.12 **P/FUL/2023/02895 – Coonor, Milldown Road, Blandford Forum DT11 7DD**

It was PROPOSED By Cllr L Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke but NOT AGREED (4 in favour, 6 objections and 3 abstentions) that the Town Council has no objection to this planning application.

It was then PROPOSED by Cllr Carter, SECONDED by Cllr Holmes and AGREED (6 in favour, 4 objections and 3 abstentions) that

The Town Council objects to this planning application as it is in contravention to the original planning application made to Dorset Council where it was agreed:-

‘The development permitted shall not be occupied at any time other than for purposes ancillary to the residential dwelling known currently as Coonor.’

(Blandford+ NP policies B1 and B11 apply).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

5.13 **P/TRC/2023/02998 – 56 Queens Road, Blandford DT11 7LA**

T1 – Cypress – Fell. G2 2 x Cypress – Fell. G3 – 2 x poplar – fell.
For information only. This was duly noted.

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

The paper was emailed to Councillors prior to the meeting (Appendix B).

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

None

8. **CLERK’S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

Resignation – Emily Bray resigned as a Town Councillor on Monday 5th June and the Chairman of Council was informed this afternoon, along with the Dorset Council Monitoring Officer, who informed the Elections team. They created a Notice, which is scheduled to appear on our social media first thing tomorrow morning, because it has been dated 6th June 2023, as well as Town Council notice boards. The documentation recently updated for the new year will be amended and distributed/displayed in due course.

CCTV – The two additional cameras approved at a recent council meeting are installed but not yet functioning, whilst we await additional work to be carried out by Enerveo.

Newsletter – The finance figures are now confirmed so the newsletter is now with the printer, however Royal Mail cannot meet our needs so various enquiries have been made with local businesses and publications who distribute their paper. The Town Clerk asked Councillors to help with delivering the newsletter, which was welcomed, and a distribution list will be emailed in the morning.

9. **TO RECEIVE A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CLIMATE WORKING GROUP ON THE DORSET COUNCIL CONSULTATION: PLANNING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE**

The paper was noted (see Appendix C).

Cllr L Hitchings expressed his thanks to Cllr Osborne and the climate working group for all their hard work.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr L Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Mieville and AGREED unanimously that

The Town Council approves the climate change working group document to be submitted to Dorset Council as its submission response to the Climate Change consultation.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

10. **TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM A RESIDENT IN JUBILEE WAY WITH REGARDS TO TRAFFIC PROBLEMS**

The paper was noted (see Appendix D).

Cllr White felt a pedestrian crossing was not an option so suggested extending the 20mph limit. Cllr Lacey-Clarke confirmed that they are in discussion with DC regarding various 20mph limits around the town. Cllr Osborne said that due to the number of cars parked along the road 20mph is enforced anyway, Cllr White disagreed and said that after 6pm cars do drive faster.

Councillors agreed that a pedestrian crossing could be an advantage as the zig zag lines would create a gap between the parked cars.

Cllr Holmes has not witnessed any problems and said students tend to cross where it is safe. Cllr Lacey-Clarke said we need data to build a case and asked councillors to help support data gathering, which Cllr Mieville agreed with. Cllr Carter was uncomfortable about getting evidence from near misses – he would rather something was put in place before there are any near misses. Cllr Osborne felt it wouldn't be too difficult to gather this evidence and suggested a 'lollipop' person may be an option.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Osborne, SECONDED by Cllr Mieville and AGREED (12 in favour, 1 abstention) that

The Town Council engages with Milldown Academy and discusses gathering data to support traffic improvements along Jubilee Way.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

11. **TO CONSIDER AN INVITATION TO SPEAK AT THE DORSET COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE REGARDING THE FORMER PRIORY HOSPITAL, FAIRFIELD BUNGALOWS (P/FUL/2022/03360)**

The paper was noted (see Appendix E).

Cllr Lacey-Clarke urged caution and said to be sure that we do not mention the reablement centre as this meeting is just about the planning application for flats.

Cllr Cross offered to represent the Town Council and attend the planning committee meeting on the 13th June.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

The meeting closed at 8.44pm.

SIGNED: DATED:

