

## WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of a Meeting of the Environment & Town Committee held 4 March 2024

**ET23/107 Present**  
Cllr S Maskrey (Chairman\*), Cllr S Barker, Cllr A Pollock, Cllr P Taylor and Cllr Thompson  
In attendance: 1 member of the public, 1 representative of the Cricket Club, Paul Jennings (Town Clerk)

**ET23/108 Apologies for Absence: Cllr F Rostron**

**ET23/109 Variation in Order of Business: None**

**ET23/110 Members' Pecuniary Interests in Agenda Items:**

Cllr Maskrey	As chair of Recreation Ground Trustees an objection has been made to planning application
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*Open Forum opened 6:35pm, Cllr Barker assumed chair and Cllr Maskrey joined the public gallery.*

**ET23/111 Open Forum:**

A representative of Wirksworth Cricket Club provided a further update on the ongoing issue of the responsibility for the provision of a protective fence between the new housing development at Millers Green and the cricket pitch.

Cllr Maskrey (exercising his right to speak as a resident of Wirksworth – SO3e) provided more information about the fence issue from the perspective of the Recreation Ground Trustees

A member of public contributed to the discussion to provide more information about matter.

*Open Forum closed 7:15pm, Cllr Maskrey left the room for the duration of the next item.*

**ET23/112 Planning Application Referred**

24/00070/VCOND	Variation of Condition 1 of planning permission 22/00634/REM to allow amendments to the design of Plot 5 at Land at Chequers Farm Workshop Millers Green Wirksworth Derbyshire
Objection – the application makes no reference to a protective fence which we understand is currently an issue which is unresolved within the overall planning application (19/00455/OUT). The Town Council supports the principle of additional housing within Wirksworth. The Town Council would not object to the proposal if all parties can reach agreement regarding the issue of a safety fence between the housing development and the cricket club.	

**ET23/113 Minutes: the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment and Town Committee held on 8 January 2024 were confirmed as a correct record.**

**ET23/114 Pavement Access**

A resident has raised concerns over accessibility of the pavement especially in the vicinity of the old market place (matter referred by full council for discussion by E&T Committee).

**REC that a request be made to Derbyshire County Council that the bollards currently inset be moved to the edge of the pavement to prevent parking. The stone pavers have been damaged by vehicles and in some cases temporary repairs have been made using tarmac, the Town Council request that the Highways repair and reinstate the surfacing back to stone pavers. The issues to raised with C Cllr Murphy to escalate and champion within Highways.**

**ET23/115 Meadows (referred by Full Council 18/12/23)**

To discuss the nature (and frequency) of issuing updates regarding developments on the Meadows.

**REC that going forward updates are undertaken at least every 3 months or more frequently for project milestones.**

**ET23/116 Peak and Northern Footpaths Society**

Contact regarding the Breamfields RoW case and a request whether Wirksworth Town Council wish to support their work (they offer affiliate membership).

**REC that affiliate membership be taken with PNFS, to be reviewed each council term (i.e. 4 years). That a letter of thanks be sent to the organisation for their work especially regarding the research in relation to the Breamfields footpath.**

**ET23/117 Parking Water Lane**

A resident has raised concerns regarding parking on the verge at Water Lane

**REC that matter be raised with C Cllr Murphy also requesting an update on the proposed highways amendments to street markings (and also other proposed schemes within the Town such as Coldwell St).**

**ET23/118 Mini roundabout on Derby Road**

A resident has contacted the Town Council to seek improvements to the signage and road markings as they feel that the signage and road markings are not very clear when approaching from Warmbrook, particularly in poor light and weather.

**REC that matter be raised with C Cllr Murphy requesting an update (following his response to the resident) given the safety concerns and as the roundabout was originally installed following a fatality to mitigate the safety issues posed by this junction. Delegate Cllr Maskrey to chase up C Cllr Murphy directly regarding progress on this matter.**

**ET23/119 Annual Playground Safety Reports**

To consider the annual reports by the independent inspector assessing the safety and condition of outside spaces managed/inspected by Town Council (Wash Green Play Area, Kingsfield Play Area and Stoney Wood). The Fanny Shaw Skate Park was not inspected as rebuild works are still underway.

