

## **Transcript of the Parish meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 6pm in the Seymour Room, Court Garden House, Pound Lane, Marlow**

**Meeting Chaired by** Cllr Richard Scott  
**Meeting facilitated by** Mrs Hilary Martin – Marlow Town Clerk

**No of public present** 212

This parish meeting has been convened at the request of 15 members of the electorate. The agenda item has been set out on the notice of the meeting that I think you've all seen. To consider the consequences of planning application 2206443, full application, Marlow Film Studio for the residents of Marlow. Point of order please. That's an incorrect attribution.

That planning application doesn't make any reference to Marlow Film Studio. Marlow Film Studio doesn't exist.

Sir I am just reading out what the 15 members of the electorate asked for this meeting to be formed. This is the exact statement that was on all 15 letters of the electorate. If I can continue please. This is not a town council meeting but it's a parish meeting in accordance with legislation under the LGA Act of 1972. The chair of the meeting, if present, should be the chairman of the council, our mayor. The mayor is working abroad and the deputy mayor is unavailable so Councillor Scott has offered to chair the meeting. As you've all been briefed on arrival, any person may attend this meeting but only those on the electoral roll from the Marlow Town Council boundary may speak. The meeting will be subject to town council standing orders which states that there will be a maximum two hours for this meeting which will finish at 8 o'clock and there's a maximum of three minutes per member of the electorate for discussion. Please note this meeting is being recorded so an accurate record is made. And we now have a note of Councillor Scott.

Thank you very much, Town Clerk. I will speak up so it records on the microphone we have. In order to hold a productive meeting I hope you will follow the procedures as set out by the Town Clerk and somebody who is governed by law. I'll be strict on the timing so that everybody has a chance to speak. I will ask again for the person speaking to identify themselves by holding up their card. It's a green card for residents and it is only residents who may ask a question. That's the law. I'll ask you to confirm your name and address please. And as just pointed out by the Town Clerk, the agenda item is submitted by the residents and that's what we're going to discuss. So it's a discussion and I thank you for your attention. And perhaps someone would like to start speaking.

My name is Andrew Braxtraw, 19, Southview Road. I'm one of the townspeople who wrote a letter asking for this meeting. The simple reason is we have not been heard. Whether you are for or against the studio, there is no doubt that this will have the biggest impact on Marlow for a generation. And will affect generations yet to come. This is not yet another application. It is 100 times bigger and 100 times more significant. As we know, the Town Council has recently come out in favour, despite not holding a public meeting. Not very democratic. We know what your defence will be. We have no influence. We just do the

planning, etc, etc. However, you have enormous influence in representing us. The studio was on your statement within hours and you were on the front page of its website and social media. Marlow in favour. And in the press and the planning officers noted. It was hugely symbolic, hugely naive. This is especially troubling when you consider that Bucks Planning decided to give the same weight and precedence to supporters the studio harvests nationwide through its digital media than to a Marlow president who really sits down and thinks about an email or comment based upon how it is going to impact them. Because who is this going to affect? People in this room. Not Keith from Shepton Mallet or a Marvel fan from Milton Keynes. They will not be stuck in their car in paralysed trucking systems or having to look at enormous industrial complexes each day. The studio has enormous marketing resources. We have all received Marlow news through our doorstep and any Marlow or filled Google search brings up the studio. And a tip to show your support and send this pre-populated email. It is a digital high five and given the same standing as a heartfelt letter from him or her. The cards are stacked and the dice are loaded in this process. In this statement and Goliath fight our only option is to keep writing comments on the planning portal in the hope that someone is reading them. We hope that you are but I don't think you are. I spoke to one councillor at the Carnival who freely admitted he has never been on the portal and yet he felt qualified and equipped as a town representative to vote in favour of it. He also told me don't I want Hollywood in Marlow. No I don't. It was a bizarre conversation. You see we know how you feel. We read your statement. Most of it lifted from the studio's website. Not Shepton Mallet. You can't even be bothered to use your own words. It speaks volumes. You've also taken money from Dido which is a conflict of interest. You cannot take money for whatever purposes, charitable or not, from a property to do that. I have one more set. It's very quick because I do service for a long time. Your job, you have been elected, is to represent us. Not martyr tag text or digital thumbs up from all over the world. If you wanted to know how your town felt you would simply have to go on the planning portal to see where people making the comments were from. The vast majority of local comments are against.

