



The Oakwood Centre, Headley Road, Woodley, Berkshire, RG5 4JZ
www.woodley.gov.uk

To: **Members of the Planning Committee**

Councillors T. Barker (Chairman); S. Brindley; J. Cheng; R. Dolinski; M. Forrer;
D. Fradley; B. Franklin; J. MacNaught; D. Mills; S. Rahmouni; M. Walker; P. Wicks;
M. Willson

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the Planning Committee will be held at The Oakwood Centre at 7:45 pm on Tuesday 9 January 2018, at which your attendance is requested.

Deborah Mander
Town Clerk

A G E N D A

1. **APOLOGIES**

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive any declarations of interest from Members on agenda items.

3. **MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 5 DECEMBER 2017**

To approve the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 5 December 2017 and for the Chairman to sign them as a true record. *(These minutes were provided in the Full Council agenda of 12 December 2017).*

4. **CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

To consider current planning applications and agree comments to be forwarded to the planning authority. *(Appendix 4)*

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5. **PLANNING DECISIONS**

To note information on decision notices received from the planning authority since the last meeting. *(Appendix 5)*

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6. **PLANNING APPEALS**

To note the following appeal decisions:

Application: 171397
Location: 15 Fitzroy Crescent, Woodley, RG5 4EU.
Proposal: Householder application for the proposed erection of first floor side extension and single storey front porch extension to dwelling.
Appeal details: The appeal was made against a refusal of planning permission.
Decision: The appeal was dismissed.

Application: 171451
Location: 17 Anthian Close, Woodley, RG5 4XA.
Proposal: Full application for the proposed change of use of amenity land to residential including replacement of garden wall with a 2m close boarded fence.
Appeal details: The appeal was made against a refusal of planning permission.
Decision: The appeal was dismissed.

7. **TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS**

To note that Wokingham Borough Council has made the following Tree Preservation Order:

TPO 1611/2017: Land at and adjacent to the Sandford Farm development and Beggars Hill Road, Woodley, and to the north and east of Phillips Close, Woodley, and to the south and east of Briley Cottage and Temple Cottage, Charvil, and adjacent to Beggars Hill Road, Charvil.

This Tree Preservation Order has been made in response to the removal of trees in the area; the development at Sandford Farm and site clearance on land to the north of Phillips Close, Woodley, and south of Temple Cottage, Charvil. The Order can be used to ensure that the remaining trees, which make a significant contribution to the surrounding landscape and provide screening of development, are retained.

8. **REVISED ESIMATES 2017/18 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES 2018/19**

To consider the Revised Estimates 2017/18 and the Budget Estimates 2018/19. **Report No. PC 1/18.**

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9. **HIGHWAYS**

Temporary road closures

To note the following temporary road closures to enable Wokingham Borough Council contractors to undertake essential highway drainage maintenance works in safety:

- i) **Beggars Hill Road**, closed for its entire length. There will be no alternative route for this restriction.
Works requiring this restriction will take place between 29 January 2018 and 29 January 2019
- ii) **Sandford Lane**, closed between its junctions with B3030 Davis Street and Mohawk Way. The alternative route for all vehicles shall be via B3030 Davis Street, B3030 Robinhood Lane, A329 Reading Road, Loddon

Bridge/Bader Way Interchange, The Bader Way and Mohawk Way, or by this route in reverse.

Works requiring this restriction shall take place between 1 February 2018 and 1 February 2019.

Access for residents and business users within the boundary of the restrictions shall be maintained at all times.

10. **COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH**

At the Planning Committee meeting held on 5 December 2017, the Committee resolved to investigate further the processes required to operate a speed watch scheme in Woodley using equipment purchased by the Town Council (minute number 134).

Information on the operation of the Finchampstead Parish Council Speed Awareness Scheme and speed detection equipment currently available is attached at **Appendix 10**.

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Members are asked to consider whether to proceed with the setting up of a speed watch scheme for Woodley and to consider what equipment would be required.

11. **HOUSING LAND SUPPLY**

To note the response sent by the Right Honourable John Redwood, MP, to Barkham Parish Council following submission of the Barkham Parish Council report on Housing Land Supply, which was supported by Woodley Town Council. (**Appendix 11**)

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12. **THAMES VALLEY POLICE SURVEY ON A PROPOSED INCREASE IN COUNCIL TAX TO HELP PROTECT OPERATIONAL POLICING**

To note information received from Thames Valley Police regarding a proposal to increase the police element of the council tax by £1 a month (for a band D property), attached at **Appendix 12**.

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To consider a response to the survey. Responses are required by 11 January 2018.

13. **WOODLEY AND NORTH EARLEY COMMUNITY FORUM**

To note the report of the Woodley and North Earley Community Forum held on 20 November 2017. (**Appendix 13**)

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14. **BULMERSHE LEISURE CENTRE**

To note the press release received from Wokingham Borough Council regarding the proposal to replace Bulmershe Leisure Centre. (**Appendix 14**)

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15. **RUSCOMBE PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA DESIGNATION APPLICATION**

To note that Ruscombe Parish Council has applied to have the area of Ruscombe designated as a 'Neighbourhood Area' for the purposes of neighbourhood planning. The application can be viewed at:

www.wokingham.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning/

Comments on the application are required by 12 January 2018.

16. **READING BOROUGH COUNCIL PRE-SUBMISSION DRAFT LOCAL PLAN**

To note that Reading Borough Council is consulting on its Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan. The document can be viewed online at:

www.reading.gov.uk/newlocalplan

Responses are required by 26 January 2018.

17. **PUBLICATIONS/INFORMATION**

To note receipt of the following:

- *Community Council for Berkshire e-bulletin – December 2017*
- *Launchpad Reading Newsletter – December 2017*

18. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

To consider suggestions for future agenda items.

