



Minutes of the Bradford on Avon Town Council Environment & Planning Committee  
Held in the Town Council office, St Margaret's Street, Bradford on Avon  
On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 at 7.00 p.m

**Present:**

Cllr A Kay (Chairman)  
Cllr T Lomax  
Cllr J Parker  
Cllr Jim Lynch, BOA North Ward Wiltshire Councillor  
Val Baker Administrator

**Members of the Public:**

John Pearce – Bradford on Avon Plastic free  
Nigel Gerdes – Bradford on Avon Climate Friendly  
Rachel Berger – Climate Friendly  
Charlotte Watkins – Land & Property Chartered Consultant Agent representing Mr N Hillier  
Jeremy Wire, Ros Stoddard, Nik Hillier, Chris Hogg BOA (Biodiversity Group) and 2 others

**65. Apologies:**

Cllr D Newton, Cllr D Garwood

**66. Declarations of interest**

There were none.

**67. Minutes**

It was proposed by Cllr Parker seconded by Cllr Kay and with all in favour **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of meeting for 9<sup>th</sup> January and delegated minutes of meeting 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019 that were deferred approval at the meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> February due to the non-attendance of Cllr Garwood and Newton not being present at the meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> February.)

It was further proposed by Cllr Parker seconded by Cllr Kay to approve the minutes for 13<sup>th</sup> February and the delegated minutes of meeting for 26<sup>th</sup> February and 20<sup>th</sup> March as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**68. Correspondence relating to planning applications to be considered at this meeting**

**69. Planning Applications**

- (i) It was proposed by Cllr Lomax seconded by Cllr Kay and with all in favour **RESOLVED:** to forward the planning recommendations on the attached sheet to be sent to Wiltshire Council.
- (ii) **Delegated Decisions** – There were none.

**70. Chairman's report**

The Chairman's report is attached to these minutes.

She reported that Radio Wiltshire had visited Bradford on Avon during the morning of the 27<sup>th</sup> March and had discussed various topics, such as the newly installed Solar Panels on St Margaret's Hall roof, traffic, the recent adopted Climate Emergency Motion and other topics. Afterwards the radio company had interacted with members of public on a 'walk about' in town to hear community comments, news and views. Cllr Kay concluded that this had been a positive event to showcase Bradford on Avon.

She further reported that since the instalment of the solar panels a whole 1 tonne of CO<sup>2</sup> emissions had been saved and there were plans in the future to investigate the removal of gas usage and replace by other means to increase the savings of emissions.

**71. Orchid House** – Paperwork informing members of its historical significance had been circulated with the agenda. A discussion took place concerning the original usage of the building back in the 1800's

(now a semi derelict building and laterally used as a double garage back in the 60's), and the reasoning for the preservation of such an unusual structure. It was noted that plans to reinstate the façade of the building to preserve its historical value would be submitted to Wiltshire Council Planning and eventually be reviewed by the E & P Committee.

72. A way forward to implement the Climate Emergency Motion –

Cllr Kay reported that there was a need to set up a Steering Group to discuss the possible actions to implement this. John Pearce read out the list of suggestions of how the council could respond as it would in any other civil emergency – this was not an exhaustive list and he said that a revised list would be forwarded to the Committee. He suggested visiting the Transition Towns website [www.transitiontown.org](http://www.transitiontown.org) to share information and best practice.

A long discussion took place about this important subject. The Chairman said she would draft a proposal to be circulated and reviewed on the next meeting agenda.

'Under the Public Bodies (*Admission to Meetings*) Act 1960 by reason of a confidential nature of staff matters now to be discussed, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

## APPENDIX 1

### QUESTION TIME OPEN TO THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Charlotte Watkins introduced herself as the agent working on behalf of Mr Hillier's retrospective planning application 19/02249/FUL and that she would answer any questions that the Committee wished to ask.

Chris Hogg reported that he had met with Wiltshire Council to investigate the potential for managing verges for wildflowers. There was a suggestion that Bradford on Avon could be trialled when the next WC contracts for verge maintenance commences in 2022. He explained how the cutting regimes could be timed to benefit wildflowers and address the catastrophic decline of insect population. It was agreed to include this matter on a forthcoming agenda for further discussion.

Ros Stoddard reported on planning application 18/01106/ENF - 7A Kennet Gardens Bradford on Avon Wiltshire BA15 1LT – Sheppard's Hut. Ross stated that Wiltshire Council Planning had carried out a 'U' turn on their decision to have the structure removed. It was agreed that the committee would write another letter to WC Planning Officer.

## E&P Chairman's report 3/04/19

### Environment

1. SMH Solar Panels : reached 1 tonne CO<sub>2</sub> saving so far!
  - a. Consider further heat storage measures at SMH; check gas usage? SunAmp presentation: develop this as project.
2. Plastic free progressing:
  - a. Spring clean-up and other events planned along riverside 24 March and 13 April as part of Keep Britain Tidy [www.keepbritaintidy.org](http://www.keepbritaintidy.org); other clean up initiatives welcome
  - b. Intend to gain **meaningful** accreditation April
3. Climate Emergency Motion passed unanimously as FTC in March (shortly after same passed at Wiltshire Council) with Carbon-neutral target by 2030.
  - a. Letter sent o Baroness Scott expressing eagerness to working with them towards that aim after FTC (Letter attached);
  - b. Need some key actions to start delivering, set up team.
4. Trowbridge Mayor interested in learning from BoA environmental agenda and process.
5. BoA Drinking Water Fountain Project:
  - a. 3 fountains purchased and installation to start in April.
6. Petition against netting hedgerows and trees as a developers work around [https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/244233?fbclid=IwAR2J--6d6bVx1-0QsONuy8isB1NcZVnmrHn\\_Bt87q9l\\_13QKKEFJcGsgQM4](https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/244233?fbclid=IwAR2J--6d6bVx1-0QsONuy8isB1NcZVnmrHn_Bt87q9l_13QKKEFJcGsgQM4)