Thank you very much. I've been in contact with both of you very recently. Specifically following the contribution that Councillor Scott made on the planning portal. Which was subsequently corrected by Chris Funnell Needless to say, as Andrew has pointed out, this is Marlow Town Council. It appears as an official contributor to the application. Indeed, it's their views that have been taken into account allegedly by the planning officer. Unfortunately, the planning officer has rejected or suggested that the application should be refused. My question to you is why you have not previously called a public meeting of this sort before you actually went to the trouble? I have to say, before you answer that question, when I asked you, Councillor Scott, why you thought I suggested to you actually, quite adamantly, that you might actually usefully hold a public meeting to try and deal with the farado that was actually resulting from your contribution. You said, there's no point in holding a public meeting because the only people that turn up are people who have homes.

In fact, I wish to call a vote to actually censor Marlow Town Council for their behaviour in this respect. Both for failing to call a public meeting and indeed making a contribution that doesn't go to the actual attribution of that contribution to Marlow Town Council as if it were an official position, which it clearly is not.

I've got you calling for a poll, sir, or a vote? No, I'm calling for a vote. It is being called for a vote. I'm trying to censor Marlow Town Council. And what is your statement, please? The statement is Marlow Town Council have failed to actively engage the local population in securing a view of the proposal before making their contributions on the planning agenda. It needs to be an unambiguous question with a very simple yes or no answer. A simple yes or no answer? Yes. Does this meeting believe that Marlow Town Council should be censored for making the contribution they did without holding a public meeting or properly consulting the public beforehand?

And would you mind just giving your name and address for the record? My name is Peter Ashford and I live at 12 Holland Road. Thank you. Go ahead and have your poll. While this area is discussed with quite sequential planning application, it is not a town council meeting. A member of the public at a parish meeting may call for a vote on any subject. Thank you. I think it would be appropriate to do it now because we are only two hours out. Can we get anybody else? So you are proposing that vote? Absolutely. Take your vote. What's the vote? Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

I'm going to read out the letter that I wrote after chatting to some Marlow town councillors at the carnival, where I said, now they have put their sails in the wind and said most of them are supporting the film studio, I said, would there be a public meeting, because people need to have their voices heard, and they thought there was no point to have the meeting. So this is the letter that I was aiming to send to you. To Marlow town councillors, I encourage you all to watch this film from Chris Packard, which I would have included. Hopefully it works. It is about how nature poor the UK is, and how the 90 plus acre film studio, that you, as mostly saying for, Marlow town councillors support, will only make this situation worse. I feel your support of this monstrosity will damage many people's mental health, and I, for the record, am a play therapist, and will work with children that their mental health is upset because of nature depleted areas. It will damage people's mental health and the abundance of nature that lives there. I am saddened that money talks. I feel the PR for this film studio is making lots of people, including most of Marlow town council, believe it will benefit Marlow hugely. This, I, and I am not alone, do not agree with that. And again it shows most of you haven't engaged with the poorer members of your town, who will really seriously be affected. And for that I live, I am 43 The Croft, at the bottom of the Globe Business Park. During Covid, that walk, where that monstrosity could be built, was my mental health walk. I see the nature. I see the people. So me, and not only me, who will hear the noise and the pollution and the increased traffic when my road is already currently being used as a parking spot for people that don't even live on the estate, I am thoroughly disappointed that more of you haven't bothered to ask those on the WestThorpe estate and the Gunthorpe estate how this will affect us being built. But again, we are the poorer members of society. The people that live in million pound houses, that think the studio is great, will not see it. I will see it, if it is built. And sadly, money talks, more money for the rich, seems your main concern. And I feel you have let Marlow down by supporting this planning application. Yours, disappointedly, Emma Hawkins. Thank you very much.