19. **PUBLICITY/WEBSITE**

To consider suggestions for items to be publicised.

20. **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

To resolve that, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted in relation to legal matters, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press are temporarily excluded and they are asked to withdraw for item 21 on the agenda.

21. **ENFORCEMENT ISSUES**

To note any enforcement issues.

New Applications Received Between 01/12/2017 and 04/01/2018

<u>Application No</u>	<u>Date Recd</u>	<u>Case Officer</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
New Application				
171854	04/01/2018	Dariusz Kusyk	Mr & Mrs Fogarty	1 Dunbar Drive Dunbar Drive Woodley RG5 4HA
Proposal : ORIGINAL APPLICATION RECEIVED 10/07/2017: Householder application for the proposed erection of two storey side extension to dwelling and relocation of side garden wall.				
REVISED APPLICATION RECEIVED 04/01/2018: Full application for the proposed erection of two storey side extension to dwelling and change of use of amenity land to residential with relocation of side wall.				
Observations : OBSERVATIONS RETURNED 19/07/2017: No objections.				
173196	22/12/2017	Stefan Fludger	Mr David Holden	3 Copse Mead Copse Mead Woodley RG5 4RP
Proposal : Householder application for the proposed part single storey, part two storey rear extension, two storey front extension including rear and front dormer extensions, part conversion of the existing garage to habitable accommodation plus changes to fenestration.				
Observations :				
173377	21/12/2017	Stefan Fludger	Mr G Bertram	29 Duncan Road Duncan Road Woodley RG5 4HR
Proposal : Householder application for the proposed erection of two storey side and rear extensions to dwelling following the demolition of existing single storey rear extension.				
Observations :				
173414	11/12/2017	Rasha Khoja	Mr C Kondreddy	1 Gemini Road Gemini Road Woodley RG5 4TF
Proposal : Householder application for the proposed erection of single storey side extension to dwelling.				
Observations :				
173431	01/12/2017	Andrew Parsons	Mr David White	31 Selsdon Avenue Selsdon Avenue Woodley RG5 4PQ
Proposal : Householder application for the proposed erection of a two storey side and rear extension; front porch extension and a detached garden room to the rear/side of the existing dwelling.				
Observations :				

New Applications Received Between 01/12/2017 and 04/01/2018

<u>Application No</u>	<u>Date Recd</u>	<u>Case Officer</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
173434	04/12/2017	Andrew Parsons	Mark & Aly Collins	4 Armstrong Way Armstrong Way Woodley RG5 4NW
Proposal : Householder application for the proposed erection of single storey rear extension to dwelling.				
Observations :				
173470	04/12/2017	Ade Balogun	Ms Pierro	74 Millbank Crescent Millbank Crescent Woodley RG5 4ER
Proposal : Householder application for the proposed erection of single storey front extension to form porch.				
Observations :				
173525	11/12/2017	Rasha Khoja	Mr & Mrs A Mokogwu	42 Highgate Road Highgate Road Woodley RG5 3QR
Proposal : Householder application for the proposed erection of single storey rear extension and part first floor rear extension to dwelling.				
Observations :				
173555	13/12/2017	Dariusz Kusyk	Mr Adam Smith	83 Nightingale Road Nightingale Road Woodley RG5 3LY
Proposal : Householder application for the proposed erection of two storey side extension to dwelling following the demolition of existing conservatory.				
Observations :				
173573	18/12/2017	Christine Phillips	Mr Paul England	5 Herald Way Herald Way Woodley RG5 4PB
Proposal : Householder application for the proposed erection of first floor front and side extensions to dwelling, plus part conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation and internal alterations.				
Observations :				
173581	21/12/2017	Stefan Fludger	Mr & Mrs Coakley	118 Kingfisher Drive Kingfisher Drive Woodley RG5 3LQ
Proposal : Householder application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension to dwelling.				
Observations :				

New Applications Received Between 01/12/2017 and 04/01/2018

<u>Application No</u>	<u>Date Recd</u>	<u>Case Officer</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
173584	18/12/2017	Simon Taylor	Unknown	Waingels College Waingels Road Woodley RG5 4RF
Proposal : Full planning application for the demolition of existing store building attached to sports hall and erection of all-weather multi-use games area with floodlighting columns.				
Observations :				
173591	11/12/2017	Ade Balogun	Mrs J Terry	4 Quentin Road Quentin Road Woodley RG5 3NF
Proposal : Householder application for the proposed conversion of part of existing garage to habitable accommodation plus insertion of velux windows to the side elevation.				
Observations :				
173597	13/12/2017	Rasha Khoja	Mr R & Dr M Gupta	38 Cypress Road Cypress Road Woodley RG5 4BD
Proposal : Householder application for the proposed erection of single storey side extension to dwelling plus conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation.				
Observations :				
173604	13/12/2017	Andrew Parsons	Mr & Mrs J Maybury	8 Mannock Way Mannock Way Woodley RG5 4XW
Proposal : Householder application for the proposed erection of single storey side extension to dwelling.				
Observations :				
173605	13/12/2017	Rosie Rogers	Mr & Mrs J Wiggins	33 Halstead Close Halstead Close Woodley RG5 4LD
Proposal : Householder application for the proposed erection of first floor side extension to dwelling.				
Observations :				
173687	02/01/2018	Dariusz Kusyk	Mr Sloan	191 Colemans Moor Road Colemans Moor Road Woodley RG5 4DD
Proposal : Householder application for the proposed conversion of roof space to create habitable accommodation to dwelling with front dormers.				
Observations :				
173697	03/01/2018	Andrew Parsons	Mr & Mrs Martyn Taylor	7 Bingley Grove Bingley Grove Woodley

New Applications Received Between 01/12/2017 and 04/01/2018

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<u>Application No</u>	<u>Date Recd</u>	<u>Case Officer</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
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RG5 4TT

Proposal : Householder application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension to dwelling following demolition of existing conservatory.

