

## **Melksham Town Council**

### **Minutes of the Economic Development and Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 8th November 2021**

**PRESENT:** Councillor J Hubbard (Chair)  
Councillor G Cooke (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor P Aves  
Councillor S Crundell  
Councillor C Goodhind  
Councillor S Mortimer  
Councillor G Ellis  
Councillor J Oatley  
Councillor S Rabey

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor M Sankey Wiltshire Councillor

**OFFICERS:** Linda Roberts Town Clerk  
Christine Hunter Committee Clerk

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Two members of the public were present

Mr T Witcomb spoke to the committee regarding Melk 39 Pathway (Hardie Walk). He stated that the pathway is a public right of way which is blocked by overgrowth and large trees. He confirmed that he had been in contact with Wiltshire Council and the Town Mayor, Councillor Hubbard, trying get the path unblocked for four years. Mr Witcomb explained that his rear boundary is currently unsecure and that he wanted to access to secure his garden. Mr Witcomb stated that some residents had made a land grab of the path but in the long term, Wiltshire Council should decide whether to keep the path as a public right of way or sell it to the residents.

The Town Mayor, Councillor Hubbard, confirmed that ownership of the land is unknown, however Wiltshire Council had responsibility for maintenance of the path. He advised he had been trying to organise a meeting with residents and Wiltshire Council to find a solution.

The Town Mayor, Councillor Hubbard, suggested to Mr Witcomb that a statutory process regarding amendments to public rights of ways could found on the Wiltshire Council website.

The meeting was formally opened.

#### **146/21 Apologies**

No apologies were received.

#### **147/21 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **148/21 Minutes**

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, Councillor Hubbard, seconded by Councillor Aves and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the minutes of 18 October 2021, having previously been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor, Councillor Hubbard.

#### **149/21 Highways Improvement Request - Dorset Crescent/Heather Avenue**

The Highways Improvement Request for Dorset Crescent/Heather Avenue was noted.

Councillor Sankey confirmed that issues involving the use of the pathway by cycles, motorcycles and cars were ongoing. Various options had been explored at a meeting held with Wiltshire Council Highways team and the installation of a bollard, adjacent to the playground, was considered to be the most cost effective mitigation.

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, Councillor Hubbard, seconded by Councillor Cook and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to support the highways improvement request and to ask the Community Area Transport Group (CATG) to install up to two off-set bollards on the Dorset Crescent/Heather Avenue path up to a maximum cost of £500 each.

#### **150/21 Planning Applications**

The Council had **no objection** to the following planning applications:

[PL/2021/09452](#)

23 WEST END MELKSHAM SN12 6HJ

Construction of gardens studio

**Consultation Deadline:** 10/11/2021

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, Councillor Hubbard, seconded by Councillor Rabey and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to support the planning application with the condition that the studio would not be converted into a second residence.

[PL/2021/09549](#)

83 SANDRIDGE ROAD MELKSHAM SN12 7BL

Demolition of existing side extension and relocation of access to highway

**Consultation Deadline:** 12/11/2021

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, Councillor Hubbard, seconded by Councillor Oatley and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to support the planning application.

[PL/2021/09503](#)

29 METHUEN AVENUE MELKSHAM SN12 7AJ

Rear enclosure to cover hot tub (retrospective)

**Consultation Deadline:** 16/11/2021

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, Councillor Hubbard, seconded by Councillor Mortimer and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to support the planning application.

[PL/2021/09635](#)

LAND REAR OF 39 WOODROW ROAD MELKSHAM SN12 7AY

Erection of new dwelling

**Consultation Deadline:** 17/11/2021

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, Councillor Hubbard, seconded by Councillor Oatley and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to support the planning application.

[PL/2021/09598](#)

13 AVONSIDE ENTERPRISE PARK MELKSHAM SN12 8BT

Consent to display an advertisement

**Consultation Deadline:** 19/11/2021

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, Councillor Hubbard, seconded by Councillor S Crundell and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to support the planning application.

[PL/2021/10094](#)

24 TRENT CRESCENT MELKSHAM SN12 8BT

Proposed First Floor Side Extension

**Consultation Deadline:** 26/11/2021

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, Councillor Hubbard, seconded by Councillor Rabey and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to support the planning application.

Members noted the following planning decisions:

- [PL/2021/08670](#) 9 CHURCH WALK MELKSHAM SN12 6LY  
Proposed Works to trees in a Conservation Area.  
Leylandii x 2 and 1 x Hazel. Cut back to boundary with No. 7  
**Decision: No objection**  
**MTC response: No objection**
- [PL/2021/07913](#) 22 CHURCH WALK MELKSHAM SN12 6LY  
Proposed Single Storey Rear Extension  
**Decision: Approve with Conditions**  
**MTC response: No objection**
- [PL/2021/07034](#) 35 UNION STREET MELKSHAM SN12 7PR  
Side two storey extension, adding a bedroom with ensuite,  
family room and a small garage (removal of old garage)  
**Decision: Approve with Conditions**  
**MTC response: No objection**
- [PL/2021/08436](#) 22 SOMERSET CRESCENT MELKSHAM SN12 7LX  
Single storey rear extension  
**Decision: Approve with Conditions**  
**MTC response: No objection**
- [PL/2021/08424](#) 39 CHURCHILL AVENUE MELKSHAM SN12 7JN  
Removal of existing front porch and construction of new  
front porch  
**Decision: Approve with Conditions**  
**MTC response: No objection**
- [20/08520/FUL](#) 7 LOWBOURNE, MELKSHAM SN12 7DZ  
Demolition of existing restaurant, and erection of a new  
three-storey building for flats.  
**Decision: Refuse**  
**MTC response: Object**

**152/21 Community Area Transport Group (CATG) Issues**

**152/21.1 Carriageway Layout at Old Broughton Road**

It was agreed to defer consideration of the carriageway layout at Old Broughton Road until the meeting of the Economic Development and Planning Committee to be held on 29 November 2021, following discussion with the Wiltshire Council Senior Traffic Engineer.

**153/21 Neighbourhood Plan**

The notes of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting held on 29 September 2021 and the draft notes of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting held on 27 October 2021 were received.

The Town Clerk confirmed that she was waiting for a response to the application made to take part in the Pilot design code scheme. She had also applied to Locality for grant funding of approximately £9,000 towards professional fees for the review of the Neighbourhood Plan.

**154/21 Sparkle Team and Parish Steward**

The Town Mayor, Councillor Hubbard, requested that the committee forward ideas for works to be carried out by the Sparkle Team and Parish Steward to the Committee Clerk.

**155/21 Draft 2022/2023 Budget**

The draft 2022/2023 budget was noted.

The committee discussed how to increase local involvement in the parking redemption scheme and recommended investigating options, involving consultation with traders and residents on how to improve the current scheme and increase footfall into the town centre.

The Town Clerk confirmed that an informal budget working group would be held on Monday 15 November 2021.

Meeting Closed at: 8.43 pm

**Signed:** .....

**Dated:**