

MARLOW TOWN COUNCIL

Court Garden, Pound Lane, Marlow, Bucks

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 10th MARCH 2020 AT 7.00 pm IN THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE, COURT GARDEN, MARLOW

Present: **Chairman** Cllr N Marshall

Councillors Cllr T Avery
Cllr J Towns

Town Clerk H Martin
Administration D Abbott

P.127 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr E West, Cllr R Scott, Cllr S Brown

P.128 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

P.129 MINUTES DATED 28.01.2020

The minutes of the previous meeting dated 28.01.2020 were presented by Cllr N Marshall and signed and agreed as a true record.

P.130 DECISIONS MADE BY WYCOMBE DISTRICT COUNCIL SINCE 20.01.2020 **INFORMATION**

Members noted that there was an 87% compliance rate between MTC's comments and decisions made by Wycombe District Council between 20.01.2020 – 01.03.2020

P.131 CONSIDERATION OF PLANNING SHEETS 031 **DECISION**

Members reviewed the current planning applications on planning sheet **031** and comments were submitted to Wycombe District Council.

P.132 CENTRAL AND EASTERN BERKSHIRE AUTHORITIES JOINT MINERALS AND WASTE PLAN – FOCUSED REGULATION 18 CONSULTATION: SAND AND GRAVEL PROVISION AND OPERATOR PERFORMANCE **INFORMATION**

Bracknell Forest Council, Reading Borough Council, the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and Wokingham Borough Council (collectively referred to as the Central and Eastern Berkshire Authorities) are working in partnership to produce a Joint Minerals and Waste Plan which will guide minerals and waste decision making in the Plan area.

The Joint Minerals and Waste Plan will build upon the formerly adopted minerals and waste plans for the Berkshire area, eventually providing replacement policies based on up to date evidence of the current levels of provision for minerals and waste facilities in the Plan area. Importantly, the Plan aims to establish the future levels of provision

required to meet national and regional policy targets and objectives. It will set out a new vision of how this will be achieved and provide details of strategic sites that we propose will deliver the vision.

To date, several information gathering consultations have been achieved to inform the Plan, each of these form part of Regulation 18:

- In Summer 2017, an 'Issues and Options' Consultation was undertaken to gather technical information and confirm the evidence base
- During Summer / Autumn 2018, a 'Draft Plan' consultation set out the proposed approach for the Joint Minerals and Waste Plan
- Due to a limited number of site options, a further 'Call for Sites' exercise was carried out. This resulted in an additional site (Bray Quarry Extension) being proposed. This was subject to consultation during the Summer of 2019

Work is underway to prepare the Proposed Submission version of the Plan. However, one of the proposed allocations was recently refused planning permission. The landowner has 'shelved' any plans for extraction and has not renewed the option to extract minerals from the site with the operator. As a result, the plan was making limited provision of sand and gravel. In order help address this, a further call for sites was undertaken in late 2019 and an 'Area of Search' approach was explored.

The Consultation document sets out the criteria for defining an 'Area of Search' for sand and gravel provision. It also includes two new sites (which have been nominated following a recent 'Call for Sites' exercise) and these are being considered for allocation in the Plan. These sites are: Land west of Basingstoke Road, Spencers Wood which is within the Borough of Wokingham and has the potential to provide sand and gravel and; an area between Horton Brook and Poyle Quarry, which is within the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and has the potential to provide 250,000 tonnes of sand and gravel.

In addition, and as a result of the responses received in relation to the 'Draft Plan', including concerns raised by local residents, a new policy has been drafted. It aims to ensure the past performance of minerals and waste operators form part of the material considerations taken into account in decision making.

The Central and Eastern Berkshire Authorities are required to undertake the same level of consultation for these newly proposed sites and new policy as the rest of the Plan and background evidence base.

As a result, the Central and Eastern Berkshire Authorities are inviting feedback from statutory consultees, stakeholders, communities, local organisations and businesses on the 'Areas of Search' approach, the potential new sites (Land west of Basingstoke Road and the Area between Horton Brook and Poyle Quarry) and the Operator Past Performance Policy.

The responses received from this Focussed Regulation 18 Consultation will inform the Proposed Submission Plan (Regulation 19) which is being prepared by Hampshire Services on behalf of Central and Eastern Berkshire Authorities and is intended to be submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

The consultation document supporting this consultation can be found by visiting <http://www.hants.gov.uk/berksconsult>. Documents are also available for inspection during normal working hours at all public libraries within the Royal Borough.

A consultation response form is available to complete online or can be downloaded from <http://www.hants.gov.uk/berksconsult>

Please send completed hard copies of the response form to the address provided at the top of this letter. There is no need to repeat previous comments made on the plan.