Observations :

Applications Received :- 18

NOTIFICATIONS OF PLANNING DECISIONS FROM Wokingham Borough Council

Thu 4 January 2018

' C ' Contrary to Borough

Page No : 1

' E ' Endorsed by Borough

GRANTED PLANNING PERMISSIONS

E 172730	Approved	31 Faringdon Road
E 172903	Approved	43 Ravensbourne Drive
E 172936	Approved	20 Spruce Road
E 172943	Approved	38 Austin Road
E 172957	Approved	406 - 412 London Road
E 172958	Approved	406 - 412 London Road
E 173011	Approved	21 Concorde Way
E 173060	Approved	2 Bibury Close
E 173106	Approved	20 Cornfield Road
E 173234	Approved	47 Crockhamwell Road
173281	Approved	9 Sunderland Close

REFUSED PLANNING PERMISSIONS

C 172258	Refused	38 Wallace Close Local COMMENT No objections.
E 172687	Refused	128 Church Road

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Woodley Town Council

**REVISED ESTIMATES 2017/18
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2018/19**

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

Purpose of Report

To inform and advise Members of the Planning Committee's Revised Budget Estimates for the 2017/18 financial year and provide information on the applications for annual grants received in respect of the Budget Estimates for 2018/19.

Information

The Revised Estimates for 2017/18, **Budget Appendix A**, show that there have been no revisions in the year to the budget estimates that were set this time last year. However, there has been a change to the annual grant to Readibus which the Council has now agreed to provide as a service level agreement covering the period from 2018/19 to 2020/21. The service level agreement's annual payment is linked to the Retail Price Index and will therefore not be included as part of the grant allocations by this committee over the next three years.

The Budget Estimates for 2018/19, **Budget Appendix A**, set out the list of annual grant applications received for grants in 2018/19. **Budget Appendix B** provides a summary of the applications received.

The level of grant funding applications submitted for 2018/19 are as follows:

Citizens Advice Wokingham	£8,624
Keep Mobile	£10,800
ARC	£5,500
Lend and Play Toy Library	£1,300
First Days	£4,938
Friends of Woodford Park	£250
Total	£31,412

With the addition of the Readibus service level agreement sum of £18,162 a total of £49,574 would be required to fund the SLA and all the grant applications to the levels requested.

Against the 2017/18 revised estimates an increase in expenditure of £18,076 would be required to provide these grants in full in 2018/19.

Recommendations:

- ◆ **That Members note the contents of the report.**
- ◆ **That Members recommend approval of the Revised Budget Estimates for the 2017/18 financial year, as set out in the Budget Appendix.**
- ◆ **That Members recommend the level of grants to be allocated to applicants and included in the Committee's Budget for 2018/19, subject to Council approval of the 2018/19 Budget Estimates.**

PLANNING COMMITTEE BUDGET SUMMARY 2018/19				BUDGET APPENDIX A			
Expenditure		Actual	Estimate	Revised Est	Estimate		
		2016/17	2017/18	2017/18	2018/19		
Code	Description						
	Grants and Service Level Agreements	30481	31498	31498	18162		
Total		30481	31498	31498	18162		
Income		Actual	Estimate	Revised Est	Estimate		
		2016/17	2017/18	2017/18	2018/19		
Code	Description						
Total		0	0	0	0		
Net		30481	31498	31498	18162	(Grant awards not yet added to this total)	

Annual Grants/Service Level Agreement 605						
Expenditure		Actual	Estimate	Revised Est	Estimate	
		2016/17	2017/18	2017/18	2018/19	Information
Code	Description					
Grants						
4663	Citizens Advice Bureau	6345	6318	6318		Sum applied for: £8,624
4665	Keep Mobile	1000	1000	1000		Sum applied for: £10,800
4667	ARC	5000	5200	5200		Sum applied for: £5,500
4669	Lend and Play Toy Library	1000	1000	1000		Sum applied for: £1,300
	Friends of Woodford Park		500	500		Sum applied for: £250
	First Days	0	0	0		Sum applied for: £4,938
	ReadiBus (grant)	17136	17480	17480		
Service Level Agreement						
4661	Readibus				18162	Service Level Agreement wef 1/4/18
Total		30481	31498	31498	18162	
Income						
		Actual	Estimate	Revised Est	Estimate	
		2016/17	2017/18	2017/18	2018/19	
Code	Description					
Total		0	0	0	0	
Net		30481	31498	31498	18162	Grant awards agreed by the committee to be added to this total

