

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE
WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN WANTAGE CIVIC HALL, PORTWAY,
ON TUESDAY 31 MARCH 2009 AT 7.30 P.M.**

Committee members present: Councillor Major J Sibbald (Chairman)
Councillors, B Armitage, Mrs P Brundle,
E Goldsmith, P Kent, J Morgan and Mrs L Todd

Deputy Clerk: Mrs H Kell

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence was received from Councillors P O'Leary and Mrs J Reynolds

Declarations of interest

None

Minutes of previous meetings

The minutes of the meetings held on 9 and 23 February and 16 March 2009 were approved and signed.

41 Statements and Questions from the Public

None

42 Matters arising from the minutes

9th February 2009

35. Core Strategy within the Local Development Framework

The Committee noted that the Council's comments on the Core Strategy had been received by the Vale of White Horse District Council.

38. Minutes of the Traffic Advisory Committee held on 2 October 2008 - Pedestrian crossing at Sainsbury's Development.

The Deputy Clerk reported that the Area Traffic Engineer had indicated that a pedestrian refuge may be considered for the Limborough Road development adjacent to the David Wilson homes.

ON THE PROPOSITION of the Chairman Councillor Major Sibbald
SECONDED by Councillor Armitage

IT WAS RESOLVED that a site meeting be held with the Area Traffic Engineer in order to ensure that the original request for a pedestrian crossing is accepted, together with a refuge, if necessary. It was also proposed that the item be included on the next agenda of the Traffic Advisory Committee meeting to be held on 23 April 2009.

43 Wantage Market Place

The Committee's proposals on the revised plan for the refurbishment of the Market Place were noted. Following the recommendations of the PM & F Committee, a public consultation will be held within six weeks. The Chairmen of the Planning Committee, PM & F Committee and the Environmental Committee had met with representatives of Stagecoach

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and Thames Travel. The meeting had been very positive with the bus operators receptive to the buses dropping off and picking up passengers in the Market Place with an alternative terminus in Seesen Way during the day and reverting to the Market Place after 8pm. Changes to bus timetables can take up to six months to be implemented. Changes to bus arrangements could be implemented before any alteration to the Market Place takes place. The bus operators voiced their concern at the position of the pinch points and crossings at both the Post Office Vaults junction and Mill Street. The sight lines could be a problem.

ON THE PROPOSITION of the Chairman Councillor Major Sibbald
SECONDED by Councillor Armitage

IT WAS RESOLVED that a meeting be held with BHP Harwood as soon as possible for revised plans to include alternative pinch points and crossings and also for the public consultation, the plan should indicate traffic flows. The meeting will also request BHP Harwood to have this information available for public consultation before June 2009.

44 Planning Applications

The attached planning applications were considered and comments agreed.

45 Decision notices

Application No	District Council Decision	Town Council Recommendation
WAN/11955/4-A – St Andrews School	Permit	No objection
WAN/18362/2 – Corner House, Foliat Close	Permit	No objection

46 Tree letters

None

47 General correspondence

a) Letter from Oxfordshire County Council, Highways Department.

Parts of Ormond Road and Newbury Street were to be closed from 25 July 2009 until 3 August 2009

b) St Mary's School site.

A letter had been received from the Vale of White Horse District Council Principal Housing Enabling Officer, giving details of 99 additional home to buy houses being purchased by the Thames Valley Housing Association on the St Mary's School site. Members, although aware of the changes in the economic climate, voiced their concern at the number of affordable housing and home to buy housing which will now comprise the St Mary's School site, which is in a prime location in Wantage.

ON THE PROPOSITION of the Chairman Councillor Major Sibbald
SECONDED BY Councillor Mrs Todd

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk be requested to write to the District Council to enquire if the number of affordable houses and home to buy houses now proposed on the St Mary's School site will exceed the governments ceiling and recommendation for new developments.

Action: Clerk

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

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PLANNING RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) WAN/20632/1 – Proposed two storey front extension and additional drop kerb. 9 Elizabeth Drive, Wantage, Oxon OX12 9YA for Mr and Mrs Boyd.

No objection

- b) WAN/3092/6 – Conversion of existing flat into 2 self contained units. 15 and 13 Mill Street, Wantage, Oxon OX12 9AB for Marcus King and Co.

No objection

- c) WAN/12562/27 –A – Erection of an illuminated totem pole sign. Car Park at Focus, Limborough Road, Wantage, Oxon for Master Property Trading Ltd.

Object. The excessive height of the totem pole sign could cause sight line problems when the proposed pedestrian crossing is installed.

- d) WAN/12562/6 – Erection of new attached 2 storey dwelling with additional off road parking for both existing and proposed dwelling (re-submission) 25 Harcourt Green, Wantage, Oxon OX12 7DJ.

Deferred for consideration until the next meeting of this Committee in order to ascertain if objections had been received from local residents.

- e) WAN/11995/5-LB – Proposed new signage and internal alterations. 7 Market Place, Wantage, Oxon OX12 8AB for Sportswift T/A Card Factory.

Object. The information available with regard to the colour and materials of the sign is insufficient given that it is to be erected on a building within the town's conservation area.

- f) WAN/173/12-LB – Proposed internal alterations to ground floor premises. 9-10 Market Place, Wantage, Oxon OX12 8AB for RRDS Ltd.

No objection.
