

PLANNING COMMITTEE

5th July 2022

Present: Chairman: Deputy Mayor, Councillor Stevens
Town Mayor: Councillor Corbett

Councillors: Bridewell Britten Burton
 East Gay Geddes
 Giraud-Saunders Hopkins Hoult
 Hunter Nash Oliver
 Ormerod Pennington Wallis
 Wooldridge

Officers: Simon Fisher, Town Clerk
 Jan Rendle, Committee Administrator

Members of the Public: Eight

107. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 21st June 2022, having been circulated to all members were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

108. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs Rose and Mrs Brown and Councillor Greenwood.

109. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Councillors Nash and Wallis both declared an interest in item 112 as members of Wiltshire Council's Eastern Area Regulatory Committee.

110. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were eight members of the public present, including Councillor Laura Mayes. Councillor Dr Mark McClelland and Mr Chris Clark of Wiltshire Council were also present, to address the meeting.

111. FOR INFORMATION – VISITING CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT, WASTE, STREET SCENE AND FLOODING, AND HEAD OF LOCAL HIGHWAYS

Unitary Councillor Dr Mark McClelland addressed the meeting in response to questions from members and the local community, explaining that the road repair programme is operationally-based and officer-led, working on the roads in the worst condition throughout the county: there is no question of political privileging of any particular area. Inflation was inevitably having a significant effect on the already severely strained budget.

The current priorities were road-lining and marking; flooding and drainage works; fly-tipping and supporting Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Groups.

Mr Chris Clark noted that Wiltshire Council has a duty to maintain Highways and processes are in place to prioritise planned and reactive works objectively. The current budget funding is £23million over three years, with £6million for reactive works. He reiterated that Devizes is not underfunded: in 2020/21 Devizes benefited from £910,000 of repairs, with Chippenham and Trowbridge at £504,000 each. Planned works are informed by technical surveys across the entire county road network; these results are available to the public and would be forwarded to the Town Council for information. It was acknowledged that London Road was 'not in a good state of repair, with some deterioration' and will be patched and then resurfaced, scheduled for 2025-2026.

Members raised further questions on funding, potholes, the poor quality of road repairs and line marking, frustrations with the Wiltshire website and app, auto speed-watch and the rationalisation of car park tariffs.

Councillor Dr Mark McClelland and Mr Chris Clark were thanked for attending and answering local concerns, then left the meeting with Councillor Laura Mayes.

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

PL/2022/03203 - No objection
PL/2022/04211 - No objection
PL/2022/04413 - No objection
PL/2022/04481 - No objection
PL/2022/04605 - No objection

PL/2022/04636 - It was proposed by Councillor Wooldridge, seconded by Councillor Hoult and AGREED

THAT The Committee supported the application.

113. FOR INFORMATION – WILTSHIRE COUNCIL'S NOTICE OF PLANS GRANTED OR REFUSED

The committee received and noted the report.

114. FOR DECISION – TRAFFIC SURVEY REQUEST, LONDON ROAD

Following some discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Oliver, seconded by Councillor Nash and AGREED

THAT Officers would request metro-counts in several locations on London Road, bearing in mind their suitability as future speed-watch sites, and requesting feedback as to whether the Windsor Drive traffic light scheme had proved effective.

115. FOR DECISION – TRAFFIC COMPLAINT IN GREEN LANE

There was some discussion about the status of the area of road in question, members being aware that it was not an adopted highway. It was proposed by Councillor Hopkins, seconded by Councillor Oliver and AGREED

THAT Officers would obtain clarification from Wiltshire Council's Rights of Way and Facilities Management departments of the status of that area of Green Lane in terms of ownership and nature of the byway. Their advice would also be sought about the best approach to dealing with speeding vehicles in that location, with the issue being referred back to a future Planning meeting.

116. QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

CHAIRMAN