

## WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

### Meeting of the Environment & Town Committee held 12 April 2021

**ET20/82 Present**

Cllr A Jordan (Chairman), Cllr S Barker, Cllr M Casselden, Cllr A Pollock, Cllr J Stockell, and Cllr P Taylor

**In attendance:**

1 member of the public and Paul Jennings (Town Clerk)

**ET20/83 Apologies for Absence:**

Cllr C Foster Phillips

**ET20/84 Variation in Order of Business:**

To take item 9, Implementation of Government Climate Change Policy at a Local Level after confirming minutes (item 5).

**ET20/85 Members' Pecuniary Interests in Agenda Items:**

None declared

*Open Forum opened 6:35pm*

**ET20/86 Open Forum:**

A member of the public spoke about their concerns regarding the disparity between the urgency of actions to tackle Climate Change (e.g solar panels) versus planning policy and decisions that safeguard the visual quality and character of the environment.

*Open Forum closed 6:45pm*

**ET20/87 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment & Town Committee dated 1 March 2021 were confirmed as a correct record.

**ET20/88 Implementation of Government Climate Change Policy at a Local Level**

A resident has contacted the council regarding the local application of national government climate change policy and seeking support/engagement of the council.

RECOMMEND this committee recommends to the Council the following policy: In the light of the Council's declaration of a climate emergency, the Council's presumption on planning applications for the installation of solar panels and of wind turbines should be of approval throughout the Council's area of authority. Proposals that the Council object to approval in particular cases should be discussed by the Full Council. The Committee further recommends that the issue of the installation of equipment designed to counteract the climate emergency should be covered in the forthcoming revision of the Neighbourhood Plan. That the council communicate this policy to both the District and County Council.

**ET20/89 Power for People local Electricity Bill (Climate Change WP)**  
 Proposal to WTC to add their support for this proposed bill and to write to Sarah Dines to request to add her support for this bill which has cross party support.

RECOMMEND the matter be referred to Full Council for discussion and approval.

**ET20/90 Swift boxes for the Town Hall / Memorial Hall (Climate Change WP)**  
 Proposal for boxes to be installed on Town Council Buildings (St Mary’s Church installing 4 boxes).

RECOMMEND that the matter be deferred with a further review and discussion to be triggered by either guidance from Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, community groups or councillors.

**ET20/91 Inconsiderate Parking Complaint**  
 A resident has complained about the parking near to Ecclesbourne Close and Water Lane Junction obstructing view of traffic. The Police have suggested contacting WTC to enquire regarding traffic restrictions.

RECOMMEND that the matter be deferred for 6 weeks pending the elections for a new representative Councillor at Derbyshire County Council. The council should then seek a meeting with the new elected councillor to raise this and other matters under County Council responsibility.

**ET20/92 Planning Applications Received:**

RESOLVED to receive the recent delegated planning decisions of this Council.

1	21/00217/LBALT	Internal alterations at 21 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		
2	21/00146/PDE	Application for Larger Home Extension - Single storey rear extension projecting 3.7m from rear wall, with a eaves height of 3m and a maximum height of 4m at 18 King Street Middleton By Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4ND
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/21/00019/TC A	Fell all Ash trees in indicated area because of ash die back at Land To The West Of Town End Pingle Middleton 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		

4	21/00268/FUL	Single storey side extension at 5 Blind Lane Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4EZ
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	21/00318/FUL	Single storey rear extension at 28 Cromford Road Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4FR
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	T/21/00026/TC A	Crown Reduce 5no. Yew trees (T1 - T5) by 1.5m over driveway at The Gatehouse Gatehouse Drive 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		

### **ET20/93 Planning Decisions and Appeals:**

RESOLVED to receive the recent planning decisions and appeals.  
(decisions are only to be reported where the Town Council have objected to application.)

20/01247/CLEUD - 21/00016/WREP - APP/3269588	Appeal - Certificate of Lawfulness of Existing Use - Use of former barn as dwelling house at - Manor Lodge, Little Bolehill, Bolehill -
--	---

*The meeting closed at 7.15pm*

Chairman