

BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of Town Council Planning Meeting
Held on Monday 2nd October 2023 at 7:03pm in the Corn Exchange



PRESENT

Cllr A Cross – Chairman
Cllr C Jacques
Cllr K Herbert
Cllr H White
Cllr C Stevens
Cllr L Hitchings
Cllr S Chapman

Cllr H Mieville – Chairman of Council
Cllr N Lacey-Clarke – Vice Chairman of Council
Cllr P Clark
Cllr R Holmes
Cllr B Quayle
Cllr S Hitchings

IN ATTENDANCE

Town Clerk
Committee Clerk

Operations Manager

Lorraine and Richard Winton, Russell and Nina Squire (residents from Queens Road)

In Cllr Carter's absence it was agreed that Cllr Mieville would act as Vice Chairman.

30. PUBLIC SESSION

Lorraine and Richard Winton, live next door to 2 Queens Road and are extremely concerned about overdevelopment in the area. They voiced their concern that there are no measurements in any of the plans and feel the proportions are misleading. They feel that driveway is not wide enough to accommodate a modern car and the retaining wall is showing three steps, so they have queried if the property is going to be raised as it is not clear on the plans. They are also concerned that as the wall is being removed their security will be compromised, especially as many neighbours' sheds and garages have been broken into recently.

Russell and Nina Squire of 6 Queens Road spoke in support of their neighbours. They are of the opinion that there has been no consideration to the environmental impact and living conditions. Specific details have been overlooked such as not including measurements on plans and they also feel this is deliberately misleading. For example, the entrance is much smaller than the plans show. The existing garage is not meant for a modern sized car and at present is only used for a small car. If a car was parked in the alleyway, you could not get out of the car. The Design & Access Statement states that infilling development is in keeping with the local area but the residents argue that this is not correct as this is a garden infill with limited access – the other developments all had good access. Regulations for emergency vehicles state that they must be able to get within 45 metres of the property. The residents feel that this would not be possible so they would not be able to reach the property safely. It would also be impossible for visitors to access so they would have to park on the road making a further impact on parking in an already busy and congested street. The residents appreciate that new housing is needed but feel that this is needless development as there are plenty of other options.

31. APOLOGIES

Cllr R Carter – Vice Chairman
Cllr P Osborne

Cllr L Lindsay

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

Cllr S Hitchings and Cllr Stevens declared an interest as they are both trustees of the Blandford Opportunity Group (Agenda Item 34.6). Cllr L Hitchings also declared an interest as his children attend the Group.

33. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4th SEPTEMBER 2023

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

34. APPENDIX A – NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The paper was noted (see Appendix A).

34.1 [P/HOU/2023/04799](#) - 22 Langton Road Blandford Forum DT11 7EN

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

The Town Council has no objection to the planning application (Blandford + NP policy B1 applies).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

34.2 [P/HOU/2023/04888](#) - Streatlam The Milldown Blandford Forum DT11 7SH

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

The Town Council has no objection to the planning application (Blandford + NP policy B1 applies).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

34.3 [P/LBC/2023/04963](#) - 67 Salisbury Street Blandford Forum DT11 7PY

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

The Town Council has no objection to the planning application Blandford + NP policies B1 and B10 apply.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

34.4 [P/FUL/2023/04705](#) - 2 Queens Road, Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 7JX

Cllr Cross agreed with the residents' concerns, as did Cllr Lacey-Clarke, but pointed out that we are limited as to what we can object to due to Planning regulations. For example, the wall is not a planning concern.

Cllr Chapman queried if it's within the conservation area and Cllr Lacey-Clarke confirmed that it is.

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

The Town Council objects to this planning application as it is overdevelopment with insufficient greenspace amenities for a property of this size. Highways access is also a concern as the driveway is very narrow for modern cars and there is no turning circle for vehicles included in the plans (Blandford + NP Policies B1 and B10 apply).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

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

34.5 **P/FUL/2023/04508 AND P/LBC/2023/04745 - 12 Market Place, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7EB**

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

The Town Council has no objection to the planning application (Blandford + NP policies B1 and B10 apply).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

34.6 **P/VOC/2023/05315 - Williams Opportunity Hall, Whitecliff Gardens, Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 7BU**

7.39pm - Cllr S Hitchings left the meeting.

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

The Town Council has no objection to the planning application (Blandford + NP policies B1, B3 and B10 apply).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

7.41pm - Cllr S Hitchings returned to the meeting.

34.7 **P/ADV/2023/04807 - 43B East Street Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 7DX**

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

The Town Council has no objection to the planning application (Blandford + NP policies B1, B3 and B10 apply).

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

34.8 **TPO/2023/0061 - Wilchurch, Wimborne Road, Blandford Forum, DT11 9HL**
G1 - Sycamore x 7

The TPO was noted.

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

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

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

None

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

Nothing to report.

38. **CONFIDENTIAL**

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

38. **CONFIDENTIAL (cont)**

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.

38.1 **To consider approval of the proposed Deed of Release for Lamperd's Field Allotment**

The paper was noted (see Appendix C).

It was agreed at the Full Council meeting on the 25th September that further clarification was required before the proposed Deed of Release could be approved. Mr Robin Cole, from Blanchards Solicitors agreed to attend the Planning meeting to reassure the Councillors that approving the most recent Deed is in the Council's interest and to answer any further questions.

7.55pm Mr Robin Cole joined the meeting.

Mr Cole explained that the allotment society have created a new constitution which allows them to enter into an agreement with the Town Council and as the replacement document is equivalent it should be adopted without delay.

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

The Town Council approves the proposed Deed of Release for Lamperd's Field Allotment and this document is authorised to be signed accordingly.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.

SIGNED: DATED: