

ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Planning Committee held on Thursday 9th November 2017 at 7.00pm at Manor House, Lime Kiln, Royal Wootton Bassett.

PRESENT: Councillors: Mike Farrow, Janet Georgiou, Paul Heaphy, Nic Hughes (late) and Steve Walls.

Also in attendance: Councillors Rebecca Hearne, Sue Hughes and Caroline Redmond.

Officers in Attendance: Johnathan Bourne, Town Clerk, Michelle Temple, Administrative Services Manager and Emily Maiden, Administrative Officer

Question Time

Mr Michael Gattrell of 21 The Maltings informed the Committee of a petition he created which has been circulating since the summer. The petition has been signed by residents and visitors in support of a multi wheel terrain park for the town. Mr Gattrell advised the meeting that skateboarding has recently been designated as an Olympic sport, therefore having such a facility available for local skateboarders would provide an opportunity to encourage people to take up the sport.

Mr Ollie Ward of 44 Hart Close spoke to the meeting as a supporter of the petition and skateboarder of seven years. Mr Ward explained that he often visits the Calne skate park as opposed to skating on the pavements around the town, as this can be anti-social for pedestrians. The atmosphere at the Calne facility is positive and constructive, and Mr Ward believes that a similar amenity would be welcome in Royal Wootton Bassett.

Councillor Sue Hughes read out a message on behalf of a local family with disabled and autistic children who are also supporters of the petition. Due to the associated health concerns, travelling to other towns to use their facilities presents a host of difficulties and is often not possible. The family would like there to be a park catering for different wheeled sports and age groups in Royal Wootton Bassett, as trips to similar parks across the county have always resulted in positive interaction between all those visiting the facility. It was also noted in the family's statement that such a park would have a

beneficial impact upon the local economy as people would also visit the shops and food outlets.

Members explained that the Town Council have supported plans to develop a skate park in Royal Wootton Bassett for several years, and will continue to seek opportunities to secure land in an appropriate location.

27. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Robert Anstee and David Bowler.

28. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Declarations of Interest in accordance with sections 10 and 12 of Wiltshire Council's Members Code of Conduct, as adopted by Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council at a meeting held on 12th July 2012.

RESOLVED to note that no Declarations of Interest were received.

29. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

30. MINUTES

RESOLVED to defer confirming and signing the Minutes of a meeting of the Planning Committee held on Thursday 2nd November 2017 (P/5/2017-2018) until the next Planning Committee meeting.

31. PRE PLANNING APPLICATION - CONSULTATION

The Committee received a presentation from Roger Smith of Savills, John Owen of Greensquare Housing, and Martin Douglas of Pad Design regarding a proposal to erect dwellings on land identified for possible development in the Royal Wootton Bassett Neighbourhood Plan.

Members enquired as to the impact that the development would have upon the campus proposal, and asked that consideration be given to the installation of a skate park.

The following points were discussed: -

- Royal Wootton Bassett needs more family homes as there is a lack of provision in this area.
- The most suitable vehicular access point to the site would be via Showfields.
- The proximity to the M4 motorway means the development would need to be screened to limit the noise.
- Enquiries were raised as to the use of green technology.

The Chair thanked the speakers for a most informative presentation.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm