

## WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of a Meeting of the Environment & Town Committee held 7 March 2022

*The Council has resolved to allow participants to join meetings via Zoom, but only those councillors present in person may vote or have their attendance counted as qualifying under the statutory rules (e.g. in determining the quoracy of the meeting).*

ET21/108     **Present**  
**Cllr A Jordan (Chairman), Cllr S Barker, Cllr M Bennett and Cllr A Clamp.**

**In attendance:**  
**Paul Jennings (Town Clerk)**  
Attending via Zoom: Cllr A Pollock

ET21/109     **Apologies for Absence: Cllr M Casselden, Cllr J Stockell and Cllr P Taylor**

ET21/110     **Variation in Order of Business: None**

ET21/111     **Members' Pecuniary Interests in Agenda Items:**

Cllr Pollock (Pecuniary) – Planning Application T/22/00021/TC Reduction from approx 8m to 4m in height of 1no. Holly Tree
Cllr Clamp (Personal) – item 13 Middleton Td, S106 provisions (as Chair of NOW)

ET21/112     **Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of the Environment & Town Committee dated 12 April 2021 were confirmed as a correct record.**

ET21/113     **Cultivation Licence**  
A request has been received to make an application on behalf of a resident to Derbyshire County Council for a Cultivation license to allow planting of a verge.

**REC that the resident be directed to join a group such as Wilder Wirksworth.**

ET21/114     **Council Tax charged on long term empty homes**  
To discuss what steps the Town Council might take to encourage empty homes to be returned to the housing stock of the town.

**REC that the council write offering their support to the Empty Property Officer at District Council.**

ET21/115     **Town Plan**  
To consider the proposal (made during Full Council open forum on 21/2/22) to establish a Town Plan (not Neighbourhood Plan) to “plan for what people want Wirksworth to be in 10/15 years, to protect the identity of the town and provide a strategic plan to achieve this”.

**REC that the Town Council establish a working party to determine the structure of the plan and then research and collect information to aid the preparation of the plan.**

ET21/116

**Kingsfield Play Area Trees**

A quotation has now been received to undertake works to the trees surrounding the Play Area. The site is leased from Recreation Ground Trustees. The works will reduce and thin the canopies as well as damaged limbs to allow the removal of the installed tree sling supporting the cracked branch.

**REC that the Clerk progress the matter seeking approval from the Tree Officer as well the Trustees and proceed once agreement has been received.**

ET21/117

**Town Footpath Maintenance**

Investigate position in regard to the maintenance responsibilities for path across Harrison Drive (footbridge).

**REC that Cllr Bennett be delegated to investigate the ownership and status of the path and footbridge and (if required) to request that DCC apply a diversion order and also to request adoption as a highway.**

ET21/118

**Stoney Wood StarDisc**

Request received from a resident regarding measures to tackle antisocial behaviour at this site (and Fanny Shaws)

**REC that the Clerk respond with a summary of the actions taken by the council to mitigate ASB on the site. That the resident be introduced to Stoney Wood Group.**

ET21/119

**Stoney Wood Car Park**

Request received to review the decision to block access to entrance - the blocks were installed to prevent unauthorised access to the car park/Stoney Wood following the District Council's decision to designate their land adjacent to the entrance as a temporary tolerated travellers' site.

**REC that the blocks remain in place whilst the adjacent DDDC site remains a Temporary Tolerated Travellers site. That the Clerk be delegated to create site access to Stoney Wood when required by groups to get large vehicles/equipment into the woodland (as there are costs to this action, the cost of moving the blocks should be borne by applicant where the event is for profit).**

ET21/120

**18/00741/OUT Middleton Road Wirksworth - section 106 provisions**

New Opportunity Wirksworth are seeking support for their request for Skate Park funding via S106 linked to the development at Middleton Rd.

**REC that the Town Council write in support NOW's request for S106 support to build a replacement skatepark, but that it should be made clear that this doesn't mitigate the Town Council's overriding priority that there should be affordable housing on the site.**

ET21/121 **Rail link between Matlock and Nottingham (attached)**  
To consider what steps might be taken to support the re-introduction of the direct Matlock to Nottingham Rail link

**REC that the Town Council support the actions and request of Belper Town Council. That a copy of support letter be shared with A Morley (Rail Partnership) and Sarah Dines, MP.**

**ET21/122 Planning Applications received**

1	22/00061/FUL	Relevant demolition of a dwelling in a conservation area and erection of replacement dwellinghouse with associated access alterations Chandlers West End Wirksworth Matlock Derbyshire DE4 4EG
WTC - No comment, However Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore supports any development or change that seeks to reduce the carbon footprint		
2	22/00089/FUL	Single storey rear extension and conversion of garage to habitable accommodation at 1 Alton View Wash Green Wirksworth Matlock
WTC - No comment, However Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore supports any development or change that seeks to reduce the carbon footprint		
3	21/01289/FUL	Erection of dwellinghouse Honeysuckle Cottage 79 The Dale Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4EJ
WTC - No comment, However Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore supports any development or change that seeks to reduce the carbon footprint		
4	T/21/00213/TCA	Felling of 1 no. Norwegian Spruce and 1 no. Leylandii 36 West End Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4EG
WTC - No comment, However Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore supports any development or change that seeks to reduce the carbon footprint		
5	22/00101/FUL	Partial rebuild of existing conservatory at Town End Pingle Middleton Road Wirksworth Matlock Derbyshire DE4 4PJ
WTC - No comment, However Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore supports any development or change that seeks to reduce the carbon footprint		
6	T/22/00026/TCA	Fell 1no. Western Red Cedar Tree at Yokecliffe House West End Wirksworth Matlock Derbyshire DE4 4EG
WTC - No comment, However Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore supports any development or change that seeks to reduce the carbon footprint		
7	T/22/00029/TCA	Fell 1no. T1 Sycamore Tree and 1no. T2 Ash tree, crown reduction of 1no. T3 Hawthorn tree and crown lift of G1 mixed species including Beech, Ash, Oak and Sycamore by removal of marked branches 3 Gate House Gatehouse Drive Wirksworth Matlock Derbyshire DE4 4DL
WTC - No comment, However Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore supports any development or change that seeks to reduce the carbon footprint		

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

**ET21/123 Planning Decisions & Appeals**

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

None to report

*The meeting closed at 7.25pm*

Chairman