

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting of the
Planning and Highways Committee
held on Tuesday 8th April 2025 at 19:00hrs
in the Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road, Thatcham

Present: Councillor Simon Pike (Chairman)
 Councillors Dave Lunn, Jay Lunn, Tom McCann, Justin Pemberton and Val Watts

In attendance: James Pye (Place Manager)

PH/2025/025 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
 No apologies for absence were received.

PH/2025/026 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
 Councillor Pemberton declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item numbers 8 & 9, as a serving West Berkshire District Councillor and Cold Ash Parish Councillor, and having been involved in both the Taxi Policy and the Members' Bid for a new Speed Indicator Devices on Bowling Green Road.

PH/2025/027 MINUTES
RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2025, having been previously circulated, be taken as read, confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

PH/2025/028 PLANNING APPLICATIONS
 Committee considered the following planning applications:

25/00519/FUL	10 Westfield Crescent, Thatcham	The sub-division of the plot to form a new self-build dwelling, together with extensions and alterations to the existing dwelling RESOLVED: No Objections- subject to confirmation that WBC Highways are happy with the parking and accessibility at location.
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PH/2025/029 DECISION NOTICES
 Committee noted Thatcham related planning decisions published since the last meeting of this Committee.

PH/2025/030 WEST BERKSHIRE LOCAL PLAN REVIEW 2022-2039
 Councillor Pike confirmed no further updates until the Inspector's final report is completed.

PH/2025/031 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN
 Councillor Pike updated the Committee to inform Thatcham Town Council are very close to finalising the working groups and appointing a chair for these groups. Councillors to meet to discuss further. Councillor Pike and Place Manager to confirm next meeting date before the Easter holidays.

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- PH/2025/032 WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL MEMBERS BID- THATCHAM WEST**
 The Place Manager informed the Committee of a Members' Bid application by Councillors Brooks and Pemberton, for introduction of Speed Indicator Devices on Bowling Green Road. West Berkshire Council would be managing the project, and the last few details were being discussed before installation. Locations had been identified. Councillor Pemberton stated this would be matched funded up to £7,500 by Thatcham Town Council, as agreed by the Finance and General Purposes Committee (FGP/2025/04).
- PH/2025/033 WEST BERKSHIRE TAXI POLICY**
 The Place Manager presented the new Taxi Policy from West Berkshire Council, a 96-page document which the Place Manager would forward with a summary. Councillor Pemberton would try to obtain a summary from West Berkshire Council. Committee needed to comment by the end of consultation period on 18th May 2025. Councillor Pemberton encouraged as many comments as possible. The policy would be a first in the district.
- PH/2025/034 PLANNING MATTERS**
 Councillor Pike requested that, regarding Henwick Park application 23/00798/OUTMAJ, Committee to confirm whether it maintained its previous objection to this application. Once a new application was received, the intention was to submit further comments. The Place Manager would submit this response to West Berkshire Council planning portal once received from Councillor Pike.

 Councillor Pike also stated he would be attending the Eastern Planning Committee meeting on 9th April 2025, remotely, and would provide comment on the Thatcham Memorial Park application 24/02658/FULMAJ.
- PH/2025/035 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT/HIGHWAYS/ ROAD SAFETY MATTERS**
 The Place Manager advised Committee of a planned road closure, notified by West Berkshire Council, on Ashmore Green Road between 7th-11th April 2025. This was part of the Highway Improvement Programme.

 The Place Manager advised of a road closure notification received from West Berkshire Council for The Broadway on 23rd - 24th April 2025 between 19:00-5:00, this had been circulated to all Councillors before the meeting.

 Councillor Pike mentioned that some speed check signs between A4 Colthrop Lane Roundabout towards The Berkshire Arms, were confusing and potentially had not been removed since recent development works nearby. The Place Manager to enquire with West Berkshire Council.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 19:37hrs.

Signed: _____

Date: _____