Annual Grant Applications 2018/19

Organisation	Amount requested 2018/19	Purpose of grant	Service provided to Woodley residents	Grant awarded 2017/18
Citizens Advice Wokingham (CAW)	£8,624	Free, confidential, impartial and independent advice service – mediation, representation and support for all members of the community regardless of race, gender, age, sexuality or disability. Areas include – welfare benefits, debt, consumer issues, employment, housing, legal, relationship, tax, utilities, community care, education, health and immigration.	<p>Service from Woodley Extension Bureau on Headley Road, next to the Library. In 2016/17 621 Woodley residents were helped to solve 1,464 new problems during 1,553 visits. CAW estimates that the costs of providing the service at Woodley in 2018/19 (after deducting funding and fund raising) will be £8,624.</p> <p>Advice is tailored to clients. Increasing demand for benefits, employment and debt issues - Universal Credit was introduced in December 2017. Problems in this area are ones most people contact CAW about. The number of issues and complexity are leading to increasing workloads and training demands on staff and volunteers. The Woodley office is currently fully staffed.</p> <p>CAW's work to exercise influence on the development of social policies and services, locally and nationally to work for changes that will reduce people having similar problems in the future.</p>	£6,318
Keep Mobile	£10,800	Provision of transport for Woodley residents unable to gain access to mainstream transport and those of other operators to travel outside the area for work, socialising, shopping, day trips, medical appointments. Includes Dial a Ride.	<p>In 2016/17 1,359 trips provided to 261 Woodley residents. Day excursions programme provided an additional 354 days out for people in Woodley. 220 trip requests were refused because of lack of funding to provide these. The unfunded cost of providing the services to the people who need it in Woodley in 2016 was £10,800.</p> <p>Hopes to increase the Day Excursions programme - to help social inclusion and a contribution to the National Campaign to End Loneliness.</p>	£1,000
ARC	£5,500	To provide a free and confidential youth counselling service and low cost adult counselling to Woodley residents at the Oakwood Centre and main office in Wokingham. Counsellors are fully qualified, insured and experienced.	<p>Free and confidential youth counselling service offering emotional and mental health support to young people and their families. Helps improve resilience, ability to achieve and cope in school, reducing pressure on other services, helping with issues such as bullying, bereavement, domestic violence, abuse, self harm, anxiety and depression, family breakdown.</p> <p>Over the last year ARC has seen over 300 young people in Woodley, offering over 2,000 counselling hours of general counselling and seen a 50% improvement in symptoms as well as an over 50% increase in general wellbeing. ARC is also part of the Woodley Community Youth Partnership and has run workshops for parents across Woodley.</p>	£5,200

			<p>Aims to respond to the demands of the community and to provide the same level of service to Woodley residents.</p> <p>ARC has a comprehensive staff training policy, full DBS checks on staff, regular safeguarding training.</p>	
Lend and Play Toy Library	£1,300	Towards training for staff regarding outreach activities and to purchase a branded gazebo for outreach activities.	<p>Hires out high quality toys, play equipment and learning resources for 0-7 yrs at affordable rates. Open to all families and members plus childminders, people who have children visiting, nurseries and children's centres. Range of educational toys include those suitable for children with additional developmental needs and larger outdoor play items as well as story sacks, dressing up and role play.</p> <p>Ambleside Children's Centre use the library's play equipment for family drop in days and the University of Reading student groups use their services in support of their community volunteering activities. Woodley residents are the most frequent users of the service, largely because of the Toy Library's location.</p> <p>Fundraising and raising awareness of the service has taken place at promotional events over the last year and the library has been able to increase the quality and variety of the toy stock on offer. The library actively seeks feedback from members to inform new purchases.</p> <p>In the last year the organisation has increased its membership and awareness of the service, has been operationally self funding, has carried out staff development and training and increased volunteer opportunities as well as increasing cross promotion and partnering with other charities.</p> <p>In the coming year the library aims to continue to increase awareness of its service, provide outreach activities, continue to be operationally self funding and increase its community engagement to promote learning through play.</p>	£1,000
First Days	£4,938	To support the service the charity provides in Woodley to families that are struggling to make ends meet and provide donated clothes, equipment and toys for children up to eight years old. Families are referred to First Days via childcare and other professionals (midwives,	<p>In the last year the charity has fulfilled 92 referrals of families in the RG5 postcodes – 74 standard referrals for children, 5 emergency referrals, 7 Christmas present referrals and 6 school uniform requests.</p> <p>The benefit to the community from this service is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local children in families that are struggling have their basic needs met at no additional cost. Practical support to families through childcare professionals who refer families to the charity has helped build trust between families and the childcare professionals. The charity offers volunteering opportunities and has 20 active supporters who regularly help either in the office or taking donated clothes or other 	None

		health visitor, social workers, churches).	<p>items home to wash or sort – including Duke of Edinburgh students, retirees, mums with children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental benefit taking donated items and recycling these for re-use. <p>Over the next year First Days would like to offer the same level of service – the charity has had to reduce the level of service and cap the number of referrals to 75 a month (in Woodley and rest of Berkshire) to keep within its budget.</p> <p>Referrals from Woodley currently account for 6% of the total referrals received in the year. The level of grant requested is equivalent to the cost incurred in meeting these referrals – to cover staff, storage of donations, purchase of necessary additional items and the running of the Christmas present and school uniform referral systems in the year.</p>	
Friends of Woodford Park	£250	To support the work of the Friends in Woodford Park.	<p>Volunteer group of residents who have come together to improve our park. Their first project was to create the flower beds near the War memorial to celebrate the Queen’s 90th birthday. Other projects have included working the Council to reduce dog mess, teaming up with the local Rotary Club to rejuvenate the sensory garden and they have helped plant crocus bulbs at the main entrance to the park.</p> <p>Last year the Friends added more shrub beds on the Memorial Ground and sourced plants from sponsorship and generous residents. It also cleared an overgrown area near the Western Ave entrance and pruned and plants in the Remembrance and Sensory garden. Members of the group also attended the Council’s consultation on the refurbishment plans for the lake and hosted Sage UK volunteering days in the park.</p> <p>The Friends also achieved a 79% score (10% higher than the previous year) in it award from the RHS In Your Neighbourhood section.</p> <p>The group has plans for work in other areas of the park and the grant will help with any incidental costs and purchase of shrubs.</p>	None

Planning Committee
9 January 2018

Community Speed Watch

There are two items to be considered before deciding whether to operate a speed watch scheme in Woodley:

1. Operation of the scheme
2. Speed detection equipment required

1. Operation of the scheme

Cllrs MacNaught, Rahmouni and the Town Clerk visited Finchampstead Parish Council in March 2017 and gathered the following information about their Speed Awareness Scheme:

Finchampstead Parish Council Speed Awareness Scheme

UNIT

This is in two parts, a speed detector unit which is affixed to a lamppost and another sign that indicates to drivers their actual speed in real time. It is relatively easy to fix the unit to the lamppost, but requires attention to get the angle correct.