Sarah Jones Oak Tree Road, Marlow. I'm hoping that you'll actually be able to answer some questions. Is that part of this process? No, this is a meeting that has been called to discuss one specific topic. It is not a town council meeting. It is a parish meeting which has different

rules. For those that came, if you came to the annual general meeting in May, it has one item on there which is the annual report that councillors do not participate in. It's the same as this meeting. In that case, can I make a statement on things that I would like to ask the council? In your response to the planning application, you say that the representations made so far with a near 2 to 1 ratio in favour, which aligns with the messaging coming from our Marlow residents. I would like to ask the council how they have identified that that messaging aligns with the Marlow residents' views. Secondly, your response talks about the site as being used for landfill, waste disposal and have been poorly remediated and landfilled. It's mostly inaccessible to the public, other than a basic footpath dissecting its area from its public intersection from the Volvo footbridge. In agreement with Emma, I use that area for walking, for bird watching. I know people use it for fishing. It is certainly not correct to state that it is a poor, low-quality area. This is an area that is full of wildlife and it would be hugely damaging. Finally, the other thing I would like to ask the council is to be able to confirm that the town council and the town is not benefiting financially from any contribution made by the developers. Thank you very much

It's not a question and answer session, but we'll just answer the last question because it's raised over there. Last year the council did take a donation towards the Christmas lights along with about 35 other businesses in the town.

No one heard you, no one heard you. Perhaps someone at the front can just re-say what he said, we can't hear you.

Hello, I'm John Perry, 24, Claremont Gardens. We couldn't hear what you said, so could you say it again please? We can relay it. Sorry, what was that?

The town council received a donation for the Christmas lights from the film studio, which was number 39.

No, from Dido, not from the film studio.

Oh, sorry, from Dido. He's not answering the first two questions, just the last question. Thank you, Nick, thank you. And all that's fully disclosed, there's no secret about that.

I'm a photographer that loves landscapes and walking specifically. I'm a resident in central Marlow. I moved here four years ago because Marlow's beautiful, as we know. And most importantly, so are the surroundings of Marlow. That's really important. Don't spoil it. If you spoil it, people are going to leave, and we won't have a lovely Marlow. We do a lot of work for Marlow, let's keep it, you know, the surroundings nice as well. I want to bring attention to scale. Most people I talk about who don't really know much about this debate. Scale is actually massively important, I don't hear people talk about it. People don't realise the scale of a lot of people. There are 14,000 people in Marlow. This will have 4,000 to 5,000 people every day. You just cannot make 4,000 or 5,000 people disappear, you know, like that. Those lollipop trees outside the front there will be totally dwarfed if they're there at all. Views from Emmetts Farm, above Emmetts Farm and north, and to the south as well, and Winter Hill, will be, it's a massive, it's going to be a massive eye sore, I've projected it. Not good, not good. Traffic, lots have been written about traffic, but I mean, there are

suggestions to mitigate by putting in an interchange. We'll just move the traffic further along. There's going to be no more roads. No, the traffic has to go somewhere. Oh, Great Junction, where it's going to and where it's coming from. Very important, also, the lack of respect for fellow residents, people living in the area, people in West Thorpe that I know, they live in a place that's surrounded by countryside, and they're going to be surrounded by industry if this happens. It's absolutely disgusting not to take that into account. I can't even cut down a tree in Central Marlow without getting permission, but you can surround them with that. That's just not fair. I don't like this, that everyone's protecting us. There's a lot of people here, obviously, but this is a wasteland. It's not a wasteland. It's been remodelled over decades. I know, people go on a walk, I go on a photograph, it's actually beautiful. We must respect our planet. Every single little piece of parcel of land is part of our planet. We can't just keep taking it away. Thank you

I'm from Marlow Parish Council. You're from Little Marlow Parish Council? No, I'm from Marlow Residence. I also live in Marlow Parish Council. Little Marlow Parish Council has been advising Marlow Town Council to engage on this project since 2021, and Marlow Town Council has consistently refused to engage. Why is that? It's not a debate tonight, we're here to listen to it. I'm from Marlow Residence. Can you just answer the question there about the night starvation? I'm asking you a question. Why is that that Marlow Town Council refused to engage with Marlow Parish Council? I think we should refer to what the Town Clerk said as to what is the agenda item here as the consequence of the application. Thank you

Another lady at the back, show the green card. I thought I could get past the questions, I apologise I'm a pain in the arse, but I drove back the other day, and before I think it was, there's a massive bit of shooting in there. What I didn't understand, in light of that, is why we then meet on just a very short distance away. So that would be my question here. And every time I ask somebody about the theatre or studio, we come along, I hear the one that is jobs, it's a subjective reason, it's a specialist industry, I don't know much about that. I don't quite see what the benefits are, and that's why we need to do our shooting tonight. All the benefits, is of that studio coming tomorrow, but there is one very close by. Very, very close by. Sorry, I think there's one at the back as well. I really don't understand, where is Emma? So this traffic is going to directly impact on me, I don't want you to stay close to Emma. And I don't understand, I just don't get, why is it yes? No, they're trying to play you off.

