

**FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE**  
**on Wednesday 17 January 2024 at 7.30pm**  
**FBC Centre, Gorse Ride North, Finchampstead RG40 4ES**

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**PRESENT** Cllrs R. Cundy, Chair.  
Cllrs S. Bromley, D. Cornish, P. Grainger and G. Veitch.  
Planning Committee Clerk, C. Cordell.

**304/2024 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs A. Grimshaw and R. Marshallsay (Vice Chair).

**305/2024 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Cllr David Cornish declared that he is a member of the Planning Committee of Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) and would therefore restrict his participation to making observations, and would neither make any statement, nor vote, in favour or against any application.  
Cllr Cornish withdrew from the meeting whilst applications 223764 and 233086 were being considered.

**306/2024 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 December were agreed as a true record and were signed by Cllr Cundy (Chair).

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The applicant for planning application number 233086, Land At Rear of 6 Johnson Drive, attended the meeting.

**307/2024 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES AND OTHER MATTERS**

There were no matters arising.

**308/2024 CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Committee considered 13 planning applications as detailed in Appendix A.

**309/2024 DECISIONS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

10 decisions on planning applications previously considered were reviewed as detailed in Appendix B. Cllr Cundy observed that all but 2 were in line with the Committees' comments.

- Decisions included refusal for planning application number 231643, 206 Nine Mile Ride, following the Borough's Planning Committee meeting on 13 December and a site visit.

**310/2024 APPEALS**

**New Appeals:**

There were no new appeals to report.

**Appeal Decisions:**

There were no new appeal decisions to report.

**311/2024 TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS (TPO)**

**New TPO's:**

There were no new TPO's to report.

### **New applications for works to a tree/s covered by a TPO:**

- Land east of Monterey, Roman Ride: TPO 1791/2021, Woodland 1 (233169):  
W1, Mixed Species – Fell.  
NB: This appears to replace TPO planning number 232924 which has been withdrawn by the applicant and therefore not determined by WBC. The Committee can see no difference between the two applications, so have submitted the same comments as for 232924, below:  
The Council object to the tree works proposed. As far as we can see, no convincing justification has been given as to why the trees should be felled. Therefore, the TPO should stand.
- Oakwood House, Longwater Lane: TPO 293/1985, T4 and T5 (240028):  
T4, Oak – Crown reduction by 1.5m overall and by 2m on the front of the tree; deadwood and cut back branches, especially those nearly touching the house, garage and overhanging neighbour(s).  
T5, Norway Spruce - Deadwood and cut back branches not more than 45mm in diameter touching and almost touching neighbour and Oakwood House by 2m.

### **Applications for works to Conservation Area Trees:**

- Avalon, Church Lane (233072):  
T1, Hazel – Cut back branches overhanging shed of no. 4 Church Lane by approx. 2m.

### **TPO Decisions (to fell trees):**

- Robinson Crusoe Park, Park Lane, TPO 1367/2010, T5 (232800):  
T34, Oak (T5 on TPO) – Dismantle down to ground level and replace in suitable area.  
FPC Objection: The Council object to this application as they are not convinced that a case has been made by the applicant for the removal of this mature protected tree on the grounds of the presence of bracket fungus and the trees inconvenience to the resident. The location for the replacement also needs to be clarified and more specific as currently “somewhere” isn’t acceptable for the removal of a mature oak which could be 200 years old.  
WBC Decision: Pending.
- Land east of Monterey, Roman Ride, TPO 1791/2021, Woodland 1 (232924):  
W1, Mixed Species – Fell.  
FPC objection: The Council object to the tree works proposed. As far as we can see, no convincing justification has been given as to why the trees should be felled. Therefore, the TPO should stand.  
WBC Decision: Withdrawn by the applicant - WBC have not made a decision on the application and will not be pursuing it any further. (Application has been replaced by 233169).

### **312/2024 STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING**

#### **Sheer lands Road, Hogwood Farm (231095)**

The Parish have been asked to suggest street names for the above development for 6 roads and 10 blocks of flats. A ‘trees’ theme was a popular choice, so the Committee agreed to submit their ideas to Street Naming by 25 January.

### **313/2024 FORUM**

Cllr Cundy asked all members of the Committee if they had anything further to discuss before bringing the meeting to a close.

**314/2024 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 21 February 2024.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 & PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT**

**1960:** It was resolved that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, the Press and Public would be excluded from the meeting during agenda item number **315/2024** Enforcement matters.

*These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting of the Committee.*