

WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Environment & Town Committee held 7 October 2024

ET24/50 Present
Cllr S Maskrey (Chairman), Cllr S Barker, Cllr F Rostron, Cllr P Taylor and Cllr S Thompson

In attendance:
9 residents and Paul Jennings (Town Clerk)

ET24/51 Apologies for Absence: Cllr A Pollock

ET24/52 Variation in Order of Business: to take items 11 Storm Babet and 13 DCC Footpath Extinguishment Order after item 8 Safer Roads.

ET24/53 Members' Pecuniary Interests in Agenda Items:

None declared

Open Forum opened 6:35pm

ET24/54 Open Forum:

A resident spoke about lack of parking within Wirksworth in adjacent Town and the impact of the proposed TROs on parking.

A resident spoke to object to TRO HMT/SH/662/22 as they felt parked cars slow traffic.

A resident presented a report from the Safer Roads group – the group would prefer to see parking as it results in natural traffic management and were unclear how the TRO's fit within a wider strategy for traffic management within the Town and the group did not support reducing/restricting parking.

A resident spoke in favour of the Water Lane TRO which they felt would help alleviate some of the access issues to Gorsey Bank.

3 representatives from local businesses near Water Lane talked about the ongoing difficulties and risks posed by flooding to continuity of their business as well risk to health/safety from the flash floods (they reported that there have been at least 2 injuries).

Open Forum closed 7:20pm

ET24/55 Minutes: the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment and Town Committee held on 2 September 2024 were confirmed as a correct record.

ET24/56 Traffic Regulation Orders

DCC are consulting on a number of proposed Traffic Regulation Orders in Wirksworth.

REC that a response be made as follows:-

We would request that amendments be made to the proposed TROs:

Ref HMT/SH/206/23 that the restriction to the southern side of Water Lane be extended to the end of the Footway.

Ref HMT/SH/208/23 that the proposed prohibition of waiting at any time on the west side of St Johns St either side of the crossing be removed from the TRO.

Ref HMT/SH/663/22 that restrictions proposed for the northern side of the road opposite the Market Place Car Park be amended to retain space for 2 cars to be parked either side of the entrance to yard i.e. that the restriction be amended either side of these "spaces", but that the existing prohibition of waiting during daytime be retained, so that cars may park there in the evenings. (Amended drawings attached).

Furthermore, the Town Council request a wider review of traffic management strategy across Wirksworth to include potential TROs for other areas such as Middleton Rd, Summer Lane*, North End junction as well as more nuanced approach which would assist with parking, road safety for users and pedestrians as well as traffic flow through the Town.

*The Town Council would request an urgent review of the Summer Lane junction following increased level of concern from residents regarding the safety of the junction and given that the traffic island was installed in response to a road fatality at the location.

ET24/57 Risk of traffic accident at the bottom of Summer Lane Wirksworth
A resident has raised concerns regarding safety due to cars parking close to the junction.

REC that consideration be given to a TRO, given the danger to life and given that the traffic island was installed in response to a road fatality at the junction.

ET24/58 Safer Roads for Wirksworth Group
Update on progress and how can WTC support the plans for Road Safety Week 17th November and its collaboration with the Middleton Speed camera initiative.
Cllr Taylor circulated a written report to the meeting.

REC that the existing Concessionary Room Booking policy be varied to allow the Safer Roads Group to hold longer consultations including at the weekend (The group will pay for the hire of the Memorial Hall).

ET24/59 The Derbyshire County Council (Public Footpaths Nos. 65 (part), 67, 68 & 69 – Parish of Wirksworth) Public Path Extinguishment Order 2024

REC that Town Council object to the proposed closure of FP65 and wish to understand the rationale for the proposed extinguishment order to this well used footpath.

ET24/60 Storm Babet
A resident has reported that injuries occurred during flooding last year within Wirksworth and has sought guidance on what authorities

should be contacted to ensure measures are taken to avoid a repeat of these incidents.

REC that given the wider issue of flooding and drainage issue throughout the town that the matter be referred to Full Council with a proposal that District and County Councillors should be requested to attend a separate meeting with the Town Council to seek action in addressing this issue.

ET24/61 Memorial Plaque Request

An update has been received regarding the request to allow the reinstallation of a plaque to the tree at the rear of Memorial Hall.