There's a gentleman there. Gentleman sitting down there, thank you. Good evening. My name is Mr Thomas, and I live in Red Shots Close. First of all, the land that they're talking about is accessible. It's accessible to the animals, if nobody else. I've walked there, quite a lot. You have the increased noise, pollution, traffic, 5,000 people, and they talk about bussing people. You can't stop people driving into my road, and parking down residential roads, and then just walk into the studio. You're not taking that into consideration. A large part of the roundabout was granted by the highways many years ago, when they put in the slip road. That is actually, theoretically, too close to the main roundabout. But they allowed it to be put in. When you have all these people coming on and off the slip road, people coming through Little Marlow and Marlow, how is the traffic going to be absorbed? It will just back up even more, so that doesn't help any of us residents whatsoever. The noise,

pollution, you have to consider that, and Globe Park is half-empty. Why isn't the council trying to develop that? That's why the Globe park slip road was put in. Not to then build something else on Greenland. It's not wasteland anymore. It's land for all of us to enjoy. For me, what I don't understand when I read that leaflet that came through my door, is that a meeting was held and no minutes were taken on a subject which is so big to this community and it will change the shape of this community. Why were no minutes taken? Now, we're talking about democratically elected people who are supposed to represent us, even if we didn't vote for them. What little tiny clique of people have decided that privately they would agree something and then just rubber stamp it? That, to me, is against democracy and it erodes everyone's view of how councils and local councils work and what happens. How many people, local councillors are trying to get on the main committee, for what reason? Why is it? That must be the best thing going.

The bottom line is we want democracy. APPLAUSE My question is if local councillors who were democratically elected feel that they can have meetings with no minutes whatsoever as in no fingers in their mouth they're going to get it through, I ask them to consider their positions and their integrity and resign!

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So this is not... ..a film studio making films. LAUGHTER They're the property business. However we overlay these maps and I've have some printed out here if anybody would like to see. Now, on the scale of it, I think a lot of monologuing Masters don't realise but I speak to neighbors, friends, people in the shop and I describe this. They say, oh, never knew it was so big. Now, imagine that you walk through Higginson Park and if anybody knows the path that goes from the river to Pound Lane walk a little bit beyond that. Then turn around and start walking. All the way through Higginson Park all the way up High Street along Spittal Street Chapel Street you go and get to the fork of Wycombe Road and the A4155... You go a little bit further to Foxies Piece. That is one hell of a walk. Oh, excuse me. That is a long walk. On that walk, if you did that you would be on the development site the whole way. This development is many times bigger than Marlow Town Centre. Many, many times. A lot of people don't recognize that. It is full of enormous buildings. They are hangars. All we ever see from the developers in the Buck Free Press they presumably have been given one photo of a nice glass office building. We never see the enormous hangars. The multi-storey car parks that are going to be alongside the Westhorpe community. They are a rural community in a country park. They are going to be entirely encircled by industrial development with multi-storey car parks on their doorsteps. I ask the councillors you have a duty and care to look after the people of Marlow. I know that they are I think they are outside the Marlow boundary. You have a duty and care to Marlow as well to safeguard their green spaces, their green belt and that is not going to happen with this development. So that's the scale of it. It will be three times bigger than Marlow Park. It will be three times bigger than Marlow Park. Thank you very much.

The other point that struck me as well was the benefit of a bus service, an extra bus service that would run down the bypass to this site. Who's that passing by? Who's that benefiting? I

don't think it's benefiting the residents of Marlow. So these are two spurious benefits. I'll tell you what's definite though, and that would be the damage to our environment. 70 feet high, now that's 7 stories in my money. That would do irreparable, one-off, forever damage to our character of our town, and to the views that we enjoy from Winter Hill. So I think these places, these studios, land studios, are in the wrong place. There are other places that have more of that industrial character, that's where they belong, they don't belong in our town. Thank you.

