



Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council
Planning Committee meeting

Meeting held on Thursday, 25th July 2019
in the Parish Council office,
27 Victoria Road, Mortimer, at 5.30pm

Present:

Councillors: Cllr. D. Morsley (Chairman), Cllr. S. Beard, Cllr. M. Dennett, Cllr. S. Hill, Cllr. D. Ives, Cllr. K. Johnson, Cllr. C. Lewis, Mr. N. Kiley (co-opted) and Mr. T. Barber (co-opted)

Assistant to Clerk: B. O'Reilly

Public/Press: There were no other members of the public and no members of the press present.

- 19/28 **To receive Apologies:**
Apologies were received from Cllr. J. Wells.
- 19/29 **Public Session:**
None.
- 19/30 **To receive Declarations of Interest:**
Cllr. S. Hill declared an interest in application 19/01715/FULD and would abstain from making any comments on this item.
- 19/31 **To receive and approve the minutes for the Planning Committee meeting held on Thursday, 11th July 2019:**
The Minutes were duly received and APPROVED to be signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.
- 19/32 **To receive any updates on the progress of the planning application for the Mortimer Station Car Park:**
The Committee reviewed the current budget and breakdown for the project and Mr. Kiley detailed the work that was necessary to take the outstanding transport issues forward to completion for a planning application to be submitted by the Parish Council. The Committee would approach one of the District Councillors at WBC for support. After discussion, Cllr. Lewis proposed, seconded by Cllr. Hill, it was unanimously **AGREED** to request a final additional £4,000 to the project's budget at the next Full Council meeting.
- 19/33 **To review any updates and progress of the Planning Application and receive any updates on the Biodiversity and Green Space project for MOR006 (17/03004/OUTMAJ):**
Cllr. Morsley recommended that the Parish Council wait until late Autumn, when the new West Berkshire Local Plan will start to emerge, before considering action on the outstanding issues of defining the boundary between the built area and the green space (and hence the exact Settlement Boundary) and the designation of the green space as a Local Green Space. This issue was left outstanding in 2017 until approval of on the outline planning application. At the time it was considered it would be a simple matter to update the NDP, but due to recent Government changes, it is now clear this would require a more significant process for approvals including examination and hence it would be sensible to wait until other changes to the NDP are needed.

It was, therefore, recommended that an NDP group be formed in the late autumn/early winter in order to take up this issue and related matters on updating the current NDP. WBC planners will be explaining their new Local Plan progress to parishes this autumn.

Cllr. Morsley and Mr. Barber have requested a meeting with T.A. Fisher to discuss the Acorn Ecology report recommendations and the developer's biodiversity and green space plans across the development.

Further to a discussion with the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust, Mr. Barber recommended that a copy of the Acorn Ecology report be shared with the Trust for their professional comments on the ecology issues on the development site. It was also recommended that a copy of the Acorn report would be provided to West Berkshire Council when submitting the Committee's comments on application 19/01715/RESMAJ.

19/34 **To consider the following planning applications:**

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Proposal</u>
19/01697/HOUSE	Lowlands, Ravensworth Road, Mortimer West End, Reading RG7 3UD	Single storey rear extension and minor internal alterations.
<u>SMPC Comments:</u> No objections.		
19/01718/FULD	52 Stephens Close, Mortimer Common, Reading, RG7 3TY	Move previously approved bungalow slightly forward to clear existing public sewer and changes to window layout.
<u>SMPC Comments:</u> No objections.		
19/01715/RESMAJ	Land South of Tower Gardens, The Street, Mortimer Common, Reading, Berkshire	Reserved matters for details of the appearance, landscaping, and scale of the approved residential development for Phase 1 comprising 28 houses and apartments including affordable housing, public open space and associated landscaping.
To ensure that the Committee are able to look into the full details of Phase 1 of the development and make appropriate comments to West Berkshire Council, the Parish Council office will ask for an extension from the Planning Officer at WBC to submit full comments by 15 th August, and will summon the Committee to a meeting on 8 th August to discuss any issues identified.		

19/35 **To consider the West Berkshire Council's revised draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) for comments:**

The Committee had no comments on the revised draft, as shared by West Berkshire Council earlier this month, as no fundamental changes to the current SCI were noted.

19/36 **Minor Matters for Information Only:**

- Cllr. Johnson raised an issue referring to the approved application for the construction of two dwellings behind the Horse & Groom (18/02782/FULD) which would fall within the ecology protection zone related to the recent confirmation of the presence of Great Crested Newts on the Fairground. The Parish Council would contact the Planning Officer at West Berkshire Council to make enquiries.

- Cllr. Beard advised that a resident was concerned about the a water/sewage pump on the east side of the new development, south of Tower Gardens, and the Committee advised him to refer the resident to the report in the decision on the outline planning permission (17/03004/OUTMAJ) where WBC have put in place conditions relating to the water and sewage system requirements to be met prior to any commencement of construction on the site.

The meeting closed at 6.45pm.