

**MINUTES AND REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE  
HELD ON THE 13 FEBRUARY 2020**

- \* Councillor PS Rivers – Chair
- \* Councillor Crooks – Vice Chair

* Councillor Adam	# Councillor Ashworth
0 Councillor Boyle	* Councillor Cosser
* Councillor Duce	* Councillor Follows
* Councillor Heagin	* Councillor Hullah
0 Councillor Martin	0 Councillor Neill
* Councillor Purvis	* Councillor Rosoman
* Councillor Steel	* Councillor Stubbs
0 Councillor Wardell	* Councillor Williams

\* Present      # Absent & No Apology Received      0 Apology for Absence      L Late

399. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 23 January 2020 were signed by the Chair as a correct record.

400. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and recorded as above.

401. DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Councillor Adam declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 10, Planning Application WA/2020/003 on the grounds that he had submitted an objection to the application to the local planning authority. Cllr Adam remained in the Chamber when that agenda item was debated.

Councillor Cosser stated that as he was a Waverley Borough Councillor as well as a Godalming Town Councillor, to avoid a conflict of interest he had taken advice and will not take part in planning debates or votes and requested that future agenda's reflect this position.

The comments and observations from the following Waverley Borough Councillors were preliminary ones prior to consideration at Borough Council level and were based on the evidence and representations to the Town Council.

Councillor Follows  
Councillor Heagin  
Councillor Martin  
Councillor PMA Rivers  
Councillor PS Rivers  
Councillor Rosoman  
Councillor Williams

402. PETITIONS/STATEMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

No petitions/statements/questions had been received from members of the public in accordance with Standing Order No 4.

403. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

No questions were submitted by Councillors in accordance with Standing Order 6.

404. PRESENTATION BY KARIN MCDONALD – PLASTIC FREE GODALMING CAMPAIGN

Members received a presentation from Karin McDonald of the Plastic Free Godalming Campaign. The presentation highlighted the damage to the environment of single use plastics and how, as a community, it is possible to work together to reduce the amount of plastic produced and consumed.

Members noted that, in collaboration with event partners, Godalming Town Council had already taken the following steps to reduce single use plastic at town events:

- agreed not to provide single use plastic water bottles at the Godalming Run;
- has contacted street food vendors and stall holders who attend town centre festivals and other council events for them to consider the environment and avoid the use of plastic on their stalls, including containers and packaging;
- will continue to build upon the success of last year's single use plastic free Staycation Live Music festival, where we saw the Staycation branded drinks container deposit scheme, not only remove the majority of single use drinks containers from the bars, but also drastically reduced the waste generated from the event;
- working with WBC to install a water refill station in the Phillips Memorial Park; and
- in partnership with WBC Environmental Services Projects Team, will be displaying the Zero Waste Showcase, which is aimed at reducing personal consumption of single use plastics, as the first display in the Town Councils 'Shop Window' when the current Reduce, Reuse, Recycle window display is removed.

The Committee Chair thanked Karin for her presentation, a question and answer session followed.

405. PLASTIC FREE GODALMING – RECOMMENDATIONS TO FULL COUNCIL

Following the presentation to this Committee by the Plastic Free Godalming Campaign, on the proposal of Cllr Follows and seconded by Cllr Cosser, Members resolved to recommend to Full Council that Godalming Town Council supports the Plastic Free Godalming Campaign and appoints a representative to the campaign steering group. Additionally, Members also resolved to recommend to Full Council that:

- Godalming Town Council does not procure any single use plastic items for use at its meetings or in its offices;
- where possible Godalming Town Council will use non-plastic products;
- if no suitable, practicable alternative product is available, will use Polyethylene Terephthalate (**PET**) recyclable plastics;
- wherever possible, promote awareness of plastic free options both internally and externally, through the Council's website, communications, publications, public notices, signs, display areas and events;
- Godalming Town Council will use its influence to urge local retailers to provide plastic free options for residents; and
- where practicable and appropriate, provide water refill stations to help reduce the use of single use water bottles.

406. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

Members received the following Motion on Notice from Cllr Purvis, seconded by Cllr Wardell.

The Motion:

This Council believes that the sharing of ideas, knowledge and expertise is mutually beneficial, especially in support of the paragraph 5 of Min No 158-19 – Godalming Town Council Motion of Climate Emergency adopted on 25 July 2019 and the Council Programme 2019-2023 adopted September 2019 which, amongst others, aims to:

- seek ways to facilitate and encourage our community to reduce direct and indirect CO<sup>2</sup> emissions, to conserve and enhance biodiversity and to become resilient to changes caused by the changing climate;
- protect natural habitats and biodiversity;
- promote strategies for reducing and reusing materials as much as recycling; and
- provide an information hub to promote understanding of individuals' and communities' impacts on climate change.