In Marvels, Disney, Star Wars, Harry Potter, anything like that, I've worked on most of those. So I'm just going to throw in some stuff, in case it's useful. I've worked in virtually all the studios, it's the South East. I've never met a local at any of the studios. I do have the unfortunate experience of trying to drive into these studios, and many of us are very uncomfortable with the glares, the looks we get from the local residents. Sometimes, when there's lots of traffic, there's trucks, of course we know there's lots of trucks in the filmmaking, and the cars spread out through all the residential streets. I've seen people in tears, I've seen people yelling at the cars, and most of the time you just get really nasty glares from people walking their dogs. Because if anyone spends a lot of time around either Heath or Shepperton, Leith is a bit more isolated, you just find the traffic just absolutely destroys the local area. I have to say, when I first heard of this proposal, I thought about the bridge, and I'm congested by a street. If FedEx wants to drop a parcel, the whole village climbs to the top. And now you have trucks, and again, lots and lots of people coming in from elsewhere, potentially shipping around through the buildings. It's utter disaster.

Sally Abbott, Harwood Road. One of the reasons that, well I'm horrified by the Council's decision to... Why I don't agree with the Council's view. There are a total of 15 studio developments in the South East, either operating or in development. RD Studios at Park Royal is one of the largest film production facilities in London. There are also plans to be submitted for a major £263 million film and TV studio complex in central Bedfordshire. There's a plan by Sunset Studios to open a £700 million facility at Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire. Sky Studios at Elstree... Sky Studios at Elstree is expected to open its doors early next year. Pinewood Studios were granted planning permission in April for Screen Hub UK, which will create a £450 million expansion to its current site. Also at Pinewood Studios, they've submitted a new planning application in July for an expanded £800 million scheme. Shenfield Studios, based at the Thames Valley Science Park, already has four stages in place, five more opening in 2023, and an 18-stage Creative Media Hub opening in 2024. Marlow Film Studios, obviously, the plannings have been lodged. Winnersh Film Studios currently has two sound stages operating, with four more planned. Planning was agreed last week to expand. Wycombe Film Studios, again stage 50. The new studios will see an eight-stage facility on a 26-acre site nearby Wycombe. Farnborough Film Studios, stage 50 again, has a 22,000-square-foot sound stage which is operational. Long Cross Film Studios are looking to significantly expand the facility. Shepperton Studios in Surrey, a total of 14 new sound stages are under construction. Ashford International Studios, the new Kent studio will be operated by Time & Space Studio. Finally, Grey Film Studios. The Windsor Studios announced plans at the end of 2021 to create nine new sound stages, four workshops, and one rehearsal building and offices. We don't need one in Marlow. Thank you.

And this change can make it worse. As well as the cars and relative travel. When you commit to having Marlow Town Council review what they have said in the light of the comments that you're hearing, I mean, you say it's not a Q&A session, but I know that the rules of the parish meeting say that any person on the electoral register of the parish is entitled to speak at the parish meeting. So, you could answer that individually, if not yet, on behalf of Marlow Town Council. So, individually, would you commit to asking Marlow Town Council to review what they have said in the light of the comments you've heard tonight? Thank you,

We will take that away. We're not here... We're not here... We are not the council. It is not a council meeting. We can't commit to a review. Thank you.

I can't say any more. Absolutely not. I understand what you're saying, Your Honour. But it's impossible for somebody, if you're unable to deal with a question which actually asks the council to deal with something, it's impossible for that person to call a vote making exactly clear what it is that they want the council to do. And that would go on record as an item, essentially. I thought we had already asked for a vote earlier on, which has been recorded by now.

No, I'm talking with regard to this particular point that you made about transfers. I wish you would let us go over the issue. I'm not here to debate it, but I'd like to actually query the transport department. Well, you didn't wait for the transport department to respond, did you? You actually went to them in such a marvellous way. I understand.

