

## WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

### Notes of a Meeting of the Environment & Town Working Party held 5 July 2021

*Following the government's decision to revoke the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021, the council has decided it is not safe to meet face to face. As it is not able to meet using virtual platforms (e.g. Zoom) it is also unable to discharge its obligation under Open and Accountable Government to ensure transparency by providing public participation. The council has therefore agreed to continue meeting but in the form of a working party.*

*The working party meeting will be held to the same standard as a committee but any decision taken at a working party meeting does not constitute a lawful decision of council - the Council has delegated all decisions to Chair of Council, Deputy Chair and Chairs of Environment & Town and Finance, Buildings & Personnel Committees (4 Councillors) and the Clerk - Resolution C20/180 26/4/2021*

*All delegated decisions will be reported in line with guidelines for Open and Accountable Government (Openness of Local Government Bodies 2014).*

**ET21/26 Present**  
**Cllr A Jordan (Chairman), Cllr S Barker, Cllr M Casselden, Cllr G Gratton, and Cllr J Stockell**  
**In attendance:**  
**2 members of public, Stephanie Walsh (Senior Economic Development Officer, DCC) and Paul Jennings (Town Clerk)**

**ET21/27 Apologies for Absence:**  
**Cllr A Pollock, Cllr P Taylor**

**ET21/28 Variation in Order of Business:**  
to take item 11 Planning Application Referred straight after Open Forum, followed by item 6 Community Recovery Fund

**ET21/29 Members' Pecuniary Interests in Agenda Items:**  
None declared

*Open Forum opened 6:35pm*

**ET21/30 Open Forum**  
A resident spoke regarding planning application 21/00622/FUL

*Open Forum closed 6:40pm*

#### **ET21/31 Planning Application Referred**

21/00622/FUL	Erection of replacement dwelling house and associated garage and studio buildings at Kiln Bank Yokecliffe Lane Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4EG
No Objection	
The Town Council would make the following comments: We understand that in the past, planning applications have restricted the scale of development on	

this site and ask the following issues to be addressed.

The proposed development would significantly increase the size of this dwelling, which will create issues with overlooking and privacy for adjacent properties. Removal of trees will also reduce the current screening, exacerbated by the height of the development.

It is understood from local residents that the adjacent cliff face serves to reflect sound and therefore the development may result in unintended noise nuisance to neighbouring properties (the presence of an elevated games room with raised outside space may also contribute to this issue)

Access to the site is via a former farm track, and we note that the development provides for substantial car parking.

The area below the site already experiences issue with runoff/ drainage concerns, the potential tarmacking of the access road (and/or future widening) combined with the increased footprint of this development will lead to greater issues with water drainage.

It is noted that the current access is not adequate for standard size refuse collection vehicles.

The plan provides for a separate studio with connected services, no specific reference is made to this within the D&A Statement and there is concern that this may be used for business purposes resulting in increased traffic.

### **ET21/32 Community Recovery Fund**

Steph Walsh introduced herself as the officer DCC has assigned to Wirksworth for the bid.

The application by DCC has now been shortlisted by the government. Each of the 6 towns within the Derbyshire bid now need to prepare statements for their town identifying the core elements required within the regeneration project. The first step in this process is to identify a lead person for Wirksworth who will take this forward. It will also be necessary to identify and liaise with the organisations in the town as well as ensuring all residents and businesses are aware of the project.

**REC that the Town Clerk be nominated as the lead person on the project supported by Councillors (lead by Cllr Jordan and Cllr Clamp). It was noted that the Clerk's work pattern excludes Fridays and that Councillors will attend meeting on these days. The council now need to liaise with local groups including NOW, Festival, Heritage Centre, EVR, Ecocentre, Stone Centre and Mount Cook. DCC are preparing a draft press release and this will be used as the basis of any communication to residents (via social media given the timescales). That the clerk circulates the DCC priorities spreadsheet to all councilors to seek feedback and return back to DCC by 8/7/21.**

### **ET21/33 Yokecliffe Play Area**

District Councillors have provided a written update on the management policy of this space especially in regard to rewilding and expressed a wish to engage with the Town Council.

**REC that the matter be deferred and that District Councillors be invited to speak at a future meeting to discuss the District Councils approach to rewilding.**

**Councillors observed that they felt that rewilding needs more management; that confirmation should be sought from any**

**proposed scheme of the proposed specification and ongoing maintenance plan.**

**ET21/34 Raven Sculpture**

A resident has proposed the installation of a Raven Sculpture on one of the Street Lamps on Church Walk. Derbyshire CC will only allow the installation to proceed if the licence application is made by the Town Council (and TC take responsibility for sculpture). The installation would then be insured by the Town Council but would require annual safety inspections to comply with terms of the TC Insurance policy.

