

PLANNING & REGULATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held on Monday, 15 January 2024 commencing at 2.00 pm and finishing at 2.29 pm

Present:

Voting Members: Councillor Geoff Saul – in the Chair
Councillor Richard Webber (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Robin Bennett
Councillor Imade Edosomwan
Councillor Mohamed Fadlalla
Councillor Ted Fenton
Councillor Stefan Gawrysiak
Councillor Judy Roberts
Councillor Les Sibley

Other Members in Attendance: N/A

By Invitation:

Officers:

Whole of meeting Rachel Wileman (Director of Planning, Environment and Climate Change), Nicholas Perrins (Head of Strategic Planning), David Periam (Planning Development Manager), Paul Grant (Head of Legal), David Mytton (Legal Services), Shilpa Manek (Democratic Services Officer), Mohamed Cassimjee (Democratic Services Officer)

Part of meeting Del Tester (Highways Specialist)

The Committee considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for the meeting, together with [a schedule of addenda tabled at the meeting][the following additional documents:] and decided as set out below. Except as insofar as otherwise specified, the reasons for the decisions are contained in the agenda and reports [agenda, reports and schedule/additional documents], copies of which are attached to the signed Minutes.

1/24 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS** (Agenda No. 1)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Constance, Rouane and Snowdon.

2/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - SEE GUIDANCE NOTE BELOW

(Agenda No. 2)

Declarations of Interest were received from Councillor Judy Roberts as she is the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure & Development Strategy which covered the HIF1 Scheme.

3/24 MINUTES

(Agenda No. 3)

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 4th September 2023 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

Resolved: that the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 27th September 2023 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair, subject to the amendment on page 15 to Milton Park.

4/24 PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

(Agenda No. 4)

There had been no requests to address the Committee.

5/24 CHAIRMAN'S UPDATES

(Agenda No. 5)

The Chair had no updates for the Committee.

6/24 DIDCOT GARDEN TOWN HIF 1 SCHEME UPDATE

(Agenda No. 6)

The Committee received an update on the requirements and requests made by the inquiry inspector for further information and submissions made in response to them since the 27th September 2023 meeting of this Committee.

Members of the Committee discussed the date of the inquiry and raised that it was also the date of the Budget Full Council meeting on 20 February 2024. Members required legal and impartial advice on how the clash should be managed. The Committee were advised that Members had a priority to attend the Budget Full Council. The first day of the inquiry would mainly be opening statements, there would be no cross-examination. Members felt that a statement should be made at the inquiry explaining the absence of the Councillors and an email to the Inspector and the Case Officer.

It was agreed that advice would be taken of the Monitoring Officer, the case officer would be informed, and individual Member could contact the Inspector alerting them of the clash and registering if they wanted to address the inquiry.

ACTION: Advice sought of Monitoring Officer

ACTION: Circulate Case Officers contact details.

Councillor Bennett commented that on page 33, paragraph 8i, it read that there were no impacts at the Golden Balls Roundabout, but work was being carried out on any impacts, this seemed contradictory. It was clarified that that this would be looked at, as part of the local strategic work that was being carried out. This was not part of the scheme but if any impacts were identified as part of HIF 1 and other wider work, then they would be dealt with by other streams of work.

RESOLVED: that the Committee noted the update report

7/24 SCHEME OF DELEGATION TO OFFICERS

(Agenda No. 7)

The Committee were presented a report to seek a decision to approve an updated scheme of delegation to Officers on Town and Country Planning matters outside those decisions taken by the Planning and Regulation Committee.

The Committee were informed about an email that had been received from Greg O’Broin of Appleford-on-Thames Parish Council. It was requested that the Committee note and approve the updated scheme of delegation to the Corporate Director of Environment and Place under the provisions within the Oxfordshire County Council constitution for the discharge of Town and Country Planning development management and planning enforcement functions as set out in Annex 1 of the report. The Planning Officers committed to look at the scheme of delegation in the light of the comments made and if officers were minded to change anything they would report back. The Chair reminded the Committee that he could request items to be presented at Committee.

Resolved: that the Committee noted and approved the updated scheme of delegation to the Corporate Director of Environment and Place under the provisions within the Oxfordshire County Council constitution for the discharge of Town and Country Planning development management and planning enforcement functions as set out in Annex 1 of the report.

This was proposed by Councillor Gawrysiak and seconded by Councillor Fenton.

..... in the Chair

Date of signing