Bob Savage, 31 Barley Way. I've read the documents that were submitted to the local authority. And all I can say is, I'm staggered. I have actually sat in many, many council meetings and heard professionals talk about planning. How did this meeting ever take place? And I question again the people who were in it and the person who ended up submitting it. Should we consider their position in the council? Richard, will you excuse me if I don't stand up? Did I rightly hear you say at the beginning of this meeting you weren't minded to answer any questions? Yes, this is a parish meeting, it's not a council meeting. I understand that you're not forbidden from answering. We have to have recognition of what the correspondent said. It was about the consequences of the planning application, not a comment on how the council operates. Well, the proposition the councillor makes is surely germane to the whole question of whether this application goes through or not. Presumably you made that statement, confusing as it was, because you believed it would be influential. And are you in effect saying it didn't matter?

What we said was we supported it in the region, we stated it, and we're against it on the highway. So we're balanced beyond that.

Can I ask you straightforwardly, Richard, why are you not prepared to answer questions? You are, after all, the leader of the major party in the town council. The town council has taken a particular position in which everyone in this room is interested in. What is the compelling reason why you will not tell us exactly why you've decided what you've decided? Well, we've decided amongst a group.



You've decided amongst a group, sorry, just explain that. You've decided amongst a group that no-one's personally bothered with it, and that's okay.

Yeah, I mean, look, the council has met many, many occasions in private, and this was no different. Wycombe did it, Bucks did it, and we did it. You're talking about the development, which has been a massive effort. We have meetings in private all the time, also monthly, where we discuss matters of policy. That was one of them, and that was the decision we took.

And you think it's not important? It's not important. Explain the reasons in the document. We're not going to get any verdicts on the record. Because you didn't want to be identified. That's why you didn't have minutes. You didn't take minutes. That's why you shouldn't have had minutes yet. To protect yourselves, and to protect democracy. Thank you, yes. I have two questions. Both, I believe, are procedural, and are only for me listening to what's being said tonight. So if I'm wrong, do you have monthly meetings privately? That's the second question.

We have meetings when we choose to do so.

How often, after those meetings, have you published a letter, or written a letter, on behalf of the council to another body?

That's the first question. The second question was, earlier there was a conversation about the people of Westhorpe. I think it was Westhorpe House. They wouldn't be allowed to speak here, or ask a question? Westhorpe Park. So how can, and this is completely being very even, how can you then make decisions about where they live?

That's exactly, we pointed that out in our statement. But we didn't come out officially, because it was not in our coverage. That was quite clearly made on the statement.

So you're not making a decision about it?

No, it's not for me to know. Why are we all here?

You've called for a meeting. Yeah, yeah, but you're not going to. So why did you feel the need to write on behalf of all of us?

We didn't write on behalf, we wrote as, I'm sorry we're not going to debate, but we wrote on the basis, we wrote on the basis, and it's completely worth it, because it's over by something, there's individual councillors.

Speak up! I'm asking you to speak up, please.

It was an individual councillor's views, it was not an official council meeting, because the application site is not within our boundary I'm just saying that there are those paragraphs of Glastonbury to engage with them, and you can find. Yeah. Remember that you've only been invited to engage, to have a conversation. Right, are there any other last points? Yeah. Not

as an argument, you're not a Marlow MP, of course. Parish meeting rules are very, very clear, only members of the electorate may speak at a parish meeting within Marlow. Because there is discretion there for people who have not been the electorate to speak to a meeting site. The LGA Act of 1972 is very clear on who can speak at a parish meeting, and I'm confident the Local Government Act of 1972 clearly demonstrates and outlines who can speak at a parish meeting, and it is members of the electorate.

Right, Ken Green from High.... So do I understand you correctly that the council, what you were saying earlier, is individual councillors' personal opinions, not an official council position? Absolutely right. In that case, is the council not bound to go and approach all the media outlets that are claiming it's an official council position, with some form of cease and desist, because it's misrepresenting the views of the council? I'm afraid I'm going to try and work out where every single comment has been made on social media, but no idea where. OK, well maybe you can make a proactive stance to say that the council does not have an official position on this. That would be very helpful. That's exactly what the leader did. Have you asked either to reject their statement that Marlow County Council are supporting their application then, because that's what's all over there?

Well, I've just replied to that question. We can't reply to every single thing we do. Every single thing we do.

