



Highworth Town Council

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66.

MINUTES OF THE EXTRA-ORDINARY FULL COUNCIL MEETING HIGHWORTH TOWN COUNCIL TUESDAY 21 DECEMBER 2021

PRESENT

Councillor R Williams (In the Chair)

Councillor: G Evans
P Newton-Smith
K Saunders
K Smith
(Mrs) L Vardy
S Weisinger
S Wolfensohn

Town Clerk: (Mrs) D Rose

IN ATTENDANCE

2 Members of the Public

APOLOGIES

110. Councillors (Mrs) K Barber, A Bishop, (Mrs) J Bishop, N Gardiner, (Miss) J Murphy, G Olley and (Mrs) M Penny



Highworth is a Fair-Trade Town



Twinned with Wassenberg



Twinned with Pontorson

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

111. None

CORRESPONDENCE

112. a. Swindon Borough Council (SBC) is holding a Public Consultation on the proposed introduction of CCTV camera in hackney carriage and private hire vehicles in the Borough. The survey can be accessed at <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/CCTV-in-licensed-vehicles/> and will run until 31 January 2022.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

113. **RESOLVED TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2021.**

The Minutes were adopted and duly signed.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

114. a. **S/OUT/17/1821 JABU** – Outline planning application for a mixed use development comprising up to 1,552 dwellings, a local centre (Use Classes A1-5, D1, C2 and C3), a primary school (Use Class D1), public open space, landscaping, new vehicular accesses including a bridge across the A419 and associated works (Means of access not reserved): Kingsdown (Land to East of A419), Swindon, Wiltshire **Councillors Strongly Recommend this application be refused as outlined below, noting that the concerns raised on the 6 December 2017 have not been addressed.**

Highworth Town Council submitted a strong objection to this planned development at the Consultation stage of the SBC Local Plan 2026 on the grounds that the plan caters initially for only one entrance and egress from the development on to the B4019, to be augmented by a second exit over a newly constructed bridge over the A419 to join a spur road at Groundwell. Construction of this bridge, it would seem, is to be commenced only after a significant number of houses are sold.

All the objections to the proposed application, including the one from Highways England have concentrated on the adverse effects on traffic at the Cold Harbour junction at Broad Blunsdon. Highways England also concentrates on the adverse effects it will have on the White Hart Roundabout, however, this scheme will also have a seriously adverse affect on Highworth at the junction of Cricklade Road and Swindon Street. Much of the traffic leaving the development via the B4019 will turn right, either to travel towards Oxford or to travel to Swindon avoiding the tail back at the Cold Harbour junction. The Cricklade Road junction already suffers its own tail backs, all the way back to the Freke Arms at peak travel times, already causing severe delays and congestion in what is a small Market Town. The only result of allowing the sole, for now, egress onto the B4019 will be to cause absolute vehicular chaos at either end of the B4019.

The B4019 is not sufficiently developed to accept another potential 2000 cars onto it. The road is fast and already dangerous, suffering fatal accidents fairly regularly over

the years. The plan does not address this and, in the opinion of Councillors, there needs to be a consideration of some provision from the CIL contribution towards up-grading the B4109.

Following the objection raised by Highworth Town Council in 2017 to the Highways Department, regarding the volume of traffic on the B4019 and A420 due to new construction, Highways England have issued another 6 months hold notification on construction until the flyover on the A419 has been completed.

The new development proposal for new houses it is imperative that the B4019 – A420 through Highworth to Blunsdon is closed to construction traffic.

If SBC is minded to approve the Planning Application, the B4019 should be closed to construction traffic and the bridge over the A419 should be provided prior to any dwellings being built.

- b. Resolved by Councillor S Weisinger, Seconded by Councillor K Saunders to recommend SBC grant a new licence to permit a continued right of way over the public open space but not permit parking and to reinstate the land they have “adopted” for parking. Councillors unanimously agreed and the Resolution was duly carried.

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE MEMEBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

115. Resolved by Councillor R Williams, Seconded by Councillor G Evans to exclude the Public and Press from Agenda item 6 on the grounds of avoiding disclosure of personal information. Councillors unanimously agreed and the Resolution was duly carried.

STAFFING

116. Resolved by Councillor S Weisinger and Seconded by Councillor K Smith to approve the Gratuity Payment. Voting was unanimous, the payment was duly authorised.

MEETING CLOSED 7.27PM