

PLANNING COMMITTEE
26th April 2022

Present: Chairman: Deputy Mayor, Councillor Corbett

Councillors:	Bridewell	Britten	Burton
	East	Gay	Giraud-Saunders
	Greenwood	Hopkins	Hoult
	Hunter	Oliver	Ormerod
	Pennington	Rose	Stevens
	Wallis	Wooldridge	

Officers: Elanor Oddy, Office Manager
Jan Rendle, Committee Administrator

Members of the Public: Two

606. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 12th April 2022, having been circulated to all Members were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

607. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Brown, Geddes and Nash.

608. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Councillor Wallis declared an interest in item 610, as a member of Wiltshire Council's Eastern Area Planning Committee.

609. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Geoff Baker of the Wiltshire Gazette & Herald asked to address the meeting. He took the opportunity, on the eve of his retirement, to thank Councillors and officers for "their helpful, professional and caring" dealings with the town.

610. FOR DECISION – WILTSHIRE COUNCIL'S NOTICE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

PL/2022/02580	No objection
PL/2022/02733	No objection but a comment was made that this would remove a much-needed parking space in Avon Road
PL/2022/02868	No objection

PL/2022/02871 It was proposed by Councillor Rose, seconded by Councillor Greenwood and AGREED

THAT the Committee OBJECTS to the application as a 5-metre reduction was considered excessive, and modest pruning would be more appropriate.

PL/2022/02911 No objection.

611. FOR INFORMATION – WILTSHIRE COUNCIL’S NOTICE OF PLANS GRANTED OR REFUSED

The committee was disappointed to note that so many applications had been granted by Wiltshire Council, despite the Town Council’s specific objections.

It was proposed by Councillor Ormerod, seconded by Councillor Greenwood and AGREED

THAT officers should write to Wiltshire Council officers to query why the committee’s concerns re tree removal and work are routinely ignored; and specifically in relation to PL/2021/08216, to express the committee’s dissatisfaction that housing developers were permitted to make changes retrospectively that enable poorer quality housing to be built.

Councillor Wallis will similarly discuss this problem with Planning Officers and Councillor Mayes.

612. FOR DECISION – UPDATE ON SUBSTANTIVE HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT WORKS IN DEVIZES

There was a long discussion regarding the poor state of roads through Devizes, particularly London Road, for which work is scheduled to commence in 2026/27. Councillor Wallis gave a comprehensive report on the competing demands for urgent work faced by Highways, with its large road network to maintain. Councillors were urged to report any concerns about road surfaces, both online to Wiltshire Council and directly to the Unitary Councillor of the particular division affected.

It was proposed by Councillor Hunter, seconded by Councillor Greenwood and AGREED

THAT officers and Devizes’ Unitary councillors would approach Highways to request that repairs and maintenance works to London Road are re-prioritised.

It was further proposed by Councillor Wallis, seconded by Councillor Oliver and AGREED

THAT officers would write to Councillor Mayes to take up the poor state of Devizes' road network, and additionally would remind members of the ways in which any such concerns should be raised.

613. QUESTION TIME

Councillor Wallis asked the following question:

“The Organisers of the Fulltone Festival are under the impression that they will only be able to advertise their event on the Green one week prior to their event. Last year this Council agreed an advertising policy for events on the green which would allow an event to advertise up to 28 days prior to their event date. Please could the Town Clerk confirm that this policy still stands and that the organisers will indeed be able to place their banners on the green 28 days prior to their event.”

The Chairman confirmed that the agreed Council policy was to permit such advertising for a period of up to 28 days prior to the event.

However, he further noted that Council had agreed the need to view the audited accounts from the Fulltone Festival to confirm whether it was a non-profit making organisation before it would authorise use of the Green for the event, and therefore no advertising would be allowed until such conditions had been met.

CHAIRMAN