Well, what about if we give you a list to start on? Because it's out there. The media war, which is what it is, is out there and playing, and people are claiming the council are in support of it. In print, online and media, it's very, very easy to find out those. Google helps you with the most popular first. I just really think it's a big misunderstanding that everybody's got, that it was an official council position. I think it might also help you out in terms of getting people off your back a little bit about it being an official council position to support it. So I think it's a win-win.

It was quite clear it was not an official council position, and it was superseded by... Who will agree? Right. Are there any further questions?

Yes, sir, ladies and gentlemen. If you've got more questions, we'll have them.

Can you withdraw your support? I think that's probably now not possible because the application has closed and the officers have done their report. The officers have done their report, and they've recommended that the application is refused. So there's no more information to go on the planning board.

It's incorrect that one cannot make comments until the day the planning committee sits. One may make substantive comments right up until the last moment. When I first saw the letter that you'd written, I am on Facebook, and I wrote a letter to the council suggesting that you should immediately rescind your letter because it was written undemocratically and in a view of people in Marlow. I've not had a response to that letter that I wrote to you from the planning council, and I would like a response. And because you've failed to rescind your letter and actually making the worst, quite woolly statement that you've made, I would actually ask you, I think that you should be resigning. Absolutely. I personally think that

you've treated the people of Marlow with great disrespect. And you should think about your position and in fact the whole council should think about it. Thank you.

I think my name was first. Hello Bradford, from Spinfield Lane in Marlow. In order to build on the Greenbelt land, exceptional circumstances, and there are no exceptional circumstances for this, and I know that because my sister was a planning lawyer and she read over it and she said, so I'm very confused as to why Marlow Town Council think that it should go ahead. Because you've chosen to give the benefit to a few people who don't live in Marlow, who are really rich, you're going to make them even richer. Whereas it's meant to be a country park for all of the residents to enjoy. When that gets dug up, there's no going back. And the best thing we can do for our kids is not to make them false promises of film stars walking up and down the high street. The best thing we can do for them is to give them a living planet. And if we continue digging up every little piece of grass and tree around us, what hope is there for their future? So we really need to consider that. What is the impact for future generations on the decisions that you're making? Because at the moment all you're thinking about is four people that don't even live here, rather than the community. Thank you.

The Marlow Town Council could make an objection statement still, in time, to the Community Science Committee on Monday. So I would like to hold a vote at this meeting whether the Marlow Town Council should object to the planning application formally.

There's been a tender vote, and more than ten people have indicated they're part of the support of that vote, saying yes, that's all that's required. If the proposer would like to say the statement again. The Marlow Town Council should object formally to the planning application. Thank you, gentlemen. I'll take the Vice-President's word on that, in contrary to what the resolution was put forward this evening. Thank you, gentlemen. I can tell you I was 19 or 20 from, and I think the people you sat against, I think they've got greater issues. Number one, we talked about jobs. And number two, why is the traffic so bad coming off the 404, or coming into Marlow, morning and night? Is it because they don't have any jobs in Marlow? So the Marlow people are actually having to leave Marlow to go to work. Now, we all know, or we should know, that the Globe Park is completely closed for the last 12 weeks. I walk around the town all the time. There's signs, there's offices to let, and at the moment we might feel, as we do, we live in a jewel of a town, beautiful town, but we do need work. Now, obviously there's going to be lots of nays and lots of yays about the studio, but I think perhaps we'll put Marlow Council on the spot now if you want to sack them anyway. But there is a bigger issue about jobs, and I think Marlow needs jobs. My company has gone to rent space on Globe Park, but we decided that it was impossible to get on there because of the traffic problem. It's simply just going to make the traffic problem even worse, and the land and the properties on Globe Park, it's impossible to let, and therefore no employment on Globe Park.

I'm Jo, Mayor of Victoria Gardens. I used to work in the weaving industry, and I've known that local people come. I never, ever worked before I moved. Never, ever. It was always me driving to a studio, to a location. So it is a serious argument to say that these thousands of jobs are going to be created, because they won't be. There are a few hundred possibly okay, as somebody said, in the town. Possibly. Thank you.

