

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE
HELD ON 8 APRIL 2021
VIA ZOOM**

PRESENT: Councillors Bannister (Chair), Chowns, Harvey, Howells, Knight, Manns, Morris, Treanor, Troy and Vesma (Ex Officio)

IN ATTENDANCE: Angie Price – Town Clerk

P399. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Eakin.

P400. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

P401. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Councillor Bannister advised members that he had received five representations from members of the public in relation to agenda item 14 - Market House Access Report. The letters were objections to a lift being installed in the Market House.

Councillor Bannister had also received letters from neighbouring councils and advised that a lift is installed at Ross on Wye Town Council, and that whilst Newent have no lift access to their Market House, they have plans to review the access in the near future.

P402. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE OF 22 MARCH 2021 AS A CORRECT RECORD

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Extraordinary meeting of Economic Development & Planning Committee held on 22 March 2021 be approved and signed as a correct record with the above amendments.

P403. ACTION SHEET

Members were provided with the Economic Development and Planning Action Sheet.

RESOLVED:

That the Action sheet be received and noted.

P404.

PLANNING CONSULTATIONS

1. Planning Application 210587 – Fair Tree Farm Little Marcle Road Ledbury Herefordshire.

RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION

2. Planning Application 210682 - The Garden House Church Street, Ledbury, Herefordshire HR8 1DJ.

RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION

3. Planning Application 210724 – 39 New Street, Ledbury, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2EA.

RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION

4. Planning Application 210760 – 6 New Street, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2DX.

RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION

5. Planning Application 210762 - 6 New Street, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2DX **LISTED.**

RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION

6. Planning Application 210675 – 9 Oatley's Terrace, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2BX.

RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION

7. Planning Application 210794 – Land adjoining New Mills, Ledbury.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the Planning Officers to clarify the Planning Application.

8. Planning Application 204577 – Former Auctions, market Street, Ledbury.

Councillor Vesma supported the application and felt that the apartments would benefit the town and residents.

Councillor Bannister noted that there were several objections on the planning application on the Herefordshire Council Planning Portal due to the landscaping and the appearance of the building. It was

noted that the deadline for comments was 12 March, however Members were advised that the Council had been granted an extension until the end of April to make a formal comment.

Councillor Harvey asked whether the Major Planning Applications Working Party could draft a response, taking into account the objections made on the planning portal.

RESOLVED: That the Major Planning Applications Working Party create a formal response, to be sent to Hereford Council Planning Officers to be provided by the end of April.

9. Planning Application 204578 - Former Auctions, Market Street, Ledbury **LISTED**

RESOLVED: That the Major Planning Applications Working Party create a formal response, to be sent to Hereford Council Planning Officers to be provided by the end of April.

P405. **PLANNING DECISIONS**

Members were provided with an up-to-date Planning Decisions table.

RESOLVED:

That the list of planning application decisions be received and Noted.

P406. **MINUTES OF THE MAJOR PLANNING APPLICATION WORKING PARTY MEETINGS**

Members were asked to receive and note the minutes of the Major Planning Application Working Party meeting held on 9 March 2021.

RESOLVED:

That Members of the Economic Development and Planning Committee receive and note the minutes of the Major Planning Application Working Party held on 9 March 2021.

P407. **TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT WORKING PARTY**

Members were asked to receive and note the minutes of the Traffic Management Working Party held on 30 March 2021.

Councillor Harvey requested that the Clerk or Traffic Management Working Party send a formal letter to Herefordshire Council in relation to the condition of the footpath to Gloucester Road roundabout onto parkway.

Both Ward Councillors Harvey and Howells, provided members with an update on the carparks and traffic regulation orders.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That Members of the Economic Development and Planning Committee receive and note the minutes of the Traffic Management Working Party held on 23 February 2021.**
- 2. That the Clerk contact Herefordshire Council in relation to the condition of the footpath from Gloucester Road roundabout to Parkway.**
- 3. That the Clerk provide a copy of the when and where the SID's will be located and that a copy of this be shared on the council's website.**

P408.

UPDATE ON THE NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Members were asked to receive and note the notes of meetings 26-28 of the Steering Group and the following documents:

- I. Issues & options report (V8)
- II. Issues & Options leaflet (V8)
- III. Issues & Options questionnaire (V8)
- IV. Communication and Consultation Plan (V6)
- V. Budget (V010421)

Councillor Howells suggested an extraordinary meeting of Economic Development and Planning Committee before the extraordinary meeting of Full Council on Thursday, 15 April 2021, to approve NDP documents.

Councillor Vesma advised members that the NDP documents could go straight to the extraordinary meeting of Full Council. Members agreed to approve the NDP documents in the next meeting of Full Council.

Councillor Harvey suggested that all members read the agenda packs thoroughly and make any suggestions in writing before Monday, 12 April 2021.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That Members of the Economic Development and Planning Committee receive and note the Steering Group notes 26-28.**
- 2. That Members of the Economic Development and Planning Committee receive and note the above documents and provide any comments for consideration at the Extraordinary meeting scheduled for 15 April, no later than Monday, 12 April 2021.**

P409. **CONSERVATION WALKS/PERMISSIVE ACCESS – NOTIFICATION OF CESSATION OF PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY**

Members were provided with a report on the cessation of a permissive access on Woodlands Farm, Gloucester Road, Ledbury.