OPERATION

Each site is manned by three people who are either councillors or volunteers. In addition, they utilise the services of one of their PCSO'S for greater credibility.

All wear Hi Vis jackets and the information they collect is, car registration number, speed, make of car or vehicle and colour.

They usually sit in, or near, a car parked on the verge or lay-by.

This task is difficult to carry out and to help they use a dash cam.

It was explained that the reason for all these details being required was because they had encountered the use of false number plates and this information was helpful to the Police.

DATA BASE

The scheme co-ordinator collects all of this information on a data base and also has access to the Police data base which allows him to identify those vehicles which may also fail to have an MOT, insurance or road tax.

The collection and updating of information is very time consuming and does require considerable dedication.

POLICE RELATIONSHIP.

The scheme co-ordinator forwards the data to a local police sergeant who has been given responsibility for this operation. Details of all those who have exceeded the speed limit, plus those identified from the police data base as not having insurance, road tax or MOT are forwarded and the police contact the offenders.

It appeared that this operation was extremely beneficial to the Police and gave them the opportunity to pursue those who avoided such payments and send letters to those speeding.

2. Speed detection equipment

Insp. John Donachy recommends the use of the Sentinel Speed Detection Equipment manufactured by Unipar Services because it is supplied with a camera and a 16GB data card (upgraded from 8GB as shown in the attached information) for video recording purposes. A description of this equipment is attached at **Appendix 10(i)** and the link to the website is: <https://www.uniparservices.com/item/3/uniparservices/Sentinel.html>

Ivinghoe PC already uses this equipment and more information about their activities can be accessed at: <http://www.ivinghoepc.org.uk/community/ivinghoe-parish-council-12882/speedwatch/#>

Sentinel MK II

Sentinel is a covert digital camera, traffic speed detection unit developed by Unipar Services specifically for private customers, airports, bus operators, industrial sites and now Speed Watch Groups by eliminating the need to record car details at the roadside. It incorporates advanced detection technology together with high quality video capture of every speeding event.

Measuring just 13cm square and weighing in at 1.5Kg, the Sentinel can provide >8-10 hours of surveillance using internal rechargeable batteries or 24/7 if driven by 240Vac Mains electricity.

Video files are stored onto a removable SD card the Sentinel is supplied with an 8GB SD card as standard That's around 4680 ten second video files. (the sentinel can use up to 32GB SD Cards).

A comprehensive software package for event viewing and cataloguing is included as standard.

Set up of Sentinel is simple, using the LCD monitor supplied. It provides POV video stream to ensure the camera is positioned correctly. The Monitor on screen menu confirms settings which are easily changed before switching to operational mode, including a speed threshold control and location code. Sentinel will now automatically screen vehicles and capture live video footage of any speeding events as they occur. Information will be overlaid onto the video file such as speed, date, & time also an operator selected location code (optional). For security, all video files are recorded in a unique tamper proof format to ensure evidential integrity.

Sentinel can be configured in a variety of ways. Either permanent mains powered or portable battery powered. It can be post mounted or Tripod Stand mounted for portable applications. Please call for options and prices.

Specification

One piece construction in Polystyrene

Weatherproof IP66

Radar Planar Array

Set up 2.5 ins Viewing Monitor & cable

Power 12 Vdc/240Vac (no cost option)

Duty >8-10Hr @12Vdc

Data 8GB SD Card (included)

Offences >4680 X10Sec Video-Clip on 8GB Card

Fixings Sign-Fix channel & 76mm o/d post (included)

Software package for event management (included)

THE RT HON JOHN REDWOOD MP

HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Ms Judith Neuhofer
Clerk to Barkham Parish Council

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

14 December 2017

Dear Ms Neuhofer

You previously wrote to me about housing land supply and delivery.

I took the points you raised up on your behalf. I have now received the enclosed reply from Alok Sharma MP, the Minister for Housing and Planning.

It might be helpful to confirm that I recently met with the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to discuss these issues further. He acknowledged that Wokingham has an ambitious local plan and understands that excessive planning appeals outside of the plan can be problematic.

I am pleased that, in his letter, the Minister confirms that the Government is exploring proposals in the Housing White Paper to drive up the use of agreed planning permissions. He also explains that the Government is exploring options to reduce the time spent on appeals.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

The Rt Hon John Redwood MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Alok Sharma MP
Minister of State for Housing and Planning

Department for Communities and Local
Government
Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Tel: 0303 444 3430
Fax: 020 7035 0018
Email: alok.sharma@communities.gsi.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/dclg

Our Ref:3522825

9 December 2017

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter of 16 October, on behalf of your constituent Ms Judith Neuhofer of [REDACTED] about housing land supply and delivery.

Your constituent will be interested to see the proposal in the Housing White Paper that would offer local planning authorities the opportunity to have their five-year housing land supply agreed on an annual basis and fixed for a one-year period, to provide more certainty. The proposal requires the assessment of housing supply to be prepared in consultation with developers. Reducing time spent on appeals based on five-year land supply will increase efficiency in local planning authorities, saving them both money and resources. The White Paper also proposed further guidance on calculating a five-year housing land supply. The Housing White Paper can be viewed at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fixing-our-broken-housing-market>.

Our recent consultation 'Planning for the right homes in the right places' will also be of interest to Ms Neuhofer. In addition to setting out a standard approach to calculating local housing need, the consultation asked how areas can work together to meet their needs through 'Statements of common ground' and included a further question about actions to increase build out rates. The consultation closed on the 9 November and the responses are currently being analysed. The consultation document can be viewed at:
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/652888/Planning for Homes Consultation Document.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/652888/Planning_for_Homes_Consultation_Document.pdf)

The Government wants to see homes built faster and expects house builders to deliver more homes, more quickly and to a high quality standard. We are clear that new homes should be built out as soon as possible once planning permission is granted. However, it is important to recognise that after planning permission for new homes is granted a variety of factors can prevent development from starting and slow down delivery. Rather than focusing on a single issue, the Housing White Paper acknowledged that all parties in the development process need to play their part in speeding up the delivery of much-needed new homes.

The Housing White Paper set out a wide ranging approach to driving up build out of planning permissions. This includes tackling delays associated with pre-commencement conditions, taking forward the Housing Delivery Test, providing support for accelerated construction, and launching the Housing Infrastructure Fund. At the Autumn Budget the Housing Infrastructure Fund was increased by £2.7 billion to a total of £5 billion.

In the Budget the Chancellor also announced a review to be chaired by the Rt Hon Oliver Letwin MP. The review will consider the gap between housing completions, and the number of planning permissions and land allocated for housing, and make recommendations for closing this gap.

We are backing local authorities and Housing Associations to build and offering support to SME and custom builders to help diversify the market which is currently dominated by a small number of big players. In addition, the Housing White Paper proposes sharper tools for local authorities to ensure sites with planning permission are built out. To support these tools the White Paper proposes to increase information available about build out.

Kind regards,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Alok Sharma MP.

ALOK SHARMA MP

Survey on an increase in council tax to help protect operational policing is launched

The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Thames Valley, Anthony Stansfeld, has today launched a survey seeking public views on an increase in the police element of the council tax by £1 a month (for a band D property).

On Tuesday 19th December the Home Secretary announced a substantial £450 million increase in police funding across England and Wales. However, this funding package assumes that all PCCs will raise the police element of council tax by £1 a month (or £12 a year) for a band D property which, collectively, will raise £270 million of the £450 million increase. This settlement will allow forces to continue to provide an effective service in their critical work to fight crime and protect the public.

At present around 60% of Thames Valley Police's £393 million annual policing budget is funded by central government, with the policing element of council tax making up the remainder. Since 2010/11 the police grant has been cut by around 38% in real terms which has resulted in Thames Valley Police (TVP) having to make £99 million of savings in order to balance the budget. These cuts have already led to a manpower reduction of over 1,000 full time equivalent posts, including more than 450 police officers.

Anthony Stansfeld, Police and Crime Commissioner said: "Setting the budget for 2018/19 needs to be considered in the context of an already constrained financial position as well as the additional pressures policing faces as demand in some of the most complex and challenging areas continues to increase.

"This includes rising reports and cases of hidden crimes such as domestic abuse, child abuse, sexual offences, serious violence and exploitation have all increased the pressure on police resources.

"Needless to say this is proving to be extremely challenging and without the increase of £12 per year in council tax, as recommended by the Home Secretary, we would have to make further significant reductions in police officers and staff which will affect the level and quality of policing service we are able to offer you.

"In November 2017 TVP was judged by the Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) to be 'outstanding' in the efficiency with which it keeps people safe and reduces crime. This includes an 'outstanding' for its understanding of demand and its use of resources to

manage demand, and its planning for future demand was judged to be 'good'. Thames Valley Police was one of only two forces nationally to have been awarded an overall rating of outstanding.

"Ideally I would not choose to consult over the busy Christmas and New Year period and particularly on such an important issue, however, the Chief Constable and I only received the provisional police grant settlement for 2018/19 from the Home Office on Tuesday 19th December.

"Unfortunately due to budget decisions needing to be finalised by the end of January I am only able to run the consultation until 11th January.

"I apologise for the timing and length of the consultation period but I hope you will take the time to complete the survey which will help the Chief Constable and I to make an informed decision on the budget for 2018/19."

The short online survey and further background information can be found on the Thames Valley PCC website:

<https://www.thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/police-funding-survey-have-your-say/>

Closing Date: Midday Thursday 11th January 2018

Those residents who do not have access to the internet can write to the **Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Thames Valley Police Headquarters, Oxford Road, Kidlington, Oxon, OX5 2NX** with their answers to the below questions.

Question 1

Do you think an extra £12 per year in council tax, for a Band D property, to help protect operational policing in Thames Valley would be money well spent?

Question 2

If not, please explain why and what annual increase you believe is justified and will enable Thames Valley Police to do their job effectively?

Please note that all postal responses need to be received by midday on Thursday 11th January 2018

Impact on different Council Tax bands

The figures quoted are based on a Band D household. The impact on residents living in properties with a council tax banding of A to H are set out below.

Council Tax Band	£
A	8.00
B	9.33
C	10.67
D	12.00
E	14.67
F	17.33
G	20.00
H	24.00

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
The Farmhouse
Thames Valley Police Headquarters
Kidlington OX5 2NX

Monday, 20th November, 7.30 – 9.00 pm

The Maxwell Hall, The Oakwood Centre, Headley Road, Woodley, RG5 4JZ

Chair: Mary Bather

MINUTES

1. **Present:** Mary Bather (Chair), PC Harrison (TV Police), PS Smith (TV Police), Jenny Lissaman (ACER), Michelle Stone (ACER), Sion Williams (ACER), Cllr Andy Croy WBC, Cllr Keith Bather (WTC/WBC), Cllr Richard Dolinski (WTC/WBC), Cllr John Armstrong (ETC), Jacques L'Herbier (WTCMI), Rvd Philip Hobday (St Peters Church), Tony Lomax (Woodley and Earley Lions), David Provins (Friends of Woodford Park), J Layhe (Coppice Road), R Heather (Coppice Road), M Millard (Silver Fox Close), Z Frasiniski, Brenda Cutler (Hilltop Road), J Greenaway (Culver Lane), Coling Lawley (Farriers Close), S Mortfew (Glendevon Rd), I Hills (Halstead Close)

