PLANNING 29 July 2026
12.30 - 3.30 pm

Present:

Planning Committee Members: Councillors Porrer (Chair), Smart (Vice-Chair), Baigent, Clough, Fisher, Griffin and Illingworth

Officers:
Delivery Manager: Toby Williams
Principal Planner: Tom Chenery
Legal Adviser: Vanessa Blane
Committee Manager: Matthew Hussey
Meeting Producer: Dan Kalley

Other Officers Present:
Principal Sustainability Officer: Emma Davies
Principal Environmental Health Officer: Greg Kearney

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL

26/69/Plan Apologies

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillors Dryden and Todd-Smith.

26/70/Plan Declarations of Interest

Name	Item	Interest
Councillor Baigent	26/72/Plan	Personal: Member of Acorn.
Councillor Baigent	26/72/Plan	Personal: Member of Cambridge Cycling Campaign.
Councillor Clough	26/72/Plan	Personnel: Ward Councillor. Councillor Clough recused himself from the meeting as he would be speaking in objection to the application in his capacity as Ward Councillor.

Councillor Griffin	26/72/Plan	Personal: Member of Cambridge Cycling Campaign.
Councillor Griffin	26/72/Plan	Personal and Prejudicial: Member of the university. He had attended numerous conferences and programs at the Mathmatics Department and the Newton Institute and understood the need for accommodation for visiting scientists and mathematicians etc and was sympathetic for the requirement to accommodate those who were participating over long periods of time. Councillor Griffin believed that he was unfettered. However, following legal advice that whilst he could be predisposed, he was potentially predetermined or biased, Councillor Griffin recused himself from the meeting and did not take part in any discussion or debate on the item.

26/71/Plan Committee Recording

The Committee minutes list public speakers at Committee. Please view the recording of the meeting on Cambridge City Council - YouTube to see/hear more detail about statements from public speakers and Ward Councillors.

26/72/Plan 25/04832/FUL Wolfson Court

The Committee received an application for full planning permission.

The application sought approval for demolition of existing and construction of replacement purpose-built student accommodation and for academic

staff/academic visitors, ancillary facilities, landscaping, new pedestrian access from Madingley Road and other associated development. Installation of a temporary construction access from Madingley Road.

The Principal Planner updated his report by referring to the amendment sheet which set out the following:

- Additional neighbour comment from Joint Objection Group
- Additional letter to Chair of planning committee
- Comments from Public Art Officer
- Amendment to Para 23.4 – Crime Prevention
- Revision to para 11.24 referencing use by Institute of Mathematics
- Revision to Para 11.4,11.37, 11.38 and 11.42. Total of 41 rooms not 49 rooms
- Clarity that Academic staff and visitors combined will not occupy more than 41 rooms at any one time.
- Amendment to 22.5 Heads of Terms
- Revision of proposed conditions (complete set revised)

Professor Geoffrey Meeks and Dr Jaqueline Gay Meeks addressed the Committee speaking in objection to the application.

James Roach (Agent) addressed the Committee in support of the application.

County Councillor Rees (Cambridgeshire County Councillor, Ward Councillor for Newnham) addressed the Committee speaking in objection.

Councillor Clough (Cambridge City Councillor, Ward Councillor for Newnham) addressed the Committee speaking in objection.

The Chair proposed that the Conditions include the addition of wording of banks persons.

The Chair also proposed that the following informative be added to the Officer's recommendations:

a. That the applicant be requested to reduce water usage below to 110 litres per person.

The amendments were **carried unanimously.**

The Committee:

Resolved (by 3 votes to 2) to grant the application for planning permission in accordance with the Officer recommendation, for the reasons set out in the Officer's report (with delegated authority to Officers to make minor amendments to the conditions as drafted), subject to:

i. satisfactory completion of a Section 106 Agreement which includes the Heads of Terms as set out in the report with minor amendments to the Heads of Terms as set out delegated to officers.;
ii. that the Conditions include the addition of wording of banks persons.
iii. an informative included that the applicant be requested to reduce water usage below to 110 litres per person.

The meeting ended at 3.30 pm

CHAIR