**REC that all items be reviewed and action in line with the inspector's recommendations and risk assessment.**

**ET23/120 Memorial Bench Policy**

The policy adopted for by Wirksworth Town Council does not currently include benches within Stoney Wood, this inconsistency creates a gap between the health and safety obligations on the Town Council and the management/maintenance of benches by Stoney Wood Group.

**REC that the Memorial Bench Policy be extended to cover Stoney Wood, but that any future requests for memorial benches within the woodland be considered in liaison with Stoney Wood Group. The Memorial Bench removed within Stoney Wood (risk and action identified within the annual playgrounds safety report) to be replaced with a new bench available for rededication, in line with the existing precedent set with current benches on WTC land. The new bench to be offered to the previous donor of the removed memorial bench, and that a variation of the policy be made to allow 2 names and dates on the memorial plaque.**

**ET23/121 Planning Applications received (Delegated Planning - Appendix 1)  
Prior to March meeting**

1	23/01319/FUL	Erection of agricultural shed for storage of equipment and machinery (retrospective) at Breamfield Cottage Farm Breamfield Lane Wirksworth
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint" The Town Councils position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape		
2	24/00070/VCOND	Variation of Condition 1 of planning permission 22/00634/REM to allow amendments to the design of Plot 5 at Land At Chequers Farm Workshop Millers Green Wirksworth Derbyshire
Objection – the application makes no reference to a protective fence which we understand is currently an issue which is unresolved within the overall planning application (19/00455/OUT). The Town Council supports the principle of additional housing within Wirksworth. The Town Council would not object to the proposal if all parties can reach agreement regarding the issue of a safety fence between the housing development and the cricket club.		
3	24/00068/LBALT	Underpinning of internal walls Gells Flats Church Walk Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4DP
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint" The Town Councils position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape		
4	T/24/00031/TCA	Various works to 5 Lime trees Waltham House St John Street Wirksworth Derbyshire
WTC - No comment; however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seek to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Councils position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape		
5	T/24/00034/TPO	T1 Sycamore - Pruning of large branches at 5B The Lanes Bolehill Derbyshire DE4 4GJ
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint" The Town Councils position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape		
6	T/24/00033/TPO	Reduction, Pollard or Removal of 1 Sycamore Tree Fell 2 Sycamore trees 5A The Lanes Bolehill Derbyshire DE4 4GJ

WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint” The Town Councils position will be that a building’s impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape		
7	23/01126/FUL	Construction of 4no. short stay holiday accommodation units, amenity building, access road, landscaping and other associated works Land Adjacent Highfields Oakerthorpe Road Bolehill Derbyshire
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint” The Town Councils position will be that a building’s impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape		
8	24/00098/FUL	Single and two storey rear extension at 6 Stafford Crescent Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4AX
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint” The Town Councils position will be that a building’s impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape		
9	24/00077/FUL	Change of use of office building to 1no. dwellinghouse (resubmission) Manor Lodge Little Bolehill Bolehill Derbyshire
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint” The Town Councils position will be that a building’s impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape		
10	24/00060/FUL	Demolition of agricultural barns and erection of 1no.dwellinghouse for use as a holiday let at Land At Sough Lane Bolehill Derbyshire
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint” The Town Councils position will be that a building’s impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape		
11	24/00137/FUL	Change of use of land to domestic garden, erection of rear extension and alterations to porch at Breamfield Cottage Farm Breamfield Lane Wirksworth
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint” The Town Councils position will be that a building’s impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape		

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

**ET23/122 Planning Decisions & Appeals**

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

None to report
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**REC that the matter be noted.**

*The meeting closed at 8:00pm*

Chairman