Apologies: Inspector Al Lloyd, Mike Evans, Tom Barker, Sheena Matthews, Shelagh Flowers

2. **Minutes of the previous meeting – 11.09.17** – matters arising not on the agenda.
 - J Greenaway asked for more details of the 'obstruction' referred to in Culver Lane. It was agreed that this was the parking of cars on the road and the road / pavement which make the road very narrow for larger vehicles / buses. There was some discussion regarding WBC introduction of Civil Parking Enforcement in October 2017 and whether or not CPE could be used to prevent parking on the pavement. The general view amongst those present was that CPE could only be used when there were double yellow lines in place but it was agreed that more clarity was needed in this area. PS Smith did suggest that the forum make representation to the council with regard to specific parking problems for them to act under CPE as this was more likely to carry weight than individual representations. J Greenaway expressed concern that the extension of double yellow lines outside the shop on Culver Lane could reduce the number of customers using the shop and thus have a negative impact on business. PS Smith emphasised the need for as many residents as possible to report instances of dangerous / obstructive parking at a specific site so that it would receive priority treatment from the police. Residents to use the TVP website or the local neighbourhood policing email address.
 - Cllr Baker asked for Insp Lloyd to provide information on the regulations regarding cycling on the pavement and

ACTION: Clarity on cycling on pavement needed – Chair to pursue with WBC. Chair to contact Insp Lloyd re Cllr Bakers' questions.

3. **Update from Neighbourhood Policing Team on recent reported criminal activity in the local area.** The main area of concern was theft from motor vehicles in the Woodley and Twyford area. These vehicles were parked outside residents' houses and in 90% of cases had probably been left unlocked. There had also been some theft of tools etc from tradesman's vans.

PS Smith also made a plea for residents to sign up to Thames Valley Alert.

ACTION: Residents groups (including ACER) to put notice in the next newsletter reminding people to lock their cars, and check that they are locked, even when in the drive. ACER also to remind residents to sign up to Thames Valley Alert and to remind them of the local police contact details.

4. **Local policing priorities (45 mins) – Review of progress / agreement of actions with respect to:**
 - **Antisocial behaviour** – The police reported an increase in ASB over the autumn half-term period, particularly in Woodley Town Centre, Loddon Vale Centre and to a lesser extent the parks, causing a general nuisance (e.g. cycling in front of cars) and there had been some criminal damage. The offenders were mainly local (although there were a few from Reading) in either the 13/15 age group

or the 16/18 age group. Generally, the parents of those offending do not know where they are when phoned by the police. It is important that parents are made to take responsibility. The police changed working arrangements to undertake more late shifts and it was felt that this had been effective as the weekend of 18/19 November had been calmer. Police can take a range of measures ranging from phoning the parents and asking them to come to take them home, threatening tenancy for those in social housing, working with the schools and issuing dispersal order, although the latter is difficult if they live nearby. A breach of a dispersal order will result in an arrest. There was much discussion around the longer-term solutions. Provision of youth facilities in Woodley have dropped off over recent years although Cllr Dolinski updated the meeting on the council's Youth Partnership Group which is currently investigating setting up facilities (Parkour site) at Loddon Mead which would provide an outdoor space, with shelter, for young people looking for something less formal. WTC is also working with JAC (Just around the corner) which manages to reach young people others can't and has even provided training on welding. Residents of Coppice Rd did express some concern regarding the safety of a site near the Loddon and a busy road. WTC are holding a conference for the well-being of local youth at Easter. It was agreed that the forum should invite some young people to a future meeting to talk about youth provision. Cllr Armstrong (ETC) stated that there were at least 2 sites in Earley offering youth provision south of the A329. There was some discussion on the lack of youth provision in Earley north of the A329. Michelle Stone felt it was a shame that more use (as a community facility) could not be made of the pavilion at Sol Joel.

- **Illegal encampment** – TVP has now introduced a force wide protocol regarding dealing with illegal encampment so that local councils should be clear as to who can take action and when. High barriers have been put across the Lytham Rd carpark in Woodley and WBC are investigating the feasibility of installing barriers in all their car parks. Bollards have been replaced on the edge of Bulmershe playing fields but there are still some unsightly / dangerous concrete blocks and pieces of concrete in the newer bunds. Prevention is better than reactive measures. Concern was expressed regarding the tendency of some developers to leave some sites unprotected, particularly once all the properties had been sold. WBC provide permanent sites for travellers at Twyford Orchards and Arborfield. It was agreed that illegal encampment should be taken off the priority list for now.
- **Bicycle theft** – PS Smith reported that the police operations had been successful in making a number of arrests (one connected with drugs) and recovering more than 20 bikes. Cycle marking had taken place in Woodley Town centre and in some of the schools. It was stressed that it is imperative that owners make a note of the frame number. Police work regarding cycle theft ongoing. Police explained that they did not deal with dumped bikes unless they were obviously stolen.
- **Speeding** – There was much discussion on speeding in the area. Residents of Coppice Rd complained of locals regularly speeding in the road and now Loddon Bridge Road also. There were concerns that there had been no follow up from the police when this had been reported. Police explained that residents reporting speeding needed to supply a vehicle registration and description. It was also agreed that the more reports there were the more likely the location would become a priority for police action. PS Smith explained that the police need evidence that speeding has actually taken place and is not just perception. To get this evidence they use a SID or rubber tubes in the road. Once there is evidence that speeding has taken place the council can use a VAS sign (flashes 30 as a reminder) or the police use mobile police vehicles to check speed. The yellow fixed camera boxes are owned by the council but the police own the cameras. It is generally agreed that people know where the yellow boxes are so will slow down. The VAS can be useful as a deterrent but do not stop the boy racers. However, it was agreed that police action is generally governed by accident statistics.