This consultation will be launched on Tuesday, 11 February 2020 and will run for six weeks, closing at **5pm on Monday, 23 March 2020**.

RESOLVED

Noted by members

P.133	MARLOW CITY RIDER PASSENGER STATISTICS FROM 1ST APRIL 2019 – 31ST MARCH 2020	INFORMATION
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Passenger Loadings 2019-20

Red Eagle

SB/160/5

Period		Marlow City Rider sch	Marlow City Rider nsch
4	1 Apr - 27 Apr	563	535
5	28 Apr - 25 May	1,177	
6	26 May - 29 Jun	254	1,201
7	30 Jun - 27 Jul	805	252
8	28 Jul - 24 Aug	-	1,121
9	25 Aug - 28 Sep	965	356
10	29 Sep - 26 Oct	1,222	
11	27 Oct - 23 Nov	784	281
12	24 Nov - 28 Dec	1,067	125
1	29 Dec - 25 Jan	816	195
2	26 Jan - 22 Feb		
3	23 Feb - 31 Mar		
	Total	7,653	4,066
			11,719

5 week period

RESOLVED

P.134 VERBAL UPDATE ON #SUSTAINABLEMARLOW

INFORMATION

Cllr J Towns gave a verbal update and Cllr N Marshall submitted the MTC Clean Air Plan.

MTC Clean Air Plan

- Marlow Town Council is adopting this Clean Air Plan in light of excessive levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) in Marlow town centre, linked mainly to road traffic. High levels of NO₂ led Wycombe District Council to declare the town centre an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in December 2017.
- The council believes that the excess NO₂ pollution in the town centre and its associated health risks are unacceptable. It wants to add its weight to Wycombe District Council's 2018 Air Quality Action Plan so as to bring NO₂ levels back within legal limits as quickly as possible.
- The council's specific objective is to **eliminate excess NO₂ in the town centre by 2025**, enabling revocation of the AQMA at the first formal review thereafter.
- The council resolves to work strenuously to achieve this objective, engaging with the whole community and encouraging higher council tiers and other stakeholders to act.
- In particular, the council will aim to educate the community with the aim of encouraging and accelerating behaviour changes that will cut NO₂ levels. It will use all channels available to this end, including town centre signage and notice boards, articles in *The Marlovian* magazine, the forthcoming #sustainablemarlow website, its social media feeds, and open meetings for residents.
- The council will put a special focus on Marlow's air pollution problem to mark the official Clean Air Day, which in 2020 falls on 18th June.
- The council will target technological and behaviour changes in the following key areas:
 1. **Promoting walking and cycling:** The council will lead a conversation with residents on ways in which walking and cycling within Marlow could be made safer and easier so that they become the natural answer for more journeys by more people. It will look at launching a Car Free Fridays initiative.
 2. **Reducing vehicle journeys in the town centre:** The council will encourage drivers to avoid trips in the town centre where possible. It will investigate possibilities around Park & Stride facilities for trips to the town centre. It will promote usage of the bus services that serve Marlow town centre.
 3. **Encouraging eco-driving:** Vehicle NO_x emissions increase with speed and acceleration. The council will promote eco-driving behaviours within the town centre, including reduced speed and smoother driving behaviour. It will step up efforts to discourage drivers from leaving engines idling when stopped. Actions could include the installation of Moving Vehicle Activated Signs (MVASs) to remind drivers of their speed.
 4. **Making the vehicle fleet cleaner:** The council will encourage residents to choose low-NO_x vehicles, including electric and other ultra-low emission vehicles. It will also work to reduce obstacles to their uptake, for example by increasing the availability of electric charging points. It will work with

stakeholders to push for low-NOx retrofitting of buses that travel through Marlow or replacement with new green buses.

5. **Improving street ventilation:** There are few options to alter street morphology but the council will consider any opportunities that emerge through the planning process, including the installation of “green walls” to absorb pollution.

RESOLVED

MTC Clean Air Plan to go to TC meeting for approval.

P.135	ENVIRONMENT GROUPS COLLABORATION	INFORMATION
	Cllr J Towns & Cllr N Marshall gave a verbal update	
P.136	ELECTRIC VEHICLE INDUCTION CHARGING	INFORMATION
	Cllr N Marshall gave a verbal update	
P.137	Arrangements for planning in the next Unitary	INFORMATION
	Cllr N Marshall gave a verbal update	
P.138	DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS	INFORMATION
	Plans Only – Tuesday 31 st March at 7.00 pm	
	Full PET meeting – Monday 20 th April 2020 at 7.00 pm	

Signed:

(Chairman)

Date: