

Minutes of a meeting of Bucklebury Parish Council Planning Committee at All Saints Church Hall, Upper Bucklebury on Monday 24th May 2021 at 7.45pm.

Present: Cllr. J. Brims (Chairman); Cllr. B. Dickens; Cllr. P. Spours; Cllr. A. Hillerton; Cllr. D. Southgate; Cllr. L. Clarke; Cllr. H. Cairns; Cllr. F. MacCallum; Cllr. T. Slatford; District Cllr. G. Pask; Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk).

Apologies: Apologies of absence were received and accepted from Cllr. R. Ranken and Cllr. Unamba-Oparah.

Declarations of Interest.

Cllr. Brims and Cllr. Clarke declared an interest in application 21/01034/HOUSE for The Old Police House as trustees of the Victory Room which is adjacent.

Minutes of meetings.

M1. The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 26th April 2021 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and were signed by Cllr. Brims.

Planning applications WBC has consulted BPC on:

P1 21/01034/HOUSE The Old Police House.

Proposed car port.

The Old Police House was extended in 2017. The proposed car port has a hipped roof; however, concerns were raised about the lack of adherence to Bucklebury Vision, specifically, the proposal is completely in front of the building line and reduces the feeling of space around properties. All of the garages on the west side of the road are integral garages. The car port is right against the hedge, such that there is no space for maintenance. The ridge of the car port will be 4.85m high; this is the same as the refurbished Victory Room.

It was unanimously agreed (amongst those without an interest), that BPC **objects** to this application.

P2. 21/01045/HOUSE Barfield, Chapel Row.

Consists of internal alterations to existing house layout to include minor alterations to doors and window positions. In addition conversion of existing garage and part car port to games room with shower room. Extension to the existing car port to provide additional car port and log store. Replacement garden machinery store.

The internal changes proposed in this application will not be visible externally. The extension to the garage and the wall between the house and the garage will be visible. It was agreed that BPC has **no objection** to this application, but would prefer a lower wall joining the house and garage.

P3. Sovereign Proposal for Paradise Way.

Following an information meeting with representatives of Sovereign Housing Association and some Paradise Way residents about the proposal to demolish 6 houses and to build 10, it was strongly felt that Sovereign Housing Association has a duty of care to its tenants. Most of the residents of the houses in question are long standing residents of Paradise Way. Sovereign Housing Association has consulted on the scheme but the proposal does not meet the needs of some of the existing tenants.

The residents have tenancy agreements with Sovereign Housing Association, not WBC, although WBC manages the housing list and allocates homes. WBC also determines the needs in terms of the size of houses to build. It was strongly felt that these residents should be offered continuity of tenancy, such that they are offered temporary accommodation before being able to move back into suitably sized homes in Paradise Way if they want to.

Signature.....

Date.....

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It was agreed that Cllr. Spours would draft a response to the consultation on the proposed development and be submitted before the 28th May.

P4, To receive an update from the opposition to NE Thatcham Development Working Group.

To date £3,275 has been raised in donations in addition to the payment of £1,000 which BPC agreed to make. Publicity of the opposition project continues. Banners have been put up in four places across the parish. Posters and fliers are being developed.

Cllr. Slatford is standing down as Chairman of the working group and Cllr. Spours and Cllr. MacCallum will jointly share the position. Claire Dallimore, who has experience in publicity, has joined the working group.

Cllr. Spours and Cllr, MacCallum have had a meeting Mike Robinson, the planning consultant and tasked him with preparing a schedule of work in preparation for an objection to the next consultation. Any objection produced will be submitted to WBC, and will ultimately be sent to the planning inspector who will consider the objection along with representations from the developers at a public enquiry.

Cllr. Lister of Thatcham Town Council has drafted a letter to the NWN from all of the councils working together, explaining the united opposition. There is a meeting with the other opposing parishes on Thursday when the funding position will be discussed. The funding position needs to be clearly explained to residents.

WBC has now published answers to the traffic questions and acknowledged that there will be an increase in traffic up Harts Hill. There was a suggestion that BPC should consider match funding donations made by parishioners; this will be considered at the BPC meeting on June 14th.

The new WBC portfolio holder for Highways and Planning is District Cllr. Richard Somner.

Cllr. Dickens reported that Laura Farris MP has not forgotten having a meeting with Robert Jenrick (Secretary of State for housing).

Round Table Comments:

RT1. Playpark Inspections.

Cllr. Cairns will carry out inspections of the playpark during the week beginning the 31st May.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Date of forthcoming Meetings:

Bucklebury Parish Council: Monday 14th June 2021 7.45pm (All Saints Hall, Upper Bucklebury)

Bucklebury Planning Committee: Monday 28th June 2021 at 7.45pm (All Saints Hall, Upper Bucklebury)

Signature.....

Date.....

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