REC that permission be given to install a small plaque at the base of the tree for a period of 5 years (following the same process/using same documentation as the Memorial Bench Scheme but with no costs in this period).

ET24/62 Works to Tree at Memorial Hall

The London Plane requires regular trimming to manage the growth of the tree and ensure that the canopy does reach the road. The clerk has contacted Thompson Tree Services who have submitted a quote.

REC that the works be undertaken and that given the recent tree fall in the rear garden that these works be arranged for the same time.

ET24/63 Budget 2025/26

To consider any potential / additional expenditure required in the following financial year.

REC that no items at present.

ET24/64 DDDC - Review of Polling Districts, Places and Stations 2024

Request for comment on the Council's proposals including submissions and suggestions for alternative polling places.

REC that the matter be noted.

ET24/65 Planning Applications received

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

1	24/00499/FUL	Replacement Windows and Doors at 61 Greenhill Wirksworth DE4 4EN
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
2	24/00451/FUL	Replacement door and first floor windows 43 St John Street Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4DS
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint.		

The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
3	24/00459/FUL	Replacement of existing roof with Firestone rubber flat roof. Albert House 15 North End Wirksworth Derbyshire
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
4	T/24/00118/TCA	Fell 1no. ash tree at Land South East Of Meerbrook Drive Wirksworth
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
5	T/24/00119/TPO	Fell 1 sycamore at 30 Yokecliffe Avenue Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4DJ
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
6	24/00468/FUL	Replacement of existing garage Charnwood 21 Cromford Road Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4FH
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
7	DC/1045/SF7XYEF U06503	Alterations in association with change of use from school to dwellinghouse Wirksworth Infant School Harrison Drive Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4GZ
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
8	24/00523/FUL	Change of use from self-storage facility to car showroom and associated extensions at Unit 4 Water Lane Ind Est, Water Lane Wirksworth, DE4 4AA
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
9	T/24/00129/TCA	Fell 1 Ash Tree at Ebenezer Cottage 11A The Lanes Bolehill DE4 4GJ
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
10	T/24/00125/TCA	Reduction of the conifer hedge The Old Manor House Coldwell Street Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4FB
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
11	T/24/00132/TCA	T19 Ash - Dismantle close to ground level The Meadows Summer Lane Wirksworth Derbyshire
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		

12	24/00608/FUL	Erection of a detached dwelling 2 Cromford Road Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4FH
<p>WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.</p>		
13	24/00613/VCOND	Wardmans (Matlock) Limited Haarlem Mill Derby Road Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4BG
<p>WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.</p>		
14	24/00523/FUL	Change of use from self-storage facility to car showroom and associated extensions at Units 1 To 5 Water Lane Industrial Estate Water Lane Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4AA
<p>WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.</p>		
15	24/00624/CLEUD	Certificate of Lawful Existing Use - Use of land as a building and engineering contractors plant yard at Manor Lodge Little Bolehill Bolehill Derbyshire
<p>WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.</p>		
16	24/00644/FUL	Replacement of existing roof and installation of roof windows to the rear 7 North End Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4FG
<p>WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.</p>		
17	24/00654/REM	Reserved matters consent for the erection of 1no. dwellinghouse with approval being sought for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale (Outline Planning Permission 21/00847/OUT) 51 Wash Green Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4FD
<p>WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.</p>		
18	24/00663/FUL	Erection of 4 glamping pods, associated hard and soft landscaping works including car parking and access to units at The Racecourse, Ashleyhay, Hardhurst Farm Hey Lane Wirksworth Derbyshire
<p>WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.</p>		
19	T/24/00156/TCA	Remove to ground level 1no. Persian Ironwood (T1) 17 West End Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4EG
<p>WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.</p>		

20	24/00705/LBALT	Installation of finish to roof, linings to gutters and concrete repair to the pediment of the War Memorial at War Memorial New Road Bolehill Derbyshire – TC application no comments can be submitted
<p>WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.</p>		
21	24/00695/FUL	Proposed installation of 6 no. air source heat pumps and 87 no. solar PV panels at Wirksworth Leisure Centre Hannage Way Wirksworth DE4 4JG
<p>WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.</p>		
22	24/00694/FUL	Proposed change of use from private studio to residential use The Studio Crown Yard Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4ET
<p>WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.</p>		

ET24/66 Planning Decisions & Appeals

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

None to report

RES that the matter be noted.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Chairman