

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF URCHFONTS PARISH COUNCIL
held on Wednesday 08 August 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Conference Room of Urchfont Village
Hall.**

Present: UPC Chair Dave Mottram (DM) Philip Cottell (PC) Graham Creasey (GC) Bill Donald (BD) Richard Hawkins (RH) Maria Kemp (MK) Nicky Mitchell (NM) David Stevens (DS) and Planning Administrator Sandra Johnston (SJ)

Members of the public: Mr R Thomas; applicant for 5d). Mr P Whitehead; for 5c). Mr I Johnston

1. Apologies for absence: Lead of Planning Trevor Hill (TH) Cllr. Lewis Cowen (LC) Cllr. Graham Day (GD).

2. Declarations of Interest: None.

3. Minutes of a meeting held on 25 July 2018: Signed as a true record:- Proposed by Cllr Hawkins; seconded by Cllr Mitchell; agreed unanimously.

4. Matters arising from those Minutes: None.

5. Plans for discussion

Council members were reminded by The Chairman that when considering planning applications they must follow the guidance in the UPC Planning Policy and Procedure document (UPC/18) and its incorporated Statutory Authorities/Governing Documents, all of which can be found on the Wiltshire Council or Urchfont Parish Council websites. Also, they should have regard to visual impact upon the surrounding area and relationship to adjoining properties.

* Urchfont Parish Council's role, as a consultee, is to provide Wiltshire Council with UPC's views, which will be based on a balanced view across the Urchfont Parish community.

NB: If necessary, the meeting will be adjourned at the beginning of each Planning Application to enable members of the Public to express their views on that particular application.

5a) 18/06934/TCA - Works to trees in a Conservation Area to consist of Felling 1 x White Poplar tree at 4 The Orchard, Urchfont, Devizes, Wilts., SN10 4QX - for Mrs Y Morris.

* To date no letters of representation had been received by WC Planning Office and/or UPC. Site viewed independently by Parish Councillors.

**The Planning meeting was adjourned for public participation:-

As a recent purchaser of No 17, The Orchard, Mr R Thomas was asked if he knew of any covenants in place regarding planting & heights of trees /bushes etc in the front gardens of properties in that Close. Mr Thomas replied that he knew of none.

**Public participation was closed and the planning meeting re-opened:

The Planning Committee found as follows:

18/06934/TCA - Cllr Mottram proposed that the UPC Planning Committee register **No Objections** to this application; proposal seconded by Cllr Creasey, resolution agreed unanimously by all voting Cllrs. (DS was not present at this point).

5b) 18/06935/TCA - Works to trees in a Conservation Area to consist of Pollarding 1 x Ash tree (T2) to up to 10m and reshaping to balance crown. To remove large secondary limb of 1 x Ash tree (T3) and pollard remainder of tree to up to 10m and reshape & balance crown. Crown lift 1 x Horse Chestnut tree (T4) to give 4m clearance and carry out minor crown reduction up to NW side to balance crown; all at 20 Manor Farmyard, Urchfont, Devizes, Wilts., SN10 4BA – for Mr D Guiney.

* To date no letters of representation had been received by WC Planning Office and/or UPC. Site viewed independently by Councillors with Mrs Guiney's permission.

The Planning Committee found as follows:

DM – As these trees appear to be on land that no-one has yet admitted to owning, the proposal by the applicants is a welcome start to management of trees & shrubs on the bank of Friars Lane. Viewed from the garden, the Chestnut is not balanced and is interfered with by the Ash tree. The bank also needs a lot of maintenance.

PC – Of the personal opinion that the Horse Chestnut at the front was a good specimen and, all round, was a well balanced tree. It was approximately a quarter of its full age and PC wondered if this amount of crowning was too much, too soon? Opined that the other trees looked scabby and he would have expected them to be removed.

RH – The final decision on whether these proposed works were acceptable will ultimately rest with the WC Arboriculturalist, David Wyatt.

18/06935/TCA – Cllr Mottram proposed that the UPC Planning Committee register **No Objections** to this application; proposal seconded by Cllr Hawkins, resolution agreed unanimously.

5c) 18/07050/TCA - Works to trees in a Conservation Area to consist of raising crown of 1 x Oak tree (T1) to clear lawn by 4 metres and to remove any branches rubbing overhead cables, at Crookwood House, Cuckoo Corner, Urchfont, Devizes, Wilts., SN10 4RA – for Mrs M Whitehead.

* To date no letters of representation had been received by WC Planning Office and/or UPC.
Site viewed independently by Parish Councillors.

**The Planning meeting was adjourned for public participation:-

Mr P Whitehead: Stated that the lower branches of the Oak hung unevenly and crown raising would even this up and also allow clear access underneath the Oak. As advised, no deadwood would be removed, only upper branches that interfered with broadband reception by rubbing on overhead cables.

**Public participation was closed and the planning meeting re-opened:

The Planning Committee found as follows:

18/07050/TCA – Cllr Mottram proposed that the UPC Planning Committee register **No Objections** to this application; proposal seconded by Cllr Cottell, resolution agreed unanimously.

5d) 18/07160/TCA - Works to trees in a Conservation Area to consist of Removing 3 x Conifer trees (T1, T2 & T3) and 1 x low growing Conifer (T4); all at 17 The Orchard, Urchfont, Devizes, Wilts., SN10 4QX – for Mr R Thomas.

* To date no letters of representation had been received by WC Planning Office and/or UPC.
Site viewed independently by Parish Councillors.

Mr Thomas advised that, prior to making this application, he had sought advice from the WC Tree Officer.

The Planning Committee found as follows:

DM – Was of the opinion that the conifers in question were on the margins of whether trees or shrubs.

RH – Pointed out that no other properties in that road had been planted out in this manner.

18/07160/TCA – Cllr Mottram proposed that the UPC Planning Committee register **No Objections** to this application; proposal seconded by Cllr Hawkins, resolution agreed unanimously.

5e) 18/07314/TPO - Works to trees with a Preservation Order to consist of Felling 1 x Scots Pine tree at 11 The Orchard, Urchfont, Devizes, Wilts., SN10 4QX - for Mr M Myers.

* To date no letters of representation had been received by WC Planning Office and/or UPC.

The site had been viewed by Parish Councillors over the course of previous planning applications.

The Planning Committee found as follows:

18/07314/TPO – Cllr Cottell proposed that the UPC Planning Committee register **No Comment** to this application; proposal seconded by Cllr Mottram; resolution agreed unanimously.

6. Decisions received from Wiltshire Council since 20 July 2018

6a) 18/05833/TCA - Works to trees in a Conservation Area to consist of Felling 3 x Small Ash trees and Removing 1 x overhanging branch of an Oak tree; all at 1 Oakston, High Street, Urchfont, Devizes, Wilts., SN10 4QL, for Mrs N Mitchell. **No Objection**

7. Matters for Report - None

There being no other business, the Planning Meeting closed at 7:22 pm

The scheduled date of the next Planning Meeting is **Wednesday 12 September 2018** at **7:00 pm** in Urchfont Village Hall.

Planning Administrator Sandra Johnston – 01380 848774 – 07808 124721 – sandra-j@virgin.net

NB Hard copies of all Planning Applications & Plans are with the Planning Administrator and may be inspected by arrangement at any time. Planning Applications and their documents should also be visible on www.urchfont-pc.gov.uk or go to www.wiltshire.gov.uk and click on 'Planning Applications' – 'Planning applications online' - 'Search by planning application number' – 'application number.'

SignedDate