

Wilstock and Stockmoor Forum

Notes from the meeting held on 25th March 2019 at Somerset Bridge School, commencing at 7:00 pm

Attendees (who signed the attendance record)

Cllrs A Bradford (Chairman), A Fraser, M Denham, P Spencer, W Revans, L Hyde, J Taylor, L Parchment, L Spelman-Ives and R Ives.

P MacLaurin, J Boulton, S Boulton, J Mitchell, L Pickersgill, S Pickersgill, A Breadmore, J Hosier, C Szuk-knyzanauske, R Szuk-knyzanauske, N Taylor, M Hart, G Wong, J Freeman, D Weeks, D Barge, J Barge, V Crow, J Smith, T Smith, P MacLaurin. and H Phillips

P Moody, N Bracher (Persimmon), D de Vries, D Bamsey (Sedgemoor DC) and R Latham Town Clerk

1. Car Parking.

- a. There was the probability that yellow lines could be installed on Stockmoor Road. If this were agreed by the authorities, then Persimmon would pay for them.
- b. There was the possibility of a lollipop person operating by the school. However Cllr Revans pointed out that there were hurdles to overcome.
- c. Hinkley Point could not regulate their employees when they were not at work, so that issues associated with HMO's remained problematic.
- d. The police could take action about parking on pavements, but don't generally. Ryan Kelly from SDC was looking into this.
- e. Persimmon were meeting with SCC on 9th April to discuss traffic and road issues.
- f. Residents were asked to take photographs of problems and send them to Cllr Ives and/or report them via 101.
- g. Mrs De Vries commented that the design and approval of the road layout was done in accordance with the regulations in place at the time when the government was seeking to discourage car usage.
- h. The Vehicle Parking Group would be meeting again before the next forum meeting.

2. Update from Persimmon

- a. Progress was being made on the cycle path onto Wills Way and the Gateway development. The bridges were coming in April and would be in place in May. It was stated that there was a good deal of confusion about the various paths and ways and it was agreed that information boards would be useful.
- b. The Cycle path into Bridgwater, towards which the Town Council had made a significant contribution, was delayed until the Autumn due to legal discussions about commuted lump sums and 106 agreements.

3. Country Park.

The inordinate delay in the development of the park, now some 6 years, was discussed. Mrs De Vries stated that the various legal agreements and planning processes had proved very difficult to resolve, but she now believed that completion

was within touching distance. It was noted that Wessex Water, who had been working in the park did not have to follow the same restraints as other developers. It was also noted that they had not yet properly reinstated the area.

4. **Current developments.**

- a. Dawes Farm was delayed as the 106 agreement on landscaping had not been agreed and signed, which meant that work had had to stop. Persimmon were asked to fence the site off properly and make some effort to ensure that it was tidy. There were ongoing problems with cars parking on Willstock Way near the roundabout. It was likely that there would be a further two months' delay, but Mr Moody agreed to give infrastructure works priority when the site re-opened.
- b. The site in Willstock was causing a wide range of access and safety problems. Various ideas had been tried to control construction traffic, but without total success. The latest initiative involving a shed and porta loo at the entrance to the village had proved to be less than popular. It was felt that overall the situation was getting worse. The possibility of lorries using Junction 24 to stack up was felt to be a good idea.

5. **Road adoptions.** This was very dependent on the Bloor development. It was stated that paved road areas would never be adopted. Cllr Revans did not believe this to be the case, but some roads, because of their particular nature, would not be.

6. **Library.** Mr Taylor, as Chairman of the Friends of the Library Group, provided an update on their work so far.

7. **Bus stops and shelters.** The Town Clerk reported that he had established that bus shelters did not normally need planning permission, just the agreement of the Highway Authority as to their location. He recommended that the Vehicle Parking Group should firm up proposals that could then be taken to the Town Council to erect two shelters on the A38.

8. **Other matters**

- a. The big sign by the BMW roundabout had been removed
- b. Work on the MUGA was progressing.
- c. Cllr Bradford, who indicated that he would be standing down as Town Mayor was thanked for the friendly and constructive way in which he had chaired the Forum
- d. The next meeting date would be decided at the Council AGM in May.

The Meeting closed at 8:45 pm