

**Minutes of the
Town Development Committee
held online Monday 22nd February 2021 at 7pm**

Membership:

Cllr Brett (East)	*	Cllr Nicklin	*
Cllr Davis (East)	*	Cllr Pitcher (East) Vice Chairman	*
Cllr Fraser (West)	*	Bill Parks (external representative)	A
Cllr Fryer (Broadway)	*	Len Turner (external representative)	*
Cllr Macfarlane, (West) Chairman	*		

Key: * Present A Apologies AB Absent

In attendance: Cllr Chris Robbins

Officers: Tom Dommett, Assistant Town Clerk, Stuart Legg Parks and Open Spaces Manger, Judith Halls, Office Manager

TD/20/040 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Bill Parks as technical problems prevented him attending the meeting.

TD/20/041 Declarations of Interest

None

TD/20/042 Minutes

TD/20/042.1 The minutes of the Town Development Committee (TD) meeting held on Monday 7th December 2020 were approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

TD/20/042.2 Matter Arising - None

TD/20/043 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed the Mayor to the meeting and the newly co-opted Phillip Keeble, who was watching online. The Chairman also welcomed Cllr Nicklin as a full voting member of the committee. (Previously Cllr Nicklin had been an ex-officio member)

Signed.....Date.....

TD/20/044 Questions

None.

TD/20/045 Public Participation

None.

TD/20/046 Reports from Unitary Authority Members

The Chairman read out a written report from Unitary Cllr Tony Jackson which covered issue regarding Damask Way and Alcock Crest (Attached)

TD/20/047 Community Area Transport Group (CATG)

Members noted that the next CATG meeting would be on 24th February 2021.

TD/20/048 New Issues

TD/20/048.1 Waiting Restriction Request Upper Marsh Road

A Member of the public has requested waiting restrictions on part of Upper March Road. They are concerned about what they view as dangerous or obstructive parking.

Members had a long debate about the best way to tackle the problem. Cllr Fryer said that in Poole some roads had restrictions that meant no commercial vehicles were allowed to park on them.

Cllr Davis proposed that the issue be referred to CATG with the suggestion that full no parking restrictions were introduced, seconded Cllr Fraser, voting unanimous in favour.

TD/20/048.2 Continuous White Line Request – Boreham Road

A member of the public who lives in Boreham Road has contacted the council to request a continuous white line to be put from their gateway to the cottage next door.

Cllr Nicklin proposed that the request be referred to CATG seconded Cllr Brett, voting 6 in favour 1 against, no abstentions. Motion carried.

TD/20/048.3 Chapel Street

A resident has contacted the town council to complain about the large vans, lorries, and even a car transporter, using Chapel Street. Large vehicles find they cannot turn at the bottom of the road and have to get residents to move their vehicles. Chapel Street is a narrow, one way road with no footpath.

Cllr Fraser proposed that the issue be referred to CATG with the suggestion, that a not suitable for heavy vehicles sign is put up, seconded by Cllr Macfarlane, voting unanimous in favour.

TD/20/049 Minutes CCTV Working Group

The minutes of the CCTV Working Group meeting held on Tuesday 15th September 2020 were noted.

TD/20/050 Central Warminster Regeneration

The Chairman read out a note from Unitary Cllr Pip Ridout. Cllr Ridout advised that Cllr Nicklin and Town Clerk have raised this before at the Area Board. The position is that Wiltshire Council are making £1 million available to market towns for regeneration each year, for next 4 years. Cllr Ridout has advised the town council to put in an expression of interest, putting in a bid after April 1st 2021. Cllr Ridout will ascertain details of how to apply/criteria etc and has asked for details to be sent to her as soon as available after the Wiltshire Council budget is passed.

Cllr Nicklin outlined the issues set out in his report to the Committee. With regard to the Police Station in Station Road, the town council has an opportunity to express an interest in purchasing the freehold of the site at market valuation. Should obtaining the freehold interest be a serious consideration, the PCC has a commitment to supporting sales for community use.

With regard to the Community Hub building, the town council was bets placed to take on the building so it could be repurposed.

With regard to the town councils' wider aspirations for the area in the vicinity of the Library, only with professional plans and illustrations setting out proposals can the town council progress ideas and secure buy in from others.

Cllr Nicklin proposed

1. That the Committee would like to take the opportunity to consider purchasing the freehold of the Police Station and respond to the PCC that it would like to talk about the valuation and the purchase process.

2. That the Committee asks Full Council and the Finance and Audit Committee to support a Community Asset Transfer Application for the Hub Building.

3. That the Committee apply to the Finance and Audit Committee for £5-£10,000 to put into plans and pictures ideas the town council has for town centre regeneration.

seconded Cllr Brett, voting unanimous in favour.

TD/20/051 Wiltshire Area Localism and Planning Group (WALPA)

The Town Council had been approached by Wiltshire Area Localism and Planning Group (WALPA) who requested the council sign a round robin letter expressing concern that the lack of a five year housing supply was having on the effectiveness of Neighbourhood Plans. Given the timescales involved, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee were consulted and in line with previous decisions on this matter, it was agreed that the letter would be signed on behalf of the town council. 32 other Wiltshire Town and Parish Council had also signed the letter.

Members noted the action taken.

TD/20/052 Flood Wardens and Flood Plan

Members noted that a meeting of the Flood Plan Working Group was held on 7th January. Progress was made on updating the existing Flood Plan. There are two relatively new Flood Wardens and several vacancies for interested members of the public.

Members requested that the relevant Wiltshire Council officer be invited to a future Town Development Meeting to discuss the implications of the recent study on water courses and flood risks.

TD/20/053 Bottle Bank Provision

A member of the public has expressed concern about the level of provision of bottle banks and other recycling facilities within the Town, for example the lack of a bottle bank and can bank etc outside the Morrisons Supermarket.

Members requested that officers contact Wiltshire Council to find out which contractor is responsible for bottle bank provision in Warminster and to invite them to reinstate a bottle bank on Western Car Park.

TD/20/054 Communications

Members requested a press release on Central Warminster Regeneration and nominated Cllr Nicklin as spokesman on the issue.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed.....Date.....

Town Development Committee - Agenda Item 7

Damask Way. All will know that there is considerable local opposition to this development. Outline Planning permission for 28 dwellings was granted in July 2018 under Application No 17/12348/OUT. The new developer now seeks consent for Reserved Matters under Application No 20/07214/REM. For the present:

1. I have Called In this application to be considered by Western Area Planning Cttee.
2. There is no Officer Report yet to hand although we can anticipate that, outline consent already granted, there will be recommendation for approval.
3. The application has not yet been scheduled for consideration.
4. Local residents and environmental groups have raised significant material considerations.
5. A petition against the development initiated by Sustainable Warminster has gained over 1400 supporters.
6. I plan to oppose approval although I am not a Planning Cttee member.

Alcock Crest. As part of its decarbonisation programme Wiltshire Council is replacing street lighting with LED lamps. There are 4 (?) existing ornamental columns in Alcock Crest which are unsuitable for upgrade to LED. Wiltshire Council recognises that existing columns may be valued locally and removal may not be welcomed. The Town Council's view as to whether to remove them and replace with new columns or leave insitu with the current lanterns will be sought. I have not had time to test local opinion.