

DRAFT Minutes of the Urchfont Parish Council (UPC) Planning Meeting held on Wednesday 9th October 2019 in the Village Hall.

Present: Councillors: Day (GD – Chairman), Botham (MB – Vice Chairman), Hill (TH), Cowen (LC), Stevens (DS), Cottell (PC) – quorum confirmed.

Clerk to the Council: Lunn (BL)

Councillor for Urchfont & The Cannings: Whitehead (PW)

Members of the Public (for all or part of the meeting): Mrs B Potter, Ms N Hammond, Mr M Taylor

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs Cottle (SC), Creasey (GC), Hollyman (MH), Kemp (MK) and Kinnaird (LK)
2. **Declarations of Interest** – non-pecuniary declarations were made by GD for item 5a and TH for item 5d.
3. **Minutes of a meeting held on 11th September 2019**

Proposal	Proposer	Seconded	Resolution
To accept and sign the minutes unchanged as a true and accurate record of the meeting	PC	MB	AGREED with one abstention due to absence

4. **Matters arising from Minutes of 11th September 2019** – None reported

5. **Plans for discussion** – BL confirmed that no letters of representation had been received by UPC or appear on the WC website today for any of the applications to be discussed.

5a. 19/08948/TCA – reduce birch tree and fell hawthorn at The Stables, Cuckoo Farmyard, Urchfont, SN10 4SL for Mr & Mrs Hughson

Site Visit: 4 councillors visited the site on 8th October 2019 and met the applicant.

TH commented that this appeared fairly straightforward, the hawthorn is very close to the property fence. No other comments were made.

Proposal	Proposer	Seconded	Resolution
No Objection	TH	LC	Unanimously AGREED

5b. 19/08726/LBC – to open up existing doorway between dining room and kitchen at Pyncent Cottage, The Green, Urchfont, SN10 4RB for Mr & Mrs Thomas

Site Visit: None made as this is entirely an internal modification

TH commented that a previous application for this grade II listed building had been approved but with comment about the door which is the subject of this application. Assuming approval, once the plaster is remove the building Control Officer will inspect and determine whether any further work is necessary. On this basis TH suggested that the application should be supported.

Chairman closed the meeting for public participation – Mrs Potter commented that Gaiger’s are scheduled to undertake this work, they will not undertake anything which is not fully approved.

The Chairman re-opened the Council meeting

Proposal	Proposer	Seconded	Resolution
To SUPPORT the application	TH	DS	Unanimously AGREED

5c. 19/09205/TCA – Fell 4 trees and raise crown on one tree at Old Manor Farmhouse, Plum Lane, Wedhampton, SN10 3RR for Mr D Morrison

Site Visit: Decision taken not to visit based on recent visits to the site for other applications and the fact that tree's do not impact on any non-family households.

TH confirmed that the application relates to fell 3 Leylandii and 1 Monkey Puzzle, raise crown of a Yew. The only query raised by PC was in relation to the Monkey Puzzle, but as the application states that this is a very poor specimen then proposed felling was accepted.

Proposal	Proposer	Second	Resolution
No Objection	TH	GD	Unanimously AGREED

5d. 19/09384/TCA – Reduce Ash tree to hedge height at Penning House, High Street, Urchfont, SN10 4QH for Mrs Pottinger.

Site Visit: 4 councillors visited the site on 8th October 2019 and met the applicant.

TH commented that the proposal relates to a multi-trunk tree which dominates both the applicants and neighbours gardens. Reduction in height will remove a significant portion of the tree. It was noted that the tree currently blocks light from both the applicant and neighbouring properties.

Proposal	Proposer	Second	Resolution
No Objection	TH	MB	Unanimously AGREED

5e. 19/09365/TCA – Fell Robinia Tree at West End Farm, The Green, Urchfont, SN10 4RB for Mr Cruse

Site Visit: 4 councillors visited the site on 8th October 2019 and met the applicant.

Despite the fact that the applicant considers the tree is large and is causing root damage to his fencing and property, Councillors considered the tree to be a very fine specimen with minimal impact on the applicants property. It was also noted that The Robinia is a tree which has seen significant reduction in numbers nationally in the recent past due to environmental conditions.

Proposal	Proposer	Second	Resolution
NOT TO SUPPORT this application on the basis that the tree appears to be a fine healthy specimen .with minimal impact on property or fencing	TH	MB	Unanimously AGREED

6. Decisions received from Wiltshire Council since 5th September 2019

6a. 19/06751/FUL – Replace existing two storey rear extension with part single, part two storey extension at Cedar View, High Street, Urchfont, SN10 4QN – APPROVED with conditions

6b. 19/08377/TCA – Various tree works at Urchfont Manor – NO OBJECTION

7. Matters for Report

GD commented that he was pleased to see that the WC Planning Website appeared to be functioning well for the majority of the time.

On the basis that comments had been made by various councillors about the need to continue site visits for tree most applications, BL asked whether this should be the subject of debate at the next meeting. GD felt that visits should continue on a case by case basis, especially if trees are openly visible from public areas. This view was shared by other councillors and so it was agreed that the need for site visits should be discussed each month between BL and TH based on applications received.

The scheduled date for the next Planning Meeting is **Wednesday 13th November 2019 at 7:00 pm** in Urchfont Village Hall.

