

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE
WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN WANTAGE CIVIC HALL, PORTWAY,
ON MONDAY 27 JULY 2009 AT 7.30 P.M.**

Committee members present: Councillor A Crawford (Vice Chairman)
Councillors B Armitage, Mrs P Brundle, P Kent,
and P. O'Leary

Other councillors present: Councillors: Mrs J Hannaby, J Morgan
and Mrs E Turner

Clerk: W P Falkenau
Deputy Clerk: Mrs H Kell

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence was received from Councillors E Goldsmith, Mrs J Reynolds, Major J Sibbald (Chairman), Mrs L Todd and Dr ICE Turcu.

The Chairman being absent, the Vice Chairman was chairman of the meeting.

Declarations of interest

None

Minutes of previous meetings

The minutes of the meetings held on 27 June and 6 July 2009 were approved and signed.

8 Statements and Questions from the Public

None

9 Matters arising from the minutes

a) Wantage Market Place update and proposals to alter the location for buses waiting:

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Crawford

SECONDED BY Councillor Armitage

IT WAS RESOLVED that this item be deferred to the end of the meeting in order to receive and consider the questions the Clerk had circulated prior to the meeting and to allow full discussion of the plan of the Market Place proposals.

The Clerk reported that he had contacted Mr David Taylor, the County Council's Transport Planner, who was happy to attend a future meeting of the Committee and help in any way. Concerns were expressed that the proposals and aspirations for the refurbishment of the Market Place did not appear to be being passed to the responsible County Council officers.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage

SECONDED by Councillor Crawford

IT WAS RESOLVED that a copy of Plan A of the Market Place be sent to all the relevant heads of department of the County Council before the September planning committee meeting.

Action: Deputy Clerk

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b) Partial Review of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the South East in relation to Somewhere to Live – Planning for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show People in the South East

The Clerk reminded members that Councillor Major J Sibbald had indicated that he felt no input was required from the Town Council.

10 Planning Applications

The attached planning applications were considered and comments agreed.

11 Decision notices

Application No	District Council Decision	Town Council Recommendation
WAN/14375/2 – Manor Road Farm	Permit	No objection
WAN/5613/9 – 8 Market Place	Permit	No objection

12 Minutes of the Wantage and Grove Traffic Advisory Committee meeting held on 25 June 2009

The minutes were noted.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Crawford

SECONDED by Councillor O’Leary

IT WAS RESOLVED that a letter be sent to the HARBUG thanking them for their contribution to the SCOTS consultation.

Action: Deputy Clerk

13 Tree letters

The following applications were considered;

- a) The re-pollarding of five lime trees at 3 St Michael’s, Priory Road was supported.
- b) Felling of a horse chestnut at 27 Hampden Road. The Committee received and noted the recommendations of the District Council’s tree officer to fell the horse chestnut, and

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Crawford

SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Brundle

IT WAS RESOLVED to support the tree officer’s recommendation that the horse chestnut be felled and that a replacement tree be planted in the vicinity of the current tree, subject to the Tree Preservation Order being maintained.

- c) The removal of three stumps at Wessex House, 14 Grove Street, was supported.

14 General correspondence

- a) Oxfordshire Highways Speed Limit Revisal of ‘A’ and ‘B’ Roads in Oxfordshire

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Crawford

SECONDED by Councillor Armitage

IT WAS RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting to allow for details of the proposals to be emailed to all members.

Action: Deputy Clerk

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9(a) Wantage Market Place update and proposals to alter location for buses waiting - continued:

The Clerk suggested that the Council should clarify some points concerning the concept layout of Plan A before meeting with consultants. He had distributed an email raising questions. Following discussions it was agreed that.

- a) the roadway in front of Barclays Bank leading from King Alfred's Head should be one way in an easterly direction, but with the ability for vehicles to manoeuvre in either direction within the enclosed area. The roadways from Church Street and Alfred Street should remain one way, as current;
- b) restrictions prohibiting Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV) using the Market Place as a through route should be maintained, but improved signage and markings be introduced to forewarn drivers. If mistakes were made by HGV drivers, they should be left to determine their own way out of the town centre. Consideration should be given to only allowing HGV vehicles to deliver at certain times;
- c) it might be possible to accommodate the new layout without taking the highway across land owned by the Town Council and thus avoid a land swap;
- d) the location of the bus stops on the Market Square was not favoured and, if possible, it was felt that they should remain in their current location. There was a need to site bus shelters to fit in with the aesthetic look of the Market Place;
- e) trees could soften the look of the Market Place, but that consideration should be given to their position, perhaps in pots, when the rest of the scheme was fully settled;
- f) there should be adequate space given over to parking in the Market Place, but that this will inevitably be less than current. Signage to and from car parks required improvement and sufficient parking for the disabled needed to be provided.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm.

WPF/HK/ME

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PLANNING RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) WAN/20914 – Demolition of existing garage and proposed single and two storey extension. 3 Witan Way, Wantage, Oxon OX12 9EU for Mr and Mrs Dunwoody.

No objection

- b) WAN/8314/7 – Proposed new shop front. 24 Wallingford Street, Wantage, Oxon OX12 8AX for Mr Veysel Recber.

Object. The proposal would remove the period features of a listed building in a conservation area.

- c) WAN/8314/7 – LB – Proposed new shop front. 24 Wallingford Street, Wantage, Oxon OX12 8AX for Mr Veysel Recber.

Object. The proposal would remove the period features of a listed building in a conservation area.

- d) WAN/20920 – Erection of two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and new oriel bay window. 36 Wasbrough Avenue, Wantage, Oxon OX12 9BQ for Mr R Frost.

No objection.