The community speed watch programme (in which residents are trained to operate speed detectors) was discussed. TVP have had a number (14) of applications from volunteers and are now waiting to

start the training. Woodley Town Council would like to duplicate the Finchampsted model and were waiting to hear from TVP regarding the possibility of buying their own equipment or sharing.

New Priority List:

1. ASB
2. Bicycle theft
3. Theft from motor vehicles
4. Speeding

5. Administration

- **Structure:** **AGM:** It was agreed that the Community Forum need to hold an AGM – probably in March / April 2018 – at which chair, vice chair and any other officers could be elected.

Constitution: If the Community Forum is to be eligible to apply for funding it will need a constitution. It was agreed that the chair would draft a constitution (based on examples from existing community forums) and bring to the next meeting.

ACTION: Chair to book Oakwood Centre for an AGM in March / April 2018, draft constitution and bring to the meeting in January 2018.

- **Minute secretary:** The forum currently has a chair and vice-chair but could do with a minute secretary to take notes of the meetings as it is difficult to chair the meeting and take accurate notes at the same time.
- **Bids for funding:** The chair had obtained details of the Public Protection Fund to which community groups such as the forum could apply for funding for specific projects. It was agreed that it would be worth applying for funding to produce leaflets containing safety and other relevant information for elderly and less mobile residents of Woodley and N Earley who do not have easy access to the internet. Cllr Baker said that WTC could deliver the leaflets with the Woodley Herald and that the community forum could include an article in the Herald. The current funding round ends at the beginning of December. To be eligible for funding the forum must have a constitution and a community bank account and so will have to wait 6 months for the next round of applications.

ACTION: Chair and vice chair to open community bank account for the forum and to draft and application for the round of applications. Chair to contact WTC Clerk re timing of articles etc for Herald.

6. AOB

- **Cyber-crime** – Coling Lawley reported an instance of an attempting scam phone call (purporting to come from Microsoft). When he contacted the police with a phone number and other details he was informed that as a result of the current law the police were unable to do anything. Those affected should use the internet fraud action line to report but it can be 5 – 6 weeks before you get a response. He felt that the law should be changed as internet scamming was a huge issue in Woodley and Earley.

ACTION: ACER to write something about scamming in the next newsletter

- **Parking** – football match parking on Woodlands Avenue was becoming an issue – why couldn't the school carparks be used at the weekends? Cllr Baker reported that Addington School had allowed the car park to be used but there had been some damage. Perhaps the rebuild of the leisure centre will be a chance to remedy this problem?
- **Cycling on the pavements and in Woodley Precinct** – Inconsiderate cycling (mainly Bulmershe school children) on the pavement along Church road had been reported at the last meeting and was still a problem. It was suggested that the police talk about cycling on the pavement (and the need to stop when there are pedestrians coming the other way) when they go into schools to mark the bikes.

Cycling through Woodley precinct was also an issue -despite clear signage. Offenders were not just children and some of them could be quite aggressive if stopped and asked to dismount. One

suggestion was that the police should have session stopping and fining. Another that a group of volunteer residents should give information to cyclists in the precinct. However, they would need to be careful and possibly have some training as they could be putting themselves at risk. The problem was not helped by the fact that the cycle racks were in the middle of the precinct – so people tended to cycle to them – and that there was no longer any CCTV in the precinct which could act as a deterrent to both cyclists and others likely to be involved in ASB / other crimes. The quality of the photographs in the original CCTV cameras was not good enough to be used as evidence and replacement would be incredibly expensive. Some shops do have their own CCTV and some make use of the shop radio system. Replacement of the CCTV system is a long term aspiration of the WTCMI.

ACTION: Chair, ACER and councillors to talk to police as to whether residents could be involved in some form of campaign to stop cycling in the town centre.

7. Date of next meeting – Monday, 29th Jan, 2018, 7.30 pm at the Oakwood Centre.

NEWS RELEASE



APPENDIX 14

**WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Date: Friday, December 1 2017

Issue No: 117d/17

Version: 1.0

EXECUTIVE AGREES NEW LEISURE CENTRE IN WOODLEY

Wokingham Borough Council's decision-making executive has approved plans for a new leisure centre in Woodley to replace the outdated Bulmershe Leisure Centre.

The decision was made at last night's executive to replace the existing outdated facility in Woodley with a new state of the art centre featuring a sports hall, a 25m six lane swimming pool, a 75 station gym, two studios, a teaching pool with movable floor, and a café.

The leisure centre underwent some cosmetic refurbishment, incorporating new facilities and equipment in 2014, thanks to investments from the borough council and 1-Life. But at that time the council promised to look at future plans to sustain and improve the centre further.

The centre was built in the 1970s and its facilities are tired and in need of investment to bring it up to a better standard to help the council support its vision 'to create a great place to live, an even better place to do business' and the borough-wide health and wellbeing strategy.

The new leisure centre would benefit The Bulmershe School and the local community, including young people, families and the elderly population. It would also help increase physical activity in the Woodley and surrounding area including Earley as well as help those with long-term health conditions. Council leisure facilities offer many preventative services, which contribute to savings within the its social care budget which are severely under pressure.

The future of the leisure centre was put to public consultation in 2016, where the council looked into the appetite for a partial or full closure of the centre to allow it to be rebuilt or refurbished, as well as exploring the usage of the facilities, and how numbers could be improved. During the consultation period representatives from the council visited several leisure centres already refurbished or rebuilt by other local authorities. These were centres recommended by Sport England.

Cllr Norman Jorgensen, executive member for environment, sports, environmental health, leisure and libraries, said: "I am pleased that we have decided to build this new leisure centre which will be a great improvement over the current facility. I would like to thank the local Members and those other residents who participated in the consultation last year for their support and encouragement."

These proposals are subject to planning permission.

- ENDS -