RESOLVED: That members of the Economic Development and Planning Committee receive and note the report.

P410. **CORRESPONDANCE RECEIVED IN RESPECT OF VIADUCT DEVELOPMENT**

Members were provided with a copy of a letter sent to a local resident from Mr Bill Wiggins MP, in which he urges action by Ledbury Town Council to include plans for an additional road to access the site as part of the Neighbourhood Development Plan as this is what residents wanted.

Councillor Harvey advised that Mr Wiggins' letter was reiterating the point that she had raised in respect of the NDP at the recent full council meeting about ensuring the access that had previously been saved at the northern extension of the bypass.

Councillor Howells proposed that the recommendation to include plans for an additional road to access the site as part of the Local Development Plan be deferred to the extraordinary meeting of Full Council on Thursday, 15 April 2021 for discussion.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the Major Planning Application Working Party prepare a briefing paper in relation to the S106 contributions from the Viaduct Site, using the information from Councillor Harvey's recent Ward report and information available on the Hereford Council website to summarise what the S106 contributions will be from the Viaduct Site**
- 2. That members of the Economic Development and Planning Committee agree to defer agenda item 12 to the next meeting of Full Council on 15 April 2021 and that this be considered alongside the advice from consultants**
- 3. That Councillor Harvey's Ward Member report from the recent Full Council meeting be updated on the Council's website.**

P411. **CORPORATE PLAN**

Members were provided with an updated Corporate Plan Action Sheet

RESOLVED: That the Corporate plan be received and noted.

P412. **TO RECEIVE AN ACCESS AUDIT REPORT PREPARED ON BEHALF OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL**

Members were provided with an Access Audit Report prepared on behalf of Herefordshire Council in July 2013.

Councillor Bannister reassured members of the public that no proposals for a glass lift have been made. However, as a Council they were obliged to investigate access issues and as part of this process the Clerk had been asked to obtain past paperwork in respect of past discussions and proposals.

Councillor Chowns what action had been taken as a result of the report provided. The Clerk advised that she had been informed that no action was taken from the report.

A number of members agreed that it would not be practical to install a lift into the Market House.

Councillor Manns proposed that the issue of a lift not-be brought up for discussion at future meetings, Councillor Knight seconded this proposal. The vote was lost.

Councillor Harvey advised members that she had checked with the Policy and Conservation Officers at Herefordshire Council and it was agreed that there is no problem with inaccessibility to a Grade I listed building. However, as a council it is important to record that there have been discussions and consideration to access.

Councillor Knight felt that there were alternative ways to promote the Market House, including providing tv's under the Market House with virtual tours.

RESOLVED: That the access Audit Report be sent to the Market House Working Party for further discussion and recommendations.

P413. **HEREFORD TRANSPORT STRATEGY REVIEW**

Members were provided with a Hereford Transport Strategy Review document.

RESOLVED: That the Hereford Transport Strategy Review be received and noted.

P415. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED: To note that the date of the next Economic Development and Planning Committee will be agreed at the meeting of Annual Council meetings scheduled for 13 May 2021.

P416. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED: that in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, in the public interest the press and public were excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

P417. **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 3(X)**

RESOLVED: That Standing Order 3(x) be suspended for a period of 30 minutes to allow the remaining business on the agenda to be completed.

P418. **ECONOMY & TOURISM WOKRING PARTY**

Members were requested to consider a recommendation from the Economy and Tourism Working Party in respect of creating an 'Explore Ledbury' website.

Members were advised that a representative of Visit Herefordshire, Helen Bowden, had attended the Economy and Tourism Working Party and confirmed that Ledbury, with other neighbouring Parishes, will be promoted on the Visit Herefordshire website.

Councillor Bannister advised that he had attended the Working Party, and that the consensus was that it would be beneficial for the town to have its own website, whist being promoted on the Visit Herefordshire website.

Councillor Harvey advised that it would be more cost effective to work with Visit Herefordshire as opposed to Ledbury having its own tourism site. She felt that It would be more beneficial to put the time into the larger website, which would not only promote Ledbury but the catchment area, while having a separate page on the Ledbury Town Council website to advertise Ledbury businesses and events.

Councillor Howells had some concerns on who would be regularly updating content on the website. Councillor Morris advised that the Community Development Officer would be managing this area.

Members agreed that the money could be spent elsewhere, even if the money were to be funded by a scheme or grant.

Councillor Harvey advised members that Herefordshire Council will be funding the extension of the Loyal free App to the Market Towns, which allows businesses and councils to register circular walks and areas of interest which will automatically notify app owners when they are nearby.

Councillor Bannister proposed that the recommendation be deferred back to the Economy Tourism Working Party with the above notes.

RESOLVED: That the recommendation to consider a new Economy & Tourism website be referred back to the Economy & Tourism Working Party advising that their recommendation was not approved asking that they consider the possibility of Ledbury being included on the “Visit Herefordshire” website and the forthcoming “Loyal Free App” at no cost.

The Meeting ended

Signed Dated

DRAFT