

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, NEWBURY TOWN COUNCIL, MARKET PLACE, NEWBURY ON MONDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 7.30PM.

PRESENT

Councillors, Sam Dibas, Nigel Foot, David Harman (Vice Chairperson), Chris Hood, Roger Hunneman, Steve Masters, Pam Lusby Taylor (sub), Vaughan Miller, Sarah Slack (sub), Graham Storey and Alistair Bounds (sub).

In Attendance

Toby Miles-Mallowan – Chief Executive Officer

57. APOLOGIES

Councillors Phil Barnett (Substitute Pam Lusby Taylor) and Andy Moore (substitute Sarah Slack), Jo Day (substitute Alistair Bounds)

58. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chief Executive Officer declared that Councillors, Nigel Foot, David Marsh who are also Members of West Berkshire Council, which is declared as a general interest on their behalf and a dispensation is in place to allow them to partake in discussions relating to West Berkshire Council business.

59. MINUTES

PROPOSED: Councillor Vaughan Miller

SECONDED: Councillor Sam Dibas

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Planning & Highways Committee held on Monday 12th August 2024, be approved, and signed by the Chairperson.

60. QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Question Received from a member of the public:

“EveryoneActive, who own the franchise for managing Northcroft Leisure Centre are removing the squash courts, replacing them with increased soft-play provision and studio space. This will remove any affordable squash playing facility from Newbury (Newbury already lost squash courts recently from David Lloyd). This is a West Berkshire Council sponsored refurbishment, though in raising this with West Berkshire Council Executive Portfolio Holder for Sport, Nigel Foot, has received inadequate response and no public consultation.

Please can Newbury Town Council raise an objection or support objections raised by the squash playing community at the upcoming West Berkshire Council planning committee meeting, tentatively planned for 18th September?”

Chair Person Responded with the following: That it is right for Newbury Town Council to write to West Berks Council to voice their concerns about the removal of affordable squash courts from within the Town Council and that Newbury Town Council will highlight that the courts could be used for other activities when not booked for Squash.

Questions Received from a member of the public:

1. *Please may we have a News Article on the current position of the Neighbourhood Development Plan now that the Inspector examining the WBC Local Plan Review has indicated that NDPs can be ALLOCATING plans, and whether this now allows NTC to allocated non-strategic sites within the Newbury Settlement Boundary?*

The Chairperson responded that Newbury Town Council will release a news article through the Penny Post promoting the relaunch of the Neighbourhood Development Plan. Newbury Town Council's NDP will not be covering the allocation of housing.

2. *The next round of Examination of the LPR includes a Broad Location of Growth North of Newbury which will have impacts on Clayhill Ward, so please can you outline what role NTC Officers and/or Councillors will have in the Review of M7 – HOUSING LAND SUPPLY?*

The Chairperson responded that Newbury Town Council has submitted a formal response to the review of M7 and have liaised closely with Shaw Cum Donnington Parish Council regarding our response. Newbury Town Council have raised the following points about any developments that they must take into consideration flood risks to the area, have sufficient road infrastructure in place, that utilities are consulted.

3. *I see from Agendas that updates from the new Newbury Flood & Drainage Forum are being provided to this Committee, and that the Format of the Forum is to be under review, so please can you outline what the role and involvement of NTC will be in NFADF version 3. Thank you.?*

Newbury Town Council attend the Newbury Flood and Drainage Forum as a land owner with riparian responsibilities. Attendance at these meetings will be on a case by case basis.

4. *Please can you clarify the rules for the Conduct of Public Questions via remote access, as in the past I have been allowed Supplementary Questions and last time when I zoomed in, I was not, and I cannot seem to find it on your web-site, thank you?*

The Chairperson responded that currently members of the public cannot ask additional questions beyond those submitted in writing. The Chairperson invited the Chief Executive to respond who added that Newbury Town Council will be consulting and reviewing its position and rules relating to remote access and participation to meetings.

Councillor Nigel Foot Left the meeting at 20:08 and returned to the meeting at 20:16

61. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

There were no questions or petitions from Members.

62. SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Resolved that the observations recorded at Appendix 1 to these minutes be submitted to the planning authority.

Councillors Nigel Foot abstained from the Vote in relation to case no. 4, ref no: 24/01464/FULMAJ, Unit 1, Sterling Industrial Estate, Kings Road, Newbury for Magdalen Victoria LLP

Councillor Dibas left the meeting at 20:45

63. SECTION 215 UPDATE

The Chief Executive provided a verbal update outlining the need to prioritise contact with WBC around the BT Tower and Khon Kaen Restaurant

64. HERITAGE WORKING GROUP UPDATE

There was no update from the previous meeting

65. TOWN CENTRE WORKING GROUP

The CEO updated the committee about the need to relaunch this working group.

66. UPDATE FROM THE WESTERN AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE

Councillor Foot provided an update that the next meeting is on 3 October, where the Pound Street development, the Eagle Quarter and the Northcroft developments will be discussed.

67. FARADAY ROAD FOOTBALL CLUB UPDATE

Councillor Miller provided an update on the progress of the Faraday Road Football Club, the first home match is due to commence on 28 September 24. Still requirements to install hospitality facilities, Referee changing rooms and fencing around the pitch.

68. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME FOR PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2024/25

The forward work programme was received and noted by the committee, with the additional items being added:

Sandleford Park update on 7/10/24 and 4/11/24 meetings

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRPERSON DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED
AT 20.52 HRS

CHAIRPERSON

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING
SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS – RESOLUTIONS**

RUNNING ORDER	RESOLUTION	APPLICATION NUMBER	LOCATION AND APPLICANT	PROPOSAL
1	No Objections	24/01326/FUL	Bashford's Yard Bone Lane Newbury for Sunbrays LLP	Full planning application for the construction of a maintenance building and two-storey portacabin block, and retention of the existing building on site and existing open yard, for flexible uses within Class E, B2 and B8 of the Use Class Order (including ancillary office provision) with associated parking and landscaping.
2	No objections	24/01766/FUL	20 Hambridge Road Newbury for Thatcham Butchers	Demolition of existing buildings. Construction of new storage and processing unit.
3	No objection / comment: Members requested that comment on Traffic Management and parking arrangements be reviewed.	23/02782/FULMAJ	20 - 28A Pound Street Newbury for Archel homes.	Demolition of existing buildings (including former Jewson's site); existing dwelling 26 and 28 Pound Street; and 28a Pound Street, former Newbury Bathroom Store) and erection of 79no. residential dwellings alongside access works, landscaping, open space, drainage and other associated works.
4	No Objection	24/01462/ADV	87 - 89 Northbrook Street Newbury for WH Smiths	1 non-illuminated fascia sign at 15840 x 210mm a 1 non-illuminated window vinyl at 1700 x 2420mm
5	No Objection	24/01607/FUL	30 Market Place Newbury for NatWest Group	The replacement of the two external ATMs.

6	No Objection	24/01608/LBC2	30 Market Place Newbury for NatWest Group	The replacement of the two external ATMs.
7	No Objection	24/01615/ADV	30 Market Place Newbury for NatWest Group	New ATM tablets and aluminium panels.
8	No Objection	24/01670/FUL	Lock Stock and Barrel 104 Northbrook Street Newbury for Fuller, Smith & Turner Durn	New stretch tent over existing 1st Floor terrace and staircase.
9	No Objection	24/01724/ADV	63 Parkway Shopping Centre Newbury for Jacobs & Turner Ltd (T/A Trespass)	Installation of 1 Nr. fascia sign and vinyl decal.