

# **FARINGDON TOWN** **COUNCIL**

The Corn Exchange, FARINGDON, Oxfordshire, SN7 7JA

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Clerk: Sally Thurston



## **Minutes of a Planning & Highways Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 2 June 2015 at 7.15 pm in the Corn Exchange, Faringdon**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs **Andrew Marsden (Chairman)**  
**David Barron**  
**Jane Boulton**  
**Al Cane**  
**Mark Greenwood**  
**Dr Mike Wise**

**IN ATTENDANCE: 3 members of public**  
**Hilary Sherman, Deputy Town Clerk**

### **1/8/15 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Alex Meredith.

### **2/8/15 Minutes of Meeting: Thursday, 14 May 2015**

Cllr Dr Mike Wise's apologies for absence had not been recorded in the Minutes. The Minutes were amended accordingly and were AGREED and signed as a correct record of the meeting held on 14 May 2015.

### **3/8/15 Declarations of Interest**

*Agenda Item, Potential Improvements to The Lees, Faringdon:* Cllr Andrew Marsden declared an interest in this item.

*Reason for declaration:* In so far as he is a neighbour of the site under discussion.

### **4/8/15 For Information**

(a) The Deputy Town Clerk's list of actions was received and NOTED, as follows:-

<b>Min No.</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Person/s Delegated</b>	<b>Action Taken</b>
10/5/15	Oxfordshire County Council to be approached with a view to installing Rotary Club sign at entrance to Faringdon (as agreed by Town Council at its meeting on 8 4 15)	Deputy Town Clerk	Oxfordshire County Council has refused permission for any such sign to be included, as outlined in the Rotary application, as it considers such signage to be advertising.

11/5/15	Repair to damaged bus shelter in Park Road to be arranged	Deputy Town Clerk	Insurance claim progressed and repair now carried out.
9/7/15	Comments on planning applications to be forwarded to District Council	Deputy Town Clerk	Submitted to VWHDC 19 5 15
11/7/15	Off-Street parking proposals: FTC comments to be sent to VWHDC	Deputy Town Clerk	Submitted to VWHDC 25 5 15
12/7/15	Year End Accounts: to be included on agenda for next committee meeting	Deputy Town Clerk	On committee agenda for 2 6 15
13/7/15	S106 Contributions in respect of 4&20 site: Information to be forwarded to Town Council for further consideration	Deputy Town Clerk	Forwarded to Town Clerk for inclusion in next relevant town council agenda.

- (b) Planning Permissions granted/refused by VHWDC: There were none.
- (c) VWHDC Notification of Registration of an existing address known as Mission Fitness UK, 5A RAC Estate, Park Road, Faringdon SN7 7BP. NOTED;
- (d) OCC Guide to Drainage. NOTED;
- (e) OCC Maintenance Highway Newsletter ed. May, June, July 2015. NOTED
- (f) Vale of White Horse District Council had now completed the work and the public toilets in the Southampton Street Public Car Park were now open. Members noted that the doors were heavy which proved difficult for people with disabilities to handle and wished this to be pointed out to the VWHDC.

#### **5/8/15 Public Question Time**

There were no public questions.

#### **6/8/15 Public Speaking Time**

One member of the public wished to make two comments, as follows:-

(a) He was concerned with the high speed that tractors were travelling through the town centre, sometimes without consideration to the roads. He felt that there were accidents waiting to happen and that there did not seem to be any speed restrictions for tractors. His comments were NOTED although he was advised this was a police matter;

(b) *Hole in the pavement outside the police station:* This had been in a dangerous state for some time and it had taken him a great deal of time and trouble to ensure it was made good. He wished to make the point that he felt a resident should not have to be continually chasing up local authorities to carry out this work.

Another member of the public wished to raise the issue of illegal parking on London Street which was very bad and also dangerous. The Chairman

advised that this was a police matter but that Faringdon Town Council also felt very strongly about illegal parking and a parking policy had therefore been included in the Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan.

*At this stage of the meeting, the Chairman proposed that the agenda item dealing with potential improvements to The Lees be brought forward on the agenda in order that the representative from Sovereign Housing could speak earlier in the meeting. This proposal was AGREED.*

#### **10/8/15 Potential Improvements to The Lees, Faringdon**

Possible proposals drawn up by Community Investment for Sovereign for improvements to this area were discussed. Justin Andrewes, Community Investment Co-ordinator, Sovereign, presented details of these improvements, together with accompanying sketches. Justin stated that he was seeking Town Council's support for these proposals as it would make the project more attractive to Sovereign when he submitted the project for funding. The members liked the ideas in principle and suggested that Justin should also involve Oxfordshire County Cllr Mrs Judith Heathcoat, the two VWHDC Councillors, D/Cllr Roger Cox and D/Cllr Mohinder Kainth and local groups such as FAZE and the childrens' centre. With regard to any impact this potential work may have on cycle routes planned for Faringdon, Justin was advised to contact Farcycles, a group involved with improving cycle routes in and around Faringdon. It was NOTED that Justin would be meeting both the Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk within the next few days.

#### **7/8/15 Planning Applications to be considered:**

Planning Applications were considered and decisions taken, as follows:-

**P15/V0357/HH** Erection of a close board fence around back/side garden  
**21 Westland Road, Faringdon**  
For: Mr & Mrs Andrea Pugh  
**OBJECT** on the basis that a 2m fence is too high. A 1m fence would not look out of place.

**P15/V1114/O** Outline application (access only) for the erection of up to two 1-bedroom flats with associated access and parking  
**Land off Ferndale Street, Faringdon**  
For: Mr Brian Hammond  
**NO OBJECTIONS**

#### **8/8/15 Planning Applications - New Eastern Villages, Swindon**

The members were asked to consider the impact on the A420 of these large outline planning applications.

It was noted that the A420 is not a trunk road and is already heavily used. If planning permissions were granted for more large housing sites on the eastern side of Swindon, these would cause a large increase in A420 traffic. This would subsequently have a knock-on effect on traffic wishing to access the A420 from Faringdon, particularly at the Gt Coxwell/A420

roundabout where Town Council is of the view that traffic lights should be installed.

Written comments made by C/Cllr Judith Heathcoat for submission to Swindon Borough Council regarding the planning application for the Lotmead site were also considered by the committee. It was noted that she too was concerned about the problems that would arise with the extra housing estates being proposed on the eastern side of Swindon and the consequent impact on the A420.

It was AGREED that Town Council's response to SBC should reflect the above comments.

**9/8/15 Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan (FNP)**

The 6-week pre-submission public consultation was launched on Friday, 15 May and a public exhibition was held in the Pump House, Faringdon on Saturday, 16 May. All the relevant statutory consultees, stakeholders and other local organisations had been contacted and some observations had already been received.

It was NOTED that some concerns had been raised publicly by a local Little Coxwell resident regarding the inclusion of Wicklesham Quarry as an employment site in the FNP. However, it was pointed out by the Chairman that no response to these concerns should be made at this time as all comments submitted during the public consultation period would be considered together at the end of that period and not before.

**11/8/15 Planning & Highways Committee Year End Accounts 2014/15**

These were received and NOTED. Concern was expressed that costs for the FNP were shown on the accounts. As FNP costs had not been included in the Planning & Highways Committee 2014/15 budget, (nor in fact in any of the previous committee budgets or the 2015/16 committee budget) it was felt that the year-end accounts as presented did not reflect the correct situation. It was AGREED that the Chairman would take up this matter at the Finance Committee Meeting due to be held on 3 June 2015.