# Minutes of Wotton-under-Edge Town Council Extraordinary Meeting

# held on Monday 31st August 2022 at 7.30pm in the Civic Centre

## Present: Cllrs M Tucker, J Cordwell, R Claydon, J Lewis,

## T Luker, D Thomas, T Young

## In attendance: District Cllr C Braun, K Tucker, G James; A Durn (Town Clerk); 1 member of the public.

## 

## T.6659 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted for Cllrs N Pinnegar, S Hunt, P Barton, and L Taylor

No apologies received from Cllrs T Creese and J Turner

## T.6660 To receive Declarations of Interest and requests for Dispensations

None were received

## T.6661 To approve the Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of the Town Council on 22nd August 2022

It was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Extraordinary Town Council meeting held on 22nd August 2022 as a true and fair record.

## T.6662 Public Forum

## Members of the public can make representations, raise questions, or submit comments

District Cllr C Braun was asked about the Co-Cars scheme. She responded that she would send information to the Town Clerk.

There were no other comments or queries.

## T.6663 Symn Lane Car Park

## To receive an explanation of the car park, the EV Charging and Solar Canopy projects

Reports had previously been circulated. It was reported that there had not been an update or response from the developer. The Site Foreman had said that the current work was on the houses and there was a delay on the car park due to difficulty in obtaining supplies.

An explanation was given on the ev chargers project which will consit of 6 x 7KW chargers. Funding was being sought for a solar canopy which is like a car port that has solar panels which provides e-charging. A planning application would be needed to be submitted for the solar canopy.

## To receive feedback from the residents’ site meeting and agree actions

The Chairman met with concerned residents near the car park. The residents said they had not been included in any developer consultation and were not aware of any consultation meetings that had been held. There were not aware of the detail of the planning application. The first developer, Colburn Homes, had sent apologies to the residents for the lack of consultation. A query was raised regarding the awareness of the GP Surgery to the plan and access to the site. A CCTV meeting will be held with the CCTV contractor and Cllrs M Tucker and R Claydon.

The residents meeting discussed:

* Number of spaces – 80 car spaces for residents, visitors, long stay, and 2 coach bays for visitors
* Opening times – 24/7 no restrictions
* Barriers – none
* Litter picking – needs to be arranged
* Subsidence and maintenance for the bank and its stability – to be discussed with the developer
* Planting, landscaping, screening – residents want to be consulted. The developer should produce a Management Plan for landscaping
* Deep void between the walls and security – safety and security to be discussed with the developer
* The residents have sent the Stroud District Planner their concerns

It was RESOLVED to ask the developer for a site meeting with residents to discuss their concerns.

## To agree the landscaping plan as proposed by Stroud District Council Planning

There was a discussion on suitable tree species for the car park and the species used in other car parks.

It was RESOLVED to consult the Tree Wardens and delegate the decision to the Town Clerk and Chairman.

## To discuss access path for residents and visitors to GP Surgery and residences and agree actions

The concerns of the residents were raised and the utilities and main services locations.

It was RESOLVED to discuss with the developer at a site meeting.

## To agree signage and time restrictions

The Chairman is to update the proposed signs and bring back to the next Council meeting.

## To agree preferred designs of noticeboards

A noticeboard is to be located between the coach bays and the Horse Chestnut tree and will include a town map and information. Some noticeboard designs were considered. The style used by Cirencester Town Council was preferred.

It was RESOLVED to bring back to the next Council meeting,

## To agree preferred designs for cycle stands

The provision of cycle stands are the responsibility of the developer as part of the planning condition. There was a discussion on the style and whether they should be secure bike racks. It was suggested that a secure bike area should be provided in the Chipping Car Park as the Symn Lane car park would be too far for cyclists. District Cllr C Braun would send details of this proposal. Some cycle stands were considered. It was RESOLVED to approve the Sheffield cycle stand approved by the National Cycling Association.

District Cllr K Tucker and the member of the public left the meeting.

## T.6664 Funding Bids

## To receive an explanation of the Civic Centre decarbonisation project

Cllr D Thomas gave an explanation on the decarbonisation project for the Civic Centre including the options for solar panels, heat pumps, and the need for professional assessment of the options and quotes.

It was RESOLVED for the Town Clerk and Cllr D Thomas to arrange for a site survey with recommendations for options.

## To discuss bidding for funding for projects under the Climate Change Action Plan and agree actions

The Salix funding opportunity was discussed. The Government have yet to declare the launch date for the funding bid which will be on a first come first served basis until the budget availability is met. There are queries regarding the eligibility of the Council to this funding. The Town Clerk has submitted queries and will report back when responses received.

District Cllrs C Braun and G James left the meeting

## T.6665 EXEMPT ITEMS: Prior to consideration of the following agenda items, councillors are invited to pass the following resolution: Pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by S100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that its consideration would involve the disclosure of exempt information

## T.6666 Symn Lane Car Park

## a. To receive an explanation of the contract options for the EV Chargers project

Cllr R Claydon explained the various contract options for the project. The Council considered the options and the draft letter, specification, and list of possible contractors.

It was RESOLVED to:

* Arrange a meeting with Connected Kerb to discuss their offer and options with Gloucestershire County Council
* Send the letter and specification to the possible contractors on the list

## To review and update the Action Plan

The Action Plan was reviewed. It was noted that a meeting with the developer is to be arranged to discuss and agree the outstanding actions.

The progress on the LEVI funding opportunities to be chased up with County Cllr L Cohen.

The meeting ended at 9.05pm

Signed: Date: