

Melksham Town Council

Minutes of the Economic Development and Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 20th February 2024

PRESENT: Councillor S Rabey (Chair)

Councillor P Aves
Councillor G Cooke
Councillor Stokes
Councillor J Westbrook

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor Pafford (Melksham Without Parish Council)

OFFICERS: Andrew Meacham Committee Clerk

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Three members of the public were present virtually.

651/23 Apologises

Apologies were received from Councillor Alford, Councillor Ellis and Councillor Oatley.

652/23 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

653/23 Minutes

The minutes of 30 January 2024, having previously been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by Councillor Rabey.

654/23 Planning Applications

655/23 PL/2024/00685

It was proposed by Councillor Cooke, seconded by Councillor Westbrook and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to support the application.

656/23 PL/2024/00497

It was noted that there was some information missing from the application and that the date for reply had passed but members would have supported the application.

657/23 PL/2024/00493

It was proposed by Councillor Aves, seconded by Councillor Stokes and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to support the application.

658/23 PL/2024/00336

The objections to the application were noted. Councillor Stokes had made a site visit and had spoken to the applicant. Councillor Cooke wondered what effect it would have on street parking but it was noted that the property had another parking space. It was noted that the parking space was the applicants property and that a precedent had been set elsewhere in the area.

It was proposed by Councillor Cooke, seconded by Councillor Westbrook and

RESOLVED to support the application.

659/23 PL/2024/00785

The Highways Departments comments were noted and there was concern at the lack of EV Charging in the plans. However, it was noted that there was a need for housing of this type and it would tidy up the site.

It was proposed by Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Stokes and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to support the application

660/23 PL/2024/01263

It was proposed by Councillor Cooke, seconded by Councillor Stokes and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to support the application.

661/23 PL/2024/01555

It was proposed by Councillor Westbrook, seconded by Councillor Stokes and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to support the application.

662/23 Planning Decisions

663/23 PL/2023/10718

The decision was noted.

664/23 PL/2023/10730

The decision was noted.

665/23 PL/2023/09840

The decision was noted.

666/23 PL/2024/00911

The decision was noted.

667/23 Sparkle Team and Parish Steward

The usual requests of leaves and bus shelters were mentioned.

The committee clerk advised that he had spoken to the Parish Steward. Leaf collection is limited by space in his vehicle and disposal of the bags, but he was occasionally able to gain access to a sweeper. Weeding was normally controlled by spraying.

There was discussion of Clackers Brook flooding and responsibility for clearing it. Councillor Westbrook noted that local school kids had once been involved. It was agreed that the committee clerk would investigate ownership of sections of Clackers Brook.

668/23 Cooper Tires War Memorial

It was proposed by Councillor Westbrook, seconded by Councillor Rabey and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the costs of moving the Cooper Tires War Memorial shall be paid out of code 4925 Town Development.

669/23 Confidential Session

In view of the confidential and sensitive nature of the business about to be transacted, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960.

It was proposed by Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Cooke and

RESOLVED that the public and press are excluded and are instructed to withdraw.

670/23 Neighbourhood Plan

Councillor Pafford of Melksham Without Parish Council and Chair of the Joint Melksham Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, outlined the current situation, the issues arising from Reg 14 consultation and how the Steering Group is proposing to proceed.

Thanks were expressed to Councillor Pafford and the committee confirmed, on behalf of Melksham Town Council, that they agreed with the position and direction the Steering Group was planning to take.

Meeting Closed at: 8.00 pm

Signed:

Dated: