

BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of Town Council Planning Meeting
Held on Monday 4th March 2024 at 7.04pm in the Corn Exchange



PRESENT

Cllr A Cross – Chairman	Cllr H Miéville – Chairman of Council
Cllr R Carter – Vice Chairman	Cllr N Lacey-Clarke – Vice Chairman of Council
Cllr P Osborne	Cllr K Herbert
Cllr R Holmes	Cllr S Chapman
Cllr P Clark	Cllr L Hitchings
Cllr C Stevens	

IN ATTENDANCE

Operations Manager	Committee Clerk
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63. PUBLIC SESSION

Cllr Carter was pleased to report that Blandford United Football Club are through to the cup final.

64. APOLOGIES

Cllr L Lindsay	Cllr H White
Cllr B Quayle	Cllr C Jacques
Cllr S Hitchings	

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

None

66. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4th DECEMBER 2023

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Holmes, SECONDED by Cllr Clarke and AGREED (10 in favour and 1 abstention) that the Minutes be APPROVED and SIGNED.

67. APPENDIX A – NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The paper was noted (see Appendix A).

67.1 [P/LBC/2024/00662](#) - The Three Kings Restaurant, 3 Salisbury Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7AU

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

The Town Council has no objection to the planning application as it is in compliance with: Blandford + NP policies B7 and B10, and Design code CA2.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

67.2 [P/FUL/2024/00233](#) - Lot 2, Blandford Brewery Bournemouth Road Blandford St Mary

Additional Case Officer Remarks: Please note that this application site is in an adjacent parish / ward, but the Town Council is being consulted as the site is less than 1km from our boundary and the application is for major development.

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

67.2 **P/FUL/2024/00233 – Lot 2, Blandford Brewery Bournemouth Rd Blandford St Mary Cont...**

Cllr Carter said that a pedestrian crossing was promised in the first phase of the development and expressed his concern that the developers have not delivered, (the reason given was the burden of financial commitment to secure the ground safety of the brown-field site). With the increase in pedestrians incurred through the brewery and St Mary's hill developments, the need for a pedestrian crossing across the Bournemouth Road close to the entrance to the brewery development is vital. He also said that the play area is as currently set out, not fit for purpose and is particularly concerned about the safety aspect as the overflow pond is inadequately fenced off. He has received several complaints from members of the public assuming that it is the Town Council's responsibility and although he has passed them on to Blandford St Mary Parish Council, he feels that the Town Council has a responsibility to raise its concerns through the statutory planning process.

Cllr Lacey-Clarke expressed his concern about the lack of parking and feels that the developers have done the bare minimum required legally and said it is not good enough. Although Councillors support the planning application it was agreed that these concerns would be raised in the Town Council's comments to ensure safety for the vulnerable, elderly and children.

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

The Town Council has no objection to the planning application but asks Dorset Planning North to consider making the following conditions of development:

1) Pedestrian crossing – this was promised in the first phase of the development but has not been delivered. The Councillors ask that the developers install a pedestrian crossing, as originally promised, to improve safety for members of the public crossing the road, especially children, the vulnerable and the elderly.

2) The safety aspect of the play area and lack of equipment - the overflow pond is extremely dangerous and must be made secure. Councillors feel that the play area is not fit for purpose and ask the developers to secure the area and install more play equipment.

3) Lack of parking - Councillors are of the opinion that the developers are providing the bare minimum required legally and feel this is not good enough. They ask that the developers increase the amount of parking.

The Town Council agreed that the planning application is in compliance with: Blandford + NP policies B1 and B10. Design Code CA7. Settlement Layout Codes 1 & 2. Streets & Parking Codes 3 – 8. Built Form Codes 10-12 & 15. Environmental Efficiency Codes 16-20.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

67.3 **P/LBC/2024/00900 & P/ADV/2023/07531 - 43-43a East Street Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 7DX**

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

**The Town Council has no objection to the planning applications as they are in compliance with:
Blandford + NP Policies B7 and B10. Design code CA2, code 9 – shopfronts.**

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

APPENDIX A – NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONT....

67.4 [P/HOU/2024/00769](#) - 4 Stickland Court, Market Place, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7EB

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke, SECONDED by Cllr Osborne and AGREED (8 in favour, 2 against and 1 abstention) that

The Town Council has no objection to the planning application as it is in compliance with: Blandford + NP policies B7 and B10. Design code CA2.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

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

APPEAL - Written representations to be received by the **31st March** 2024 to the [Planning Inspectorate](#)

Cllr Carter said that as nothing has changed the Town Council's objection still stands. Councillors have agreed to write to the Planning Inspectorate to reinforce their original objection referencing the design codes.

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

The Town Council agreed that their original objection still stands, and is reinforced as the planning application is not in compliance with Blandford + Neighbourhood Plan Design and Guidance codes. It was agreed to write to the Planning Inspectorate with the original objection, referencing the cited design codes.

The Town Council agreed the planning application is not in compliance with the following Design codes: Blandford + NP policies B7 and B10. Design code CA2. Settlement Layout Codes 1 & 2, Street & Parking Codes 3 – 8, Built Form Codes 10 - 12 & 15, Code 14 – Infill Development. Environmental Efficiency Codes 16 – 20.

69. 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.

70. SITE VISITS/DORSET COUNCIL PLANNING MEETINGS

None

71. CLERK'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

The meeting closed at 7.46pm.

SIGNED: DATED: