

Cheltenham Borough Council Planning Committee Minutes

Meeting date: 17 July 2025

Meeting time: 6.00 pm - 6.28 pm

In attendance:

Councillors:

Frank Allen (Vice-Chair), Glenn Andrews, Garth Barnes (Chair), Barbara Clark, Jan Foster, Iain Dobie, Tony Oliver, Dr Steve Steinhardt, Simon Wheeler and Suzanne Williams

Also in attendance:

Chris Gomm (Head of Planning), Michael Ronan (Lawyer) and Lara Daniali (Conservation Officer)

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Adrian Bamford.

2 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Barbara Clark declared a personal connection to the applicant of item 6c and confirmed that she would recuse herself from the meeting during the item.

3 Declarations of independent site visits

Councillor Tony Oliver declared that he had visited sites 6a and 6b.

4 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 June were approved and signed as a correct record.

The minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 4 July were approved and signed as a correct record.

5 Public Questions

There were none.

6 Planning Applications

7 24/02102/FUL - Foster Court, Mendip Road, Cheltenham, GL52 5DR

The Head of Planning introduced the report as published.

In response to Members' questions, officers confirmed that:

- Whilst it is unlikely that non-residents would try to access the bin area the application before Members' requires this to be a lockable storage area. The case officer is not aware of any issues with vandalism in the existing location. The application aims to tidy up the area and make it secure.
- There is a small area of hard standing at the moment which will be increased and formed of concrete if the application is approved.
- Officers are not aware of the nature of the occupants of the building, but it includes a number of self-contained flats.
- Officers are satisfied that the objector's issues have been addressed but the case officer cannot speak on the objector's behalf. A previous application was withdrawn and the new design has been moved back from the street to reduce the impact on the street scene.

The matter then went to Member debate where the following points were made:

- Based on a site visit this will be an improvement on the current situation.
- The changes will prevent rubbish from being blown around.

The matter then went to the vote on the officer recommendation to permit the application.

For: 10

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Voted UNANIMOUSLY to permit the application.

8 25/00325/LBC - Spring Bridge, London Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham

The Head of Planning introduced the report as published.

In response to Members' questions, officers confirmed that:

- The application includes a general upgrade to the drainage so should reduce likelihood of blockages to the upstream drainage gulleys to the side of the bridge.

- It is outside the scope of the application for listed building consent to determine when the work will be carried out and this would be difficult to condition as it is a substantial piece of work that may take some time. Gloucestershire County Council Highways have confirmed that the work will require the A40 to be closed and they will need to determine how to mitigate potential traffic issues.

The matter then went to Member debate where the following points were made:

- The issue with the bridge has already caused traffic disruption on the A40 during the works over the last year and it is not possible to leave it as it is, so it is important that the application is approved, and the work is carried out.

The matter then went to the vote on the officer recommendation to approve the application.

For: 10

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve the application.

Councillor Barbara Clark left the meeting.

9 25/00849/LBC - 53 Pittville Lawn, Cheltenham, GL52 2BH

The Conservation Officer introduced the report as published.

There were no questions from Members. The matter then went to Member debate where the following points were made:

- Support the Officer's recommendation as this is a like for like replacement and will be an improvement to the building.

The matter then went to the vote on the officer recommendation to grant the application.

For: 9

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Voted UNANIMOUSLY to grant the application.

10 Appeal Update

The appeal updates were noted.

11 Any other items the Chairman determines urgent and requires a decision

There were none.