**REC that the council postponed any decision on this matter in order to determine the Town Council's broader policy; as this issue will create a perpetual future responsibility for maintenance and monitoring as well as setting a precedent for further requests.**

**ET21/35 Planning Services Statement of Community Involvement**

Derbyshire County Council is consulting upon a draft revised Planning Services Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

**REC that the matter be noted**

**ET21/36 Meadows**

Draft 2<sup>nd</sup> stage consultation documents have been prepared for discussion, the original approach has been refined to allow a similar question format to be used in both paper and electronic communication.

The process for selecting a design partner needs to be agreed before the recess to allow sufficient time to begin the preparation work required.

**REC that the consultation format be revised as outlined and that the council now subscribe to Survey Monkey for 12 months to facilitate the electronic consultation element of the process. That the clerk prepare a short list of potential design partners for agreement in September. The shortlisted parties would be subject to a selection process including seeking outline plan for the space based upon the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage consultation results.**

**ET21/37 Tree Policy**

A draft policy covering the council's response to all future request regarding management of trees.

**REC that the policy be adopted.**

**ET21/38 Planning Applications received**

**REC to receive the recent delegated planning decisions of this Council.**

1	T/21/00052/TPO	Works to tree subject to Tree Preservation Order 009/A1 - Fell 1no. Ash tree (T1) to as to near to ground level as practicable at 4 Copse Close Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4PQ
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WTC - No comment Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		
2	21/00574/FUL	Replacement windows and doors Matchbox Cottage 59 West End Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4EG
WTC - No comment Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		
3	T/21/00074/TCA	Removal of 1no. Conifer tree 35 Gorsey Bank Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4AD
WTC - No comment Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		
4	21/00549/LBALT	Re-build of gable end wall and internal cross wall, replacement of lintel and additional internal structural work at 37A St John Street Wirksworth
WTC - No comment Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		
5	21/00548/ADV	Replacement signage The Quarryman 1 Market Place Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4ET
WTC - No comment Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		
6	21/00642/FUL	Re-roofing of existing single story side extension, insertion of windows and remodeling of existing porch at 3 The Lanes Bolehill Derbyshire DE4 4GJ
WTC - No comment Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		
7	21/00652/FUL	Replacement garage building and garden room/store/home office 10 Yokecliffe Drive Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4EX
WTC - No comment Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		
8	21/00636/FUL	Construction of a conservatory and associated paved area and relevant demolition of an outbuilding in the conservation area at Providence Mill Gorsey Bank Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4AD
WTC - No comment Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		
9	21/00648/FUL	Replacement skate park structures at Fanny Shaws Playing Field Cromford Road Wirksworth Derbyshire
WTC - No comment Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		
10	21/00666/FUL	Single storey side extension at Iona 44 Summer Lane Wirksworth
WTC - No comment Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		
11	T/21/00082/TCA	Remove 1no. Damson tree (T1), 1no. Elder tree (T2), 1no. Sycamore tree (T3), 1no. Apple tree (T5), 2no. Cherry trees (T6 and T7) and 1no. Leylandii (T8). Remove and replant 1no. Spruce tree (T11) and 4no. Leylandiis (T10, T12, T13 and T14). Crown Lift 1no. Goat Willow tree (T4) up to 4.5m and Crown Reduce 1no. Willow tree (T9) by 30% to reshape when surrounding trees have been removed at The Cedars 7 Wirksworth Hall Gardens Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4GX
WTC - No comment Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		
12	21/00622/FUL	Erection of replacement dwellinghouse and associated garage and studio buildings at Kiln Bank Yokecliffe Lane Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4EG
WTC - No comment		

Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		
13	T/21/00092/TCA	Fell 1no. Sycamore tree at Highway Verge At Gorsey Bank Wirksworth
WTC - No comment Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		
14	T/21/00094/TCA	Dismantle 2no. Poplar trees to as near to ground level as possible Our Lady And Saint Teresa Of Lisieux Roman Catholic Church Gorsey Bank Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4AD
WTC - No comment Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		
15	21/00693/FUL	Conversion of former bakehouse to form 1no. dwellinghouse and associated internal and external alterations at Building To The Rear Of The Old Bakehouse 5 St Marys Gate Wirksworth Derbyshire
WTC - No comment Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		
16	21/00743/FUL	Single Storey Extension bat The Stables 1 Wirksworth Hall Farm Wash Green Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4FD
WTC - No comment Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		
17	21/00694/LBALT	Internal and external alterations in association with the conversion of building to dwellinghouse at Building To The Rear Of The Old Bakehouse 5 St Marys Gate Wirksworth Derbyshire
WTC - No comment Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore any development or change should seek to reduce the carbon footprint		

## ET21/39 Planning Decisions & Appeals

(decisions are only to be reported where the Town Council have objected to application.)

None to report	
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*The meeting closed at 7.35pm*

Chairman