

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting of the
Planning and Highways Committee
held on Tuesday 9th June 2020 at 7pm
remotely via video conferencing¹

Present: Councillor John Boyd (Chairman)
 Councillors Lourdes Cottam, Ellen Crumly, Paul Field, Richard Foster,
 Mark Lillycrop, David Lister, Simon Pike and Jennifer Walker

In attendance: Mel Taylor (Town Clerk)
 Councillors Richard Crumly and Keith Woodhams
 1 Member of the Press (Newbury Weekly News)

PH/2020/53 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
 There were no apologies for absence.

PH/2020/54 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
 There were no declarations on interest.

PH/2020/55 MINUTES
RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th May 2020, having been
 previously circulated, be taken as read, confirmed and signed as an accurate
 record.

PH/2020/56 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING
 Councillor Pike enquired whether a response had been received from West
 Berkshire Council to the three highways recommendations agreed at the last
 meeting (PH/2020/49(c)) and was advised that receipt had been
 acknowledged, the proposals were being considered and a response was
 awaited.

PH/2020/57 PREMISES LICENCE APPLICATION - PINCHINGTON HALL
 Notification had been received from West Berkshire Council that premises
 licence application number 20/00133/LQN - Pinchington Hall had been
 approved, with conditions
RESOLVED to note the information.

Councillor Woodhams joined the meeting

PH/2020/58 CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) – SAFER PUBLIC PLACES
 i. The following notification had been received from West Berkshire Council:
*“Please be aware that recent government guidance has urged Councils to
 act quickly to implement network changes to reallocate road space to help
 take advantage of changed travel habits before society restarts.*

*Therefore, we intend to press ahead with upgrade of the advisory cycle
 lanes to mandatory cycle lanes and installation of light segregation (orcas)
 on the A4 throughout Thatcham from Tull Way to Floral Way.*

*We will also be installing additional cycle parking in and around Thatcham
 centre using the cycle hoops (spec attached).*

¹ The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

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PH/2020/58 CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) – SAFER PUBLIC PLACES continued

Finally, a scheme that we have ready to be implemented is removing the staggered crossing island at Crown Mead to replace with a single signalised crossing.

We also propose to realign the kerbs here in both directions to provide a stepped cycle track; reallocating space from the carriageway and footway. We intend to press ahead with this whilst traffic levels are lower so I will be in touch with a project notification as soon as we have a date from our contractors.”

It was noted that the cycle parking hoops were expected to be installed by the end of June 2020, the cycle lane upgrades commencing at the beginning of July and taking approximately two weeks, followed by installation of the Orcas.

Members were keen to see a safe cycling campaign launched in the town.

RESOLVED to support the schemes, subject to: implementation of the previously requested speed limit reduction to 30mph at the western edge of the town, which was integral to the cycle lane upgrades in order to provide safer cycling out of Thatcham; and the cycle hoops being installed in unison with other proposed works in the town centre to facilitate the safe re-opening of retail outlets, so as not to obstruct footpaths; and to advise West Berkshire Council Officers of other proposed works at Crown Mead that might need to link in to replacement of the staggered crossing; and to offer the Town Council's assistance with implementation of the schemes based on local knowledge.

- ii. Members received an update from Councillors Boyd, Lister and Pike on a meeting with Gabrielle Mancini (Economic Development Officer, West Berkshire Council), Gareth Dowding and Matt McMahon (Highways Officers, West Berkshire Council) held on 1st June 2020 to discuss temporary measures to be implemented in Thatcham town centre to support the safe re-opening of retail outlets. This included the provision of pedestrian passing points in The Broadway, High Street and Crown Mead by coning off areas of parking bays and the introduction of a one-way system for vehicles at Crown Mead, accessing from the A4 and exiting onto Green Lane.

RESOLVED to support the proposals and to commend the West Berkshire Council Officers for their prompt action.

- iii. Members considered correspondence from a local resident suggesting proposed improvements to the town centre.

RESOLVED to advise the resident that pedestrianisation of the town centre was discussed with West Berkshire Council but concluded that this would not work for Thatcham.

PH/2020/59 WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL SPEED MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK CONSULTATION

Following deferment from the last meeting, Members considered West Berkshire Council's Speed Management Framework, which was open for consultation until 6th July 2020.

RESOLVED that Members submit their individual responses to Councillor Pike for collation into a draft response to West Berkshire Council for consideration at the next meeting of this Committee.

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PH/2020/60 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT / HIGHWAYS / ROAD SAFETY MATTERS

a) Newbury Towpath closed from 22nd June 2020

Notification had been received from West Berkshire Council that Footpath 28 in Newbury (canal towpath) would be closed for surfacing works and maintenance of the canal and riverbanks from Monday 22nd June 2020 for approximately 12 weeks.

RESOLVED to note this information.

PH/2020/61 PLANNING MATTERS

No planning matters had arisen since publication of the agenda.

PH/2020/62 DECISION NOTICES

Members received details of Planning decisions from West Berkshire Council.

RESOLVED To note the information.

PH/2020/63 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members considered the following planning applications:

Plan No.	Ward	Application No.	Location:	Proposal:
1	Thatcham West	20/01075/HOUSE	8 Roman Way	Proposed first floor side extension above existing garage and part conservatory with replacement of conservatory structure, internal alterations including part garage conversion RESOLVED: No Objections
2	Thatcham North East	20/01077/HOUSE	25 Sagecroft Road	Proposed first floor side extension RESOLVED: No Objections
3	Thatcham Colthrop & Crookham	20/01099/FULMAJ	Pinchington Hall Crookham Hill	Section 73 application to vary Condition 2 (approved plans) of previously approved planning permission 13/01637/FULMAJ [amendments to road layout on site, alterations to plot 8, inclusion of a car port for plots 8 and 13] RESOLVED: No Objections

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.27pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____