



Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held in the Methodist Church Hall, 17 West End Road, Mortimer RG7 3TB on Thursday 7 December 2023 @ 7.30pm

Present:

Councillors:

Cllr D Butler, Cllr S Hill, Cllr M Lock, Cllr D Morsley, and Cllr A Richardson

For the Clerk:

B O'Reilly

Public/Press:

There were no members of the public and no member of the press in attendance.

Part I

In the absence of the Chairman of the Planning Committee, Cllr Graham Bridgman, it was unanimously agreed that Cllr Danusia Morsley chair this meeting.

23/093 Public Session

None.

23/094 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Bridgman and Cllr Wells.

23/095 To receive any declarations of interest

None received.

23/096 Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Thursday 23 November 2023 were received with no amendments. APPROVED unanimously for signature by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

23/097 Items to be taken into private session

None.

23/098 Current Projects

The following updates were received:

a. Tower House Farm

It was noted that application 23/02498/NONMAT (relating to landscaping on Phase 3) had now been approved by West Berkshire Council and that a decision on 23/02527/RESMAJ (relating to appearance and landscaping on Phase 2b) was awaited.

With regard to access for the proposed permitted footpath in the Phase 3 landscaping, the parish council office have supplied a copy Englefield Estate's letter of 13 March 2020 to TA Fisher for reference.

b. Mortimer to Burghfield Footpath/Cycleway

Further to the extraordinary Full Council meeting on 23 November 2023, Cllr Morsley advised that the updated drawings were now with the Case Officer at West Berkshire Council. Once a decision on the planning application was received, and taking into account any conditions on the decision, the next steps would be considered including reviewing the costings of the project.

It was noted that Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council would be responsible for the maintenance of the footpath and adjacent trees.

23/099 West Berkshire Local Plan Review

Further to the update received from West Berkshire Council and the Planning Inspectorate regarding the Examination of West Berkshire Local Plan 2022-2039, and the opportunity to submit written statements in response to the Inspector's report, it was decided, as done in February, to split the review of the Inspector's report and the Local Plan document into sections and allocate each to individual councillors to consider and submit any comments for consideration by the Committee at its meeting in January. Sections of the Local Plan were allocated as follows:

Development Strategy (pages 10-25) – everyone.

Climate change, flood risk (pages 25-32) – Cllr. Bridgman

Design quality (pages 33-42) – Cllr. Richardson

Landscape character (pages 35-37) – Cllr. Richardson

Historic environment (pages 37-42) – Cllr. Richardson

Biodiversity and geodiversity (pages 45-51) – Cllr. Morsley

Fostering economic growth (pages 73-85) – Cllr. Morsley

Housing (pages 105-210) – Cllr. Butler

Economic Growth (pages 210-238) – Cllr. Butler

Transport – Cllr. Lock

Appendix 6: policies and interaction with NP (pages 258-261) – Cllr. Morsley

The office will circulate a copy of the Local Plan Review document to the Committee members together with the parish council's response in February 2023.

23/0100 Items for information only

a. Decisions received from West Berkshire Council

23/01840/FUL: Roseland, Laneswood, Mortimer, Reading RG7 3UW

Change of use of land to extend domestic curtilage.

GRANTED – 30 November 2023

SMPC Comments: The Committee has no objections, however, it was not clear what the land use was being changed from, as this was not stated in the planning application.

23/01669/HOUSE: 9 Briar Lea Road, Mortimer Common, Reading, RG7 3SA

Addition of a flat roof dormer on front roof slope to existing loft conversion.

GRANTED – 29 November 2023

SMPC Comments: The Committee have no objection to the addition of a flat roof dormer on the front of the property but noted that, with the additional bedrooms in the loft space, there was only one WC and shower room for what is effectively going to be a six-bedroom home.

23/02498/NONMAT: Land South Of Tower Gardens, The Street, Mortimer Common, Reading

Application for a Non-Material Amendment Following a Grant of Planning Permission 19/00981/OUTMAJ - Section 73: Variation of condition 6-approved plans of approved application 17/03004/OUTMAJ. Minor alterations and regularisation to the areas denoted as public open space across the wider development. The approved public open space plan was submitted as part of the original hybrid application, and prior to the recent Reserved Matters (RM) consents for each of the development phases being submitted and approved, each of which has altered the areas noted as public open space to a greater or lesser degree. This submission is intended to regularise the series of minor alterations to the approved plan and present a comprehensive plan of the site showing the areas allocated as public open space. There is no increase in built form, floor area or dwelling/bedroom numbers proposed as a result of these changes.

APPROVED – 1 December 2023

SMPC Comments: The Committee had no objection but the parish council would want to see a facility shown on the plans for the intended footpath at the south-western corner of the development that would give access to Drury Lane as informally agreed with the applicant.

b. Minor matters for information.

None.

23/0101 Communications

None.

23/0102 Future Agenda Items

None.

23/0103 Exclusion of Press and Public

Not required.

Close

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.