

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF
WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE BEACON, PORTWAY ON
MONDAY, 4 NOVEMBER 2024 AT 7.30 PM**

Committee members present: Cllr E Johnson (Chair), Cllrs I Cameron, S Third, A Crawford, A Menzies and K Morris.

Town Clerk: Julia Evans

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr T Gilhome.

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests, other registrable interests and non-registrable interests.

None.

29. Statements and questions from the public.

None

30. To approve the minutes of the Planning meeting held on 23 September 2024 and the Plans Only meeting held on 14 October 2024.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Cameron
SECONDED BY Cllr Third
The minutes were approved and signed.

31. Matters arising from previous minutes.

a) Update on parking outside the school in the Charlton Village Road area.

The police had stated that they did not have the capacity to police the area. The Clerk is to write to OCC requesting double yellow lines at the junction and, once they have been installed, get them included in CPE.

Action: Clerk

b) Update on the future of the Traffic Advisory Committee.

The Clerk is to write to OCC to ask if they have any objections to the change of the group. The Clerk will liaise with the Clerks at Abingdon and Faringdon regarding their meetings.

Action: Clerk

c) Update on the Neighbourhood Plan.

The inspector was due to be appointed shortly.

d) Grove Street – OCC update.

There was no update available.

e) Update on Grove Road SID.

The Clerk was to find out why one of the units had been facing the same way for some time. Cllr Third has identified 3 locations for new units: Wallingford Street by St Catherines, Grove Street by Autotype and Harcourt Road on the hill leading down. The Clerk is to ask OCC if we can have the data from the speed surveys that they have been carrying out in the town. The Clerk is to look into gathering data from our SIDS.

Action: Clerk

f) **Update on the response to the Joint Local Plan.**

Cllr Johnson is to work on this.

Action: Johnson

g) **Update on the letter concerning the town centre.**

Cllr Johnson circulated a draft letter. It was noted that the Council has no control over businesses in the town.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Cllr Cameron
SECONDED BY Cllr Johnson
IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk would send the letter.

Action: Clerk

h) **Update on the outflow from Kingsgrove into Letcombe Brook.**

There was still a lot of concern over pollution. There had been pushback on the £25,000 requested for improvements in the area. It was suggested that the Town Council looked into grant funding available for environmental projects to assist with water monitoring. It was noted that there would be planting in the SUDs and the channel. It was unclear what the figures in the document meant; the Clerk was to ask for clarification. It was to be stressed that the £25,000 was also for monitoring and mitigation should protective measures be required to prevent erosion.

Action: Clerk

32. **To consider the planning applications listed overleaf and any other planning applications that are received prior to the meeting.**

33. **Other business**

a) Complaint about illuminated signage.

It was noted that planning permission had not been obtained. The Clerk was to report it to planning enforcement and let the complainant know that we have done so.

Action: Clerk

b) To review the draft budget for 2025/26.

It was suggested that flood mitigation should come under planning and that there should be a budget line for this. It was agreed to include £2000 in the budget.

Action: Clerk

Discussion followed regarding action to be taken on flood mitigation. It was agreed that a working group should be set up.

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- c) To receive the Income and Expenditure report.

The report was received and noted.

The meeting closed at 8.47PM

PLANNING RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) P24/V2146/A 1 set of externally illuminated fascia text 1 non illuminated projection sign.
Dignity Funerals Ltd, 4 Church Street, Wantage, OX12 8BL.

Holding objection.

The property is in the conservation area. The Council wished to see the Conservation Officer's comments before removing the holding objection. The Clerk is to write to Dignity Funerals and their agent informing them of the emerging Neighbourhood Plan's requirement that signs in the conservation area be made from wood and be hand painted. Request that they consider reviewing the application in light of this to have something more sympathetic to the area the property is situated in.

Action: Clerk

- b) P24/V2213/HH 1. Conversion of rear unenclosed "porch" into downstairs toilet and rendering of rear façade with lime render. 2. Re-opening of internal ground floor doorway. 3. Insertion of extractor fan in first-floor bathroom. 55 Wallingford Street, Wantage, OX12 8AU.

No objection.

- c) P24/V2214/LB 1. Conversion of rear unenclosed "porch" into downstairs toilet rendering of rear façade with lime render. 2. Re-opening of internal ground floor doorway. 3. Insertion of extractor fan in first-floor bathroom. 55 Wallingford Street, Wantage, OX12 8AU.

No objection.

- d) P24/V2275/LDP Proposed alterations to create semi-independent accommodation for elderly parents. Internal alterations, only external change being French doors in window opening and soil vent pipes. En-suite at first floor level.
58 Harcourt Road, Wantage, Oxfordshire, England, OX12 7ES.

Noted.