As such, Members are requested to agree that Godalming Town Council should use its best endeavours to bring together all community groups who are concerned with the environment and climate change issues under an umbrella group known as the Godalming Climate Forum.

The aim of the forum would be to:

- meet quarterly;
- share ideas, aims and goals, knowledge and expertise;
- share funding ideas and opportunities including joint funding applications for environmental projects;
- encourage regenerative business ideas, waste reduction and recycling knowledge and opportunities with an aim of achieving synergy of action and reducing duplication;
- widen opportunity for public education events on environmental matters, aiming to directly increase public engagement and participation in reducing carbon emissions and protecting and increasing biodiversity; and
- liaise with Waverley Borough Council and other town and parish councils across the borough committed to strategies to reduce carbon emissions and promote biodiversity to enable, where appropriate, promotion and/or implementation of carbon reduction and biodiversity improvement ideas across a wider community area.

Having considered the Motion, Members resolved to agree to:

- nominate two Members of this Committee, Cllr Wardell and Cllr Purvis to be GTC co-ordinators for the Godalming Climate Forum;
- provide a GTC venue, utilising spare capacity, for the inaugural meeting of the Godalming Climate Forum;
- seek Grant Aid in Kind for future use of GTC venues by the Godalming Climate Forum from the P&M Committee as part of its Grant Aid in Kind considerations; and
- that the GTC Godalming Climate Forum co-ordinators should report to this Committee following the Forum's quarterly meetings, highlighting any additional support requested of the Council.

407. PLANNING APPLICATION DETERMINATION WORKING GROUP

On 23 January, Members appointed a Working Group to bring forward proposals for consideration by the Environment & Planning Committee for the method to be used for determining which planning applications should be considered for observation by the Committee (Min No 343-19 refers).

The proposals and recommendations from the Working Group were considered by Members who resolved to agree that:

1. It is each Councillor's responsibility to represent their Ward residents to the best of their ability, and to ensure that development is consistent with the constraints and designs expressed in the Local Plan. Information on current planning applications is provided to Councillors every week in a GTC email attachment (the "weekly planning schedule").
2. The Chair, Vice-Chair and Town Clerk will review these planning applications – proposed frequency is weekly.
3. The E&P meeting agenda will include a brief summary of all current Ward planning applications. Those that the Chair, Vice-Chair and Town Clerk identify as being "significant" will be highlighted for discussion. These will include applications brought forward by Ward Councillors who will speak to the item.
4. Applications that are not highlighted in the agenda will be addressed quickly by the Chair seeking rapid agreement to a "no objection" comment. Any issues with applications arising after publication of the agenda will be addressed at the discretion of the Chair.

408. PLANNING APPLICATIONS – CONSULTATION

The Committee considered the following application, Members observations to be forwarded to the relevant Planning Authority.

**Planning Application WA/2020/0003**

BRI ENDA, 54 SUMMERS ROAD, FARNCOMBE, GU7 3BD

Erection of 5 dwellings with parking and alterations to existing access following demolition of existing dwelling.

Members object to planning application WA/2020/0003 on the grounds that it does not meet the aims of the Godalming & Farncombe Local Plan Policy GOD9 – Movement Routes in that the proposed exit/entrance onto Summers Road does not enhance movement routes and safe walking to important local facilities Broadwater School and the Farncombe Retail Centre.

Members also expressed concern at the lack of detail in the application regarding SUDS and EVPs.

Councillor Cosser wished his abstention on this application to be recorded.

409. PLANNING CONSULTATION

Following consideration of Surrey County Council's consultation on the application listed below, Members made no objections to the proposal.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 – CONSULTATION ON CURRENT APPLICATION**

SITE: Broadwater Park Golf Club, Meadrow, Godalming, Surrey GU7 3BU

PROPOSAL: Details of a Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring and Management Plan pursuant to Condition 15 of planning permission ref: WA/2018/0097 dated 16 April 2019.

APPLICANT: Broadwater Park Golf Club, Meadrow.

410. PLANNING APPEALS

Members noted that an appeal had been lodged in relation to Planning Application WA/2029/0984.

SITE ADDRESS: Westbrook Mills, Borough Road, Godalming

PROPOSAL: erection of fourth floor roof extensions to existing buildings 1 and 2 to provide 29 dwellings (including 9 affordable) together with alterations to elevations of building 1, 2 and 3, layout of parking and landscaping works. The proposed drawings show an additional 99 dwellings which do not form part of this application. (Revision of WA/2018/1524).

411. COMMUNICATIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

Members wished further communications to be made in relation to the Plastic Free Godalming Campaign and the Godalming Climate Forum.

412. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environment & Planning Committee is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 5 March 2020 at 6.30pm in the Council Chamber.

413. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.