

FARINGDON TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a Planning & Highways Committee Meeting
held on Tuesday, 28 October 2008 at 7.15 pm
in the June Rennie Room, The Pump House, Market Place,
Faringdon

PRESENT: Cllrs **A V Hickmore (Chairman)**
Mrs M J Barker
Mrs J Boulton
J C W Gillman
D Hughes
A Marsden
N S O'Keeffe
D Price
Dr M L H Wise
D/Cllr Mrs A Thomson

IN ATTENDANCE: **Katie Barrett (VWHDC Development Policy Manager) (up to and incl. Min 9)**
Roger Hood (VWHDC Deputy Director, Planning & Spatial Planning) (up to and incl. Min 9)
Deputy Town Clerk

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Boyle.
- 2. Minutes of Last Meeting: Tuesday, 7 October 2008**
The Minutes were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
- 3. Matters Arising**
Cllr Price wished it to be recorded that he did leave a message on the town council office answering machine, after the office had closed, presenting his apologies for absence due to illness on the day of the meeting. His apologies were noted.
Min 7: The Chairman advised that a letter had been received from Mr Jonathan Ede of Builders Ede confirming details he had discussed at the last meeting of the Planning & Highways Committee.
Min 8: The Chairman advised that a copy of the S106 Agreement had now been received from the District Council.
- 4. Public Question Time**
No questions had been received.
- 5. Public Speaking Time**
No members of public were present.
- 6. Declarations of Interest**
There were no declarations of interest.

7. Exclusion of the Public, including the Press

In respect of the following two agenda items (Mins 8 & 9) the Chairman stated that objections had been received from the public that they would be excluded from the meeting . However, the request for confidentiality had been made by the Vale of White Horse District Council in respect of its Draft Preferred Options Report as this report was not yet in the public domain and as the two agenda items were interlinked, the Chairman proposed that in accordance with Town Council Standing Order No. 65, the public, including the press, be temporarily excluded from the meeting whilst Agenda Items 8 and 9 were discussed. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Marsden and CARRIED. Cllr Hughes asked that his objection to this proposal be recorded.

8. Future Development in the Vale – Preferred Options

Katie Barrett, VWHDC Development Policy Officer and Roger Hood, VWHDC Deputy Director, Community and Spatial Planning, were welcomed to the meeting and were invited to talk about the Core Strategy Preferred Options report. It was noted that this report, currently in draft form, would not be published for public consultation until early January 2009 consultation, followed by a six week period for people to make their comments. It was further noted that there would be a series of exhibitions and workshops throughout the District to explain the thinking behind the Preferred Options Report.

District Council was seeking a view from the Town Council on the preferred options and it was agreed that following further consideration of the draft report, town council's comments would be submitted to the Vale.

Thanks were expressed to Katie Barrett and Roger Hood for attending the meeting and providing valuable information.

9. Development Strategy for Faringdon 2008 – 2026

The revised draft strategy, which included comments from respondents to the town council's consultation document, was considered. It was AGREED that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Planning & Highways Committee, to which the respondents should be invited to discuss the revised draft strategy, be held before the next scheduled meeting of the Town Council.

The Chairman left the meeting at this stage and the Vice Chairman took the Chair whilst the following mins 10 & 11 were discussed.

10. The following Planning Applications were considered:

GFA/20700

Demolition of existing lean-to utility extension and erection of new single storey rear kitchen extension
17 Westland Road, Faringdon

For: Mr John Newman

NO OBJECTIONS

GFA/15438/3

Change of use from nursery to one bed roomed dwelling
**Oakley Court Nursery, Southampton Street,
Faringdon**

For: Mr Peter Hughes

NO OBJECTIONS

11. For Information

(a) VWHDC **Notice of Permission** was received in respect of planning application GFA/20309/1. It was NOTED, however, that this permission had been presented to the previous meeting of the Planning & Highways held on 7 October 2008.

(b) **Draft Water Resources Management Plan:** A letter dated 14 October 2008 from Thames Water written in response to Town Council's comments on the plan sent through on 26 September 2008 was received. It was NOTED that a Statement of Response to all comments made during the consultation would be published in early November 2008.

It was FURTHER NOTED that Thames Water had looked at the possibility of importing aggregates onto the site by water but that this would mean major changes to the navigation infrastructure on the River Thames; however, they stated they were in regular discussion with the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust on a range of topics. Their site selection work highlighted that one of the advantages of the site near Abingdon was the proximity of the railway.

The Chairman returned to the meeting at this stage and took the Chair.

(c) A copy of the **Open Space, Sport and Recreation Future Provision, Supplementary Planning Document** adopted by VWHDC on 16 July 2008. was received and NOTED.

(D) **Oxfordshire County Council (Faringdon) (Speed Limits) Amendment Order 200** in respect of extension of street lighting along the B4019 Highworth Road, (outside the Youth Centre) was received and NOTED.

12. Risk Assessment

It was AGREED that the Chairman be delegated to review assessment of risks together with the Town Clerk.

13. Partial Review of the South East Plan – Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs

A report on the above Review was received from Cllr Marsden and considered. It was NOTED that there were several options regarding additional pitches but that the best option was the provision of one extra pitch on an existing site. It was AGREED to delegate authority to Cllr Marsden to complete the Review's questionnaire on the basis of this option and submit the comments to the Regional Assembly for the South East by the deadline of 21 November.

14. Faringdon Chamber of Commerce

Cllr Hickmore stated that, in his role as Chair of Planning & Highways Committee, he had been invited to speak at the next meeting of the Faringdon Chamber of Commerce on 19 November 2008 to explain what the Town Council and, in particular, the Planning & Highways Committee, does. The committee considered and approved the details he proposed to present.