

FARINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Planning & Highways Committee Meeting to be held on Tuesday 3 March 2009 at 7.15 pm in the June Rennie Room, The Pump House, Market Place, Exchange, Faringdon

PRESENT: Cllrs A V Hickmore (Chairman)
Mrs J Boulton
J C W Gillman
D Hughes
D Keeble
A Marsden
D/Cllr Mrs A Thomson

IN ATTENDANCE: Deputy Town Clerk

1. **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs N S O’Keeffe, D Price, Dr M L H Wise and Mrs M J Barker
2. **Minutes of Last Meeting: Tuesday, 10 February 2009**
Min 10(b): D/Cllr Mrs Thomson pointed out that she had also attended the VWHDC Special Discussion Group on 22 January 2009 and asked that the Minutes record this. Following this amendment, the Minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record.
3. **Matters Arising**
Min 10(a): It was NOTED that the Vale of White Horse District Council had acknowledged receipt of the Town Council’s comments on the Core Strategy Preferred Options. It was FURTHER NOTED that VWHDC had advised that all the comments received would be considered and taken into account as part of the work being carried out for the draft Core Strategy which would be published in January 2010.
Min 3, Meeting 6.1.09: The Town Council had just received notification that Planning Application GFA/4905/9 (to which Town Council had objected) was due to be considered by the VWHDC Development Control Committee at its meeting on 9 March 2009. It was AGREED Cllr Dr Wise be delegated authority to attend this meeting as the Town Council’s representative and that his attendance expenses be accepted as an approved duty.
Min 15, Meeting 20.1.09: Cllr Hickmore reported on his presentation to the Governors of Faringdon Community College on Monday evening, 2 March 2009 following which the Governors had expressed their concern about the anticipated population growth in Faringdon and the demands it would put on the budgets of all the schools in Faringdon, even taking into account S106 contributions. In view of this, the Governors were now planning to meet with the other schools in Faringdon to discuss the issue further.
4. **Public Question Time**
No questions had been received.

5. **Public Speaking Time**
There were no members of public present.
6. **Declarations of Interest**
There were no declarations of interest.
7. **Planning Applications** were considered and decisions made as follows:

 GFA/20786 Proposed loft conversion with side rooflights.
 41 Berners Way, Faringdon
 For: Mr P St George-Yorke
 NO OBJECTIONS
8. **For Information**
(a) Notice of Permission from the Vale of White Horse District Council in respect of the following application was received and NOTED:-

 GFA/20753 Erection of a rear conservatory
 53 Town End Road, Faringdon
 For: Mr & Mrs Bowley
 (No objections – Planning & Highways Committee Meeting, 6.1.09)

(b) Copies of correspondence between a local resident and the VWHDC regarding car parking in Faringdon were received and considered. It was NOTED that the VWHDC had incorrectly advised the local resident that the Town Council dealt with on-street parking whereas this responsibility, in fact, lay with Oxfordshire County Council. The Deputy Town Clerk was asked to write to the resident to this effect and also to advise him that an on-street/off-street car parking study of Faringdon was due to be carried out once S106 monies were received by VWHDC from the developers of the Bloor Homes Development currently being built in Faringdon.
9. **Redevelopment of Parking Provision at Untons Place, Faringdon**
This matter had been deferred from the last Planning & Highways Committee Meeting. It was NOTED that local residents of Untons Place had expressed concern to the Town Council about the lack of adequate parking space in view of the fact that families were now being housed in Housing Association properties which were originally intended for senior citizens. This meant an increase in cars being parked in the area. It was FURTHER NOTED that, at present, access is hampered for emergency and service vehicles. Following discussion, it was AGREED that a letter should be written to the Vale Housing Association advising it that a complaint had been received from local residents of Untons Place and that it was Town Council's view that this problem could be easily resolved by increasing the space available without disturbing the trees. It was FURTHER AGREED that a copy of this letter be forwarded to the local residents in Untons Place for their information.
10. **Contingency Planning – Diversion Routes A420 – Swindon to Oxford**
Details of the steps Oxfordshire County Council was hoping to take to reduce the disruption that resulted from emergency closures of a road such as the A420 were received and NOTED.

- 11. VWHDC Core Strategy – Preferred Options, Sustainability Appraisal**
A copy of District Council’s Sustainability Appraisal, which should have been sent out with the original Preferred Options document, was received and considered. It was AGREED that Town Council should use the same criteria and carry out a sustainability appraisal of its own response to the Draft VWHDC Preferred Options Consultation. This exercise was then carried out and the Deputy Town Clerk was asked to submit Town Council’s appraisal to VWHDC.

- 12. S106 Agreements**
It was NOTED that although Bloor Homes had not sought to reduce the overall capital payments, they were seeking a revised timetable and structure of payments. The reason for lack of action had been down to Oxfordshire County Council’s slow response to Bloor Homes’ counter phasing payments structure on their S106 agreement. However, it was FURTHER NOTED that payment of the contribution for disabled access at the Pump House would be made in advance of any formal changes to the S106 being agreed with VWHDC or County Council and that Bloor Homes would be contacting VWHDC to facilitate this.