Can I follow up on the person who talked about the over-supplied studio space in the UK? I want to add to it. There are 36 applications in the UK for a new studio space. There are 21 of those in the South East. The industry reckons that they need another million square feet by 2027. The South East alone will provide just in excess of 5 million square feet. So adding mono to over-subscription available studio space will simply create a set of bonds that then have to be used for something else. Somebody within my hearing said that Amsterdam is really happy to take on empty spaces where foolish local authorities have given planning permission and then changed the conditions of use. As centres for moving material around. I would suggest that the planning commission based around the business need cannot be substantiated. And Marlow Town Council and Buckinghamshire Council must refuse that based on the fact that it's going to sit, like Globe Park, empty until somebody decides that houses are moving. Thank you.

Can I just answer that question? So remember that technology is advancing rapidly. We've got AI now. You can look at someone on TV. You don't know whether it's the real actor or not. A lot of stuff's now being done virtually. So a lot of these studios are probably going to be defunct very soon anyway. I can't see any more hands up. May I have your discretion to speak before I run out of time? No, I don't think so. We've stopped other people who don't live in the town from speaking. So I'm very lucky that they've used the space. Thank you. Are you going to come back? Yeah. Have you had your text or have you wrote on the planning report with you? I don't. You could read out. Does anyone have it? I've got it here. Is it possible to read out? It just sounded a little bit, when I read it, like it was coming from my channel. Thank you.

From individuals. It's questioning whether the statement was submitted by Councillor Scott. It sounded like it was coming from the council or from individual councillors. Thank you.

Yes. It's an interesting statement, totally. It says that it's an individual comment by Councillor Richard Scott, commenter type, member of public. But it goes on to talk extensively about Marlow Town Council. And the comment that actually follows up from Sarah is over there. The reason as well, although this studio is not in the Marlow area, they say in their comment to the planning application, Marlow is the most significant settlement adjacent to this application and has a population approximately ten times greater than Little Marlow. Well, is that not saying that they think that their view is more important than Little Marlow Council's view? I don't know. That's how I read it. At the end, it does say, sorry, I'm just trying to look through where it says what it means. It does talk at the end about a vote of the informal group of councillors that was taken and it was in favour. So if it was a group, then that does sound like it's not about individuals, doesn't it?

Yes. I'm not sure where she's going with this. A question in the back there, please. Thank you.

It's already been mentioned that there's 4,000 cars coming into Marlow. The gentlemen who work in the industry have also mentioned the lorries. I would like to know how you're going to stop all those lorries getting stuck on Marlow Bridge. I really can't see any other hand. I just want to make a quick statement. Well, you've made one statement. It's just

going to be quick. Because I, personally, am a person that speaks up for the voiceless, not only nature that is voiceless and cannot speak up for itself, but residents on the Westhorpe Estate. 60 plus households who I have heard have been bullied by Dino, personally ridiculed, ill-treated. They are the poor part of Marlow. Parish ludicrous or not, how many elderly, vulnerable residents require daily carers, hospital transport, hot meals, etc.? Will they be cut off from that essential and immediate access? They've been told they can have a bus service, but I don't think that's really going to cut it. So, based on their statements alone, elderly residents that you are supposedly speaking for, I think it just shows arrogance of people that clearly are too rich to care about the poor of Marlow Bridge.

I just had a quick question for the town clerk to ask what kind of record will be made at this meeting? There are no minutes in the last one. And how will that be used? What actually is going to happen, you're recording the whole thing. That's correct. How will these feelings be conveyed?

That will be transcribed and made available publicly. Excuse me, is that your business? There's no requirement to send it to the planning officers. If you want me to speak, let me finish. I will transcribe it, I will place it on the website and it will be freely available to all.

And that's my duty of care as clerk after a parish meeting. Can we request that you do share this with the planning officers? Because I think you've made such fantastic points. And if you don't, I think they're not going to be past time possibly. And they might not promise this as we go through. Anybody can share it with the planning office. It's all you now. Just a quick comment.

Can it be transcribed before we're out of time to make a comment to the planning department, please?

We will do our utmost to get it transcribed as quickly as possible. Thank you. All right, thank you very much for your attendance this evening. Comments to note, you will hear the transcript and the meeting is now closed. Thank you

*Meeting Ends.*

*This transcription has been created using a speech recognition application using the audio recording of the meeting. There may be errors in the transcription due to the nature of the recording.*