### Planning

1. St Margaret's carpark wall alterations; needs LBC, thought was a good idea; Colin John submitted application.
2. Agreed in principle Community Fridge location; permitted planning on SMH: CJ drafted plans; Clerk to get costings.
3. Orchid House correspondence

BRADFORD ON AVON TOWN COUNCIL  
 PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED AT THE DELEGATED ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING  
 COMMITTEE MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2019

Town Council reference 1  
 Ward BRADFORD ON AVON SOUTH  
 Planning Application Number 19/01859/LBC  
 Type of application LBC  
 Date to comment 08.04.19  
 Town Council meeting date 03.04.19  
 Case Officer Russell Brown  
 Applicant Dentalcare Ltd  
 Address 5 St Margaret's St BA15 1DA  
 Description of work Internal alterations to ground floor to create D1 NHS Dental Practice  
 Town Council recommendation PERMIT - No objection in principle subject to full details being submitted of the ramped access to the side of the building and in particular the design of the side door and the surface treatment where it adjoins the public footpath.

Town Council reference 2  
 Ward BRADFORD ON AVON NORTH  
 Planning Application Number 19/02249/FUL  
 Type of application FUL  
 Date to comment 12.04.19  
 Town Council meeting date 03.04.19  
 Case Officer David Cox  
 Applicant Mr Hillier  
 Address Leigh House Farm, BA15 2RB  
 Description of work Part retrospective change of use of barn & hardstanding from agriculture to mixed agriculture, B2 (stonemason) & B8 storage ( up to 17 no shipping containers, 2 no. portable cabins and 1 no. crane) & associated works  
 Town Council recommendation REFUSE - Refuse as contrary to Green Belt & Core Strategy policies & because of the significant impact on the openness of the Green Belt in this sensitive location. The uses are unrelated to agriculture, do not qualify as ' not appropriate' and there is no justification for their retention in the open countryside. The storage  
*continued on page 3.*

Town Council reference 3  
 Ward BRADFORD ON AVON NORTH  
 Planning Application Number 19/02233/FUL  
 Type of application FUL  
 Date to comment 16.04.19  
 Town Council meeting date 03.04.19  
 Case Officer Steve Vellance  
 Applicant Selwood Housing Group  
 Address Hillcrest Flats, Highfield Rd, BA15 1AT  
 Description of work Replacement of 6 no. concrete cantilevered balconies with Juliette balconies  
 Town Council recommendation PERMIT - No objection.

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Town Council reference	4
Ward	BRADFORD ON AVON NORTH
Planning Application Number	19/02492/FUL
Type of application	FUL
Date to comment	15.04.19
Town Council meeting date	03.04.19
Case Officer	Kate Sullivan
Applicant	Mr P Carter
Address	10 New Rd, BA15 1AR
Description of work	Demolition of existing side extension & erection of proposed single storey extension & outbuilding.
Town Council recommendation	PERMIT - No objection

Town Council reference	5
Ward	BRADFORD ON AVON NORTH
Planning Application Number	19/02616/TCA
Type of application	TCA
Date to comment	11.04.19
Town Council meeting date	03.04.19
Case Officer	Beverley Griffin
Applicant	Mr Buffer
Address	The Hall Estate, Holt Rd BA15 1AJ
Description of work	Tree Works
Town Council recommendation	PERMIT - No objection but request that any substantial tree works are carried out after the bird nesting season.

Planning Application 19/02249/FUL – Leigh House Farm

**REFUSE**

Refuse as contrary to Green Belt & Core Strategy policies & because of the significant impact on the openness of the Green Belt in this sensitive location. The uses are unrelated to agriculture, do not qualify as 'not appropriate' and there is no justification for their retention in the open countryside. The storage area is of considerable size and this and the commercial activities of the Stonemasons need to be located on an industrial site.

## Making a Climate Emergency motion meaningful in BoA

**Publicity** – include it in the next town-wide Council newsletter

- Press release to explain the reasons for the declaration, and promote measures as a response. Some suggestions are below to how the council could respond as it would in any other civil emergency.

**Establish a Climate Emergency working group** – to establish a group including members of the Council, Climate Friendly BoA and Extinction Rebellion and other interested groups, and work together to identify and implement further carbon reduction measures, eg. promoting switching of energy suppliers, renewable energy, promoting walking and cycling, awareness of the impact of driving and flying

**Dedicate an office or desk space** to the project, to act as a focal point to collecting and distribute information.

**Appoint a Tree-Planting Co-ordinator** – Large -scale tree planting is one of the measures identified by the UN as a way to lock carbon to give us more time. Given limited resources the co-ordinator might not be a full time role but possibly an addition to an existing role, to work with CfBoA and others to identify land for tree-planting, either owned by the council or local land-owners and “join the dots” to co-ordinate significant planting; arrange an appeal to local land-owners to provide suitable land, eg. field margins, flood prone land, replanting hedgerows etc.

**Establish a BoA Climate Emergency Fund** –to establish a fund, and appeal for donations. Encourage residents who want/need to drive/fly to offset their emissions by donating to this fund.

-tree planting - we will need money for establishing a nursery which is a project CFBoA are working on, for stakes, guards and ties; to work with CFBoA and others to ramp up extensive tree planting on suitable non-productive land; could include new orchards/crop bearing trees

- Support/subsidies for local public transport to reduce traffic

**Acting as a beacon of best practice** – There are other councils which are “ahead” of us, but by showing what can be done in a very local area we can show them our support, and also show other areas who are behind us what can be done.