

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE
HELD ON 11 FEBRUARY 2021
VIA ZOOM**

PRESENT: Councillors: Bannister, Chowns, Harvey, Howells, Knight, Morris

IN ATTENDANCE: Angie Price – Town Clerk
Beth Hughes – Tour Guide Leader

P352. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Manns and Vesma

P353. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

P354. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None received.

Due to Councillor Harvey's County Councillor commitments and needing to leave the meeting early, Councillor Bannister proposed to bring forward agenda items 4, 5, 17, 10 to complete planning business.

P355. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE OF 14 JANUARY 2021 AS A CORRECT RECORD

RESOLVED:

Councillor Harvey asked to have a discussion on minute number **P342 on page 1575**. She advised members that she was not present in the meeting however had sent comments to the Chairman on this item for consideration. She expressed her concerns with the decision to meet with Gladman Representatives and Planning Officers at Herefordshire Council due to the time that went into considering the land as not suitable for development. She pointed out that there had been an appeal which Gladman had lost, in respect of this site, and the inspector agreed that if the land were to be built on it would be damaging to the town and landscape. She felt that meeting with Gladman would only give the developers and landowners false hope that the decision would be revisited.

Councillor Bannister advised that the correspondence received only noted the benefits for sporting facilities which would benefit Ledbury, he did not recall there being any mention of housing.

Members agreed to authorise the Town Clerk to contact Planning Officers at Herefordshire Council to ask whether it would be beneficial to meet with Gladman Representatives to reinforce that the land at Dymock is not suitable for development.

Councillor Harvey left the meeting at 7:50pm

Councillor Bannister advised members that the grounds of objection on application **204154, minute number P347(3) on page 1578** were incorrect. Whilst the members decision to object to the planning application was a correct record of the discussion and decision taken at the meeting, the Town Clerk advised members that the grounds given for the objection were not.

RESOLVED:

1. **That the minutes of the meeting of the Economic Development & Planning Committee held on 9 July 2020 be approved and signed as a correct record.**
2. **That the Town Clerk contact the Planning Officers at Herefordshire Council to ask for their advice on meeting with Gladman Representatives.**
3. **That Members note that the grounds for the objection in respect of planning application 204154 were incorrect.**

P356. **ACTION SHEET**

Members were provided with the Economic Development and Planning Action Sheet. The Town Clerk updated Members on the progress she had made since the last meeting, including the Corporate Plan and the roundabout sponsorship request from Barratts Homes.

RESOLVED:

That Action sheet be received and noted.

P357. **CORRESPONDENCE FROM CIVIC SOCIETY**

Members were provided with Correspondence from the Civic Society proposing a collaborative approach to marketing tourist attractions on Church Lane, including the 16th Century Painted Room and Butcher Row Museum.

Beth Hughes, Tour Guide Leader at the 16th Century Painted Room advised that the Council had previously investigated working with other tourist attractions. However, nothing had come to light and whilst she agreed with the proposal in principle, she was not sure how it could work.

Councillor Morris advised that in his 6-years of being a councillor, the various tourist groups with the town have tried to look at ways of working together and marketing under one body, without much success. Members felt that it would be beneficial, especially as the Council are employing a Community Developer Officer, to pursue this option.

Councillor Knight suggested placing an advert on the Town Council website to encourage volunteers to help in the tourist attractions.

Members agreed to the Town Clerk responding to the correspondence to advise that the Economy and Tourism Working Party will discuss this further.

RESOLVED:

That the Town Clerk respond to the correspondence sent by the Civic Society, noting that the Economy and Tourism Working Party will discuss further.

P358.

PLANNING CONSULTATIONS

1. Planning Application 204336 – Hazle Meadows, Ross Road, Ledbury, HR8 2LP

RESOLVED: No Objection

2. Planning Application 204363 – Orchard House, New Street, HR8 2EL

RESOLVED: No Objection

3. Planning Application 204518 – Wood House, Staplow, Ledbury, HR8 1NP

RESOLVED: No Objection

4. Planning Application 204554 – 12 Lambourne Close, Ledbury, HR8 2HW

RESOLVED: No Objection

5. Planning Application 204558- Barns at Siddington Farm, Ledbury

RESOLVED: No Objection

6. Planning Application 204559 LISTED – Barns at Siddington Farm, Ledbury

RESOLVED: No Objection

7. Planning Application 204565 – Spindle Cottage, Upper Mitchell, Ledbury, HR8 1JG

RESOLVED: No Objection

8. Planning Application 210045 – Barn House, 23 New Street, Ledbury, HR8 2DX

RESOLVED: No Objection

9. Planning Application 210046 LISTED – Barn House, New Street, Ledbury, HR8 2DX

RESOLVED: No Objection

P359. **PLANNING APPLICATION 201422 – NOTICE OF APPEAL**

Members were provided with a Notice of Appeal in relation to planning application 201422, Proposed change of use of tearoom and use of part of first floor to provide two bedrooms to existing ground floor flat.

Councillor Bannister advised that the application had since been withdrawn.

RESOLVED:

That it be noted that this application to appeal had been withdrawn.

P360. **TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NOTICE**

Members were provided with a Tree Preservation Order Notice from Herefordshire Council.

RESOLVED:

That the Tree Preservation Order Notice be received and noted.

P361. **PLANNING DECISIONS**

Members were provided with an up-to-date Planning Decisions table. Councillor Bannister advised members that a number of decisions had been made including the refusal of the Deeley development and phase two Barratts proposal.

RESOLVED:

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

P362. **ENQUIRY RECEIVED FROM LOCAL RESIDENT IN RELATION TO BARRETT BROWING INSTITUTE (BBI) DOOR**

Members were provided correspondence received from a local resident in relation to the newly installed door to the Barrett Browning Institute.

Councillor Manns reminded members of a meeting of the Economic Development and planning in 2016 where there was a discussion on the planning application for a new door for the BBI. He advised members that there were no objections to the new door being fitted.

Councillor Howells suggested the Town Clerk respond to the resident and advise that there were no objections to the new door being fitted at the Barrett Browning Institute and that it went through the correct and legal process.

The Town Clerk suggested that going forward all planning applications will be uploaded to the website and the Council social media accounts before each Economic Development and Planning Committee meeting.

RESOLVED:

1. **That the correspondence from a local resident be received and noted, noting that the Town Clerk will respond.**
2. **That all planning applications be listed on the Town Council website and social media accounts going forward.**

P363. **CHANGE OF USE (For information only)**

Members were asked to receive and note the Town and Country Planning (use Classes) Order 1987. The Clerk advised that she had received the document from Herefordshire Planning Department to help Councillors when making comment on future requests for change of use.

RESOLVED:

That the Change of use document be received and noted.

P364. **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 11 and 26 January 2021.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the minutes of the Major Planning Application Working Party meetings held on 11 and 26 January 2021 be received and noted**

P365.

UPDATE ON THE NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Councillor Howells provided members with an update on the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) including the following:

- a) Notes of the minutes of a meeting of the NDP held on 5 January 2021.
- b) Notes of meetings 12-16 of the Steering Group.
- c) Updated Budget Position as of 21 January 2021.
- d) Current status briefing document
- e) Project timeline forecast as of 9 January 2021.
- f) Current version of document filing record.
- g) Draft Communications and Consultation Plan.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That update on the Neighbourhood Development Plan be received and noted.**
- 2. That the notes of the minutes of a meeting of the NDP held on 5 January 2021 be received and noted.**
- 3. That the notes of meetings 12-16 of the Steering Group be received and noted.**
- 4. That the Updated Budget Position as of 21 January 2021 be received and noted.**
- 5. That Council agree to the adoption of the Current Status Briefing document.**
- 6. That members of the Economic Development and Planning Committee receive and note the Project timeline forecast as of 9 January 2021.**
- 7. That members of the Economic Development and Planning Committee receive and note the current version of document filing record.**
- 8. That members of the Economic Development and Planning Committee receive and note the Draft Communications and Consultation Plan.**

P369. **TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT WORKING PARTY**

Members were asked to receive and note the minutes of the Traffic Management Working Party held on 12 January 2021.

RESOLVED:

That Members of the Economic Development and Planning Committee receive and note the minutes of the Traffic Management Working Party held on 12 January 2021.

P367. **ECONOMY AND TOURISM**

Members were asked to receive and note the minutes of the Economy and Tourism Working Party held on 25 January 2021 and the minutes of a meeting of the Charter Market Working Party held on 20 January 2021.

Councillor Bannister advised members of the following recommendations:

- a. That a Task & Finish Group be set up to agree what content should be on the Ledbury website. Task & Finish Group members to be Councillor Morris, Caroline Green, Griff Holliday, Christine Tustin and Deputy Clerk, Nicola Young.
- b. That the Deputy Clerk draft a letter to Highway Agency to request a discount due to COVID and requesting support of market town economy. It is proposed to put brown tourism signs to Ledbury on M5 and M50. It was also suggested that Herefordshire Council could provide some funds to support the promotion of market towns.
- c. To the Economic Development & Planning Committee that Economy & Tourism Working Party set up a Task & Finish Group to consider the development of the Charter Market and what evening/Sunday markets could take place. Task & Finish Group members will be Councillor John Bannister, Councillor Stephen Chowns, Caroline Green, Deputy Clerk.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That Members of the Economic Development and Planning Committee receive and note the minutes of the Economy and Tourism Working Party held on 25 January 2021.**
- 2. That a Task & Finish Group be set up to agree what content should be on the Ledbury Tourism website. Task & Finish Group members to be Councillor Morris, Caroline Green, Griff Holliday, Christine Tustin, and Councillor Knight.**
- 3. That Members of the Economic Development and Planning committee authorise the Town Clerk to investigate whether**

Highways UK would offer a discount to supply and fit brown tourism signs on the outskirts of Ledbury.

- 4. That the Economic Development & Planning Committee agree that the Economy & Tourism Working Party set up a Task & Finish Group to consider the development of the Charter Market and what evening/Sunday markets could take place. Task & Finish Group members will be Councillor John Bannister, Councillor Stephen Chowns, Councillor Knight, and Caroline Green.**
- 5. That the notes of the meeting to discuss the Charter Market Working Party held on 20 January 2021 be received and noted.**

P368. CORPORATE PLAN

Members were provided with an updated copy of the Corporate Plan action sheet. The Clerk advised that the office would improve the spreadsheet to make it more readable and effective.

RESOLVED:

That the Corporate Plan action sheet be received and noted.

P369. HEREFORDSHIRE SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT GROUP

Members were provided with a response of Herefordshire Sustainable Transport Group to the Government Consultation call for evidence on Future of Transport: rural strategy.

RESOLVED:

That Members receive and note the response of Herefordshire Sustainable Transport Group document, noting that any comments are sent to the Town Clerk via email by Tuesday 16 February 2021.

P370. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: To note that the date of the next Economic Development and Planning Committee will be held on 11 March 2021.

The Meeting ended 9:11pm

Signed Dated