

# Extraordinary Meeting of Woodstock Town Council

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 at 4.30 pm

Assembly Room, Woodstock Town Hall

## MINUTES

**Present:** Cllrs: Bailey, Faulkner, Grant, Lamb, Manby-Brown, Manson, M. Parkinson, U. Parkinson, Parnes, Poskitt (Town Mayor, in the Chair and minuting), Spencer-Churchill.

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Bleakley

### 2. Declarations of Interest

None

### 3. Public Speaking and Question Time

Two residents spoke.

One expressed his disagreement with the OCC parking proposals on the grounds of:

Parking charges

Associated street equipment

Positioning of cycle stands

Problems for church goers and surgery attendees

Rigidity of the plans and questionable process

Reduction in free parking already from WODC installation of ECV charging points at Hensington Road car park

Lack of WODC enforcement for limited parking places in Woodstock

Ought some Cllrs have made Declarations of Interest?

Another resident spoke of the concerns of residents of Rectory Lane and Park Lane at the seemingly unending applications for further work at Woodstock. For over five years these residents have endured:

Mud on roads

Scaffolding and/or workers' cars and development related lorries blocking

Rectory Lane long stay parking

Noise and dust

The effects of large vehicles going up Rectory Lane – which are causing structural damage to the foundations of some of the houses in Rectory Lane.

Appeals to the builders have met with only temporary improvements and a letter to the owners of Woodstock House has so far gone unanswered.

Even at the late stage in development, could WYC request WODC produce a Traffic Management Plan to manage these abuses.

### 4. To consider a response from Woodstock Town Council as a Statutory Consultee to Oxfordshire County Council's parking plan for Woodstock

The Mayor introduced this item by reading out for members of the public present, the summary of a paper she had received earlier that afternoon and had circulated immediately to all Cllrs. This was from OCC summarising the OCC Officers'

recommendation to Cllr Gant, OCC Cabinet Member for Highway Management, who would be deciding this issue on 26<sup>th</sup> May. The recommendation was to approve the Proposed Pay and Display etc. Plan with the following changes:

- The proposed free parking period within the 3 hour paid parking bays is extended from 30-minutes to 1 hour.
- The proposed max stay duration in the ultra-short stay bays is extended from 20-minutes to 30-minutes.
- The proposed 2 hour limited waiting bay on New Road is amended to a 3-hour limited waiting bay.
- A further assessment by officers is undertaken to consider the introduction of permits for visitors to Guest Houses, Hotels and Holiday Lets within the scheme. This will require further public consultation.
- A further assessment by officers is undertaken to consider the best use of the existing 2-hour bays on Park Lane. This will require further public consultation. □ To amend the schedule of permit eligibility to include 1-11 Oxford Street.

- a) To discuss a response from Woodstock Town Council as a Statutory Consultee to Oxfordshire County Council's parking plan for Woodstock.

Cllr Parnes opened the discussion commenting on the previous day's Town Poll on the question: *"Do you want to keep all parking areas free of charge in Woodstock?"* 404 residents had answered 'yes' and 54 had answered 'No'. Cllr Parnes stated this was a clear majority view and proposed a motion to go with form results of the Town Poll that::

**The response to the OCC consultation will be that the Town Council acknowledges the result of the Town Poll as attached.**

The proposal was seconded by Cllr Grant.

There was discussion that that Poll reflected the views of a small number of the potential electorate with 83% of the electorate's views remaining unknown. The implications of a Town Poll were not binding on anyone. Woodstock Town Council was a statutory consultee on the matter of the Parking Plan The purpose of calling this Extraordinary WTC meeting was to try to form a consensus view on aspects of the Plan.

The proposer and seconded made it clear that the intention of the motion was that the result of the Poll would be the Council's only response as statutory consultee.

A named vote was called for:

**For:** Cllrs Faulkner, Grant, Lamb, Manby-Brown, M Parkinson, U Parkinson, Parnes, Spencer-Churchill

**Against:** Cllr Poskitt

**Abstaining:** Cllrs Bailey, Manson.

**The motion that the response to the OCC consultation will be that the Town Council acknowledges the result of the Town Poll as attached.**

was **CARRIED**.

- b) To appoint leading Members to write the response to submit to all Members for comments and amendments.

In view of the motion passed in item 4a, it was agreed that Item 4b was no longer relevant and should not be discussed.

At this point Cllr M Parkinson left the meeting.

## 5. Planning & Licensing

### **22/01098/HHD Hope House 14 Oxford Street Woodstock**

*Refurbishment to existing dwelling to include part replacement rear lean-to roof structure, removal of existing lean-to outbuilding and relocation of A/C units to second floor existing fire escape platform.*

No objection

### **22/01088/LBC Hope House 14 Oxford Street Woodstock**

*Internal and external alterations to refurbish existing dwelling to include replacement of existing rear external door, insertion of new window opening, part replacement rear lean-to roof structure, removal of C20 internal works and finished to allow relocation of existing kitchen and formation of ground floor Pantry, Utility, Cloakroom and first floor shower room and associated service works. Removal of existing lean-to outbuilding and relocation of A/C units to second floor existing fire escape platform*

It was agreed most of the alternations are not visible to passers-by, but there was no Conservation Officer's comment on the application, apart from a comment made on the pre-application plan of March 2021. The Council was unable to comment on this application without a Conservation Officer's view.

### **22/00968/FUL Woodstock House Rectory Lane Woodstock**

*Installation of external stairs to access new underground storage below existing garden, replacement garden walls and construction of detached garden room together with associated works and landscaping in relation to the conversion currently being undertaken.*

This proposal was discussed along with 22/00969/LBC

### **22/00969/LBC Woodstock House Rectory Lane Woodstock**

*Alterations to include replacement garden walling in relation to the conversion currently being undertaken*

The proposal is not visible to those outside the boundaries of Woodstock House, but the Council notes that there is no Conservation Officer's report for the application for Listed Building Consent which makes it difficult to comment. No planning objections were raised.

However, there was great concern and sympathy for the nearby residents who had been suffering from the effects of the development for years. This latest development application appeared to require removal of large quantities of earth which presumably would have to be transported away from the site by sizeable vehicles.

In view of all the comments previously made by residents about this application and the presentation by a resident at the beginning of this meeting, Council agreed that the following requests should be included in the response to the application:

- 1) A weight and size restriction to be placed on any vehicle accessing to/from Woodstock House.
- 2) A Construction Management Plan which includes strict controls on the timings of delivery and removal of materials to/from the site.
- 3) All contractor vehicles, and those of site workmen, to be parked on site and not on public parking/on street spaces.

- 4) Regular and frequent road sweeping and clearance of mud and dirt on Rectory Lane and Park Lane.

The Council would be pleased to receive an outline plan of when and how this development will reach its conclusion.

Cllr Poskitt said she would ask to meet with Senior Planning Officers at WODC to stress the distress of residents close to the development and make it clear that there should be some sort of traffic management plan with restrictions on the size of vehicles used at this site. The whole town deserved an indication of when this prolonged project would be completed.

The meeting concluded at 5.35pm

**I omitted to note when the meeting ended. I think it was about 5.35 but I may be corrected on that.**