

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 12 MARCH 2020 IN THE COUNCIL OFFICES, LEDBURY**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Bannister (Chairman), Eakin, Howells (Town Mayor – ex-officio), Knight, Manns and Morris

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Angie Price – Town Clerk

**P151 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Harvey and Vesma.

**P152 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

**P153 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were members of the public present who had requested to speak on agenda item 15. It was agreed that they would be given the opportunity to speak at that point of the agenda.

**P154 TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 13 FEBRUARY 2020**

**RESOLVED**

**That the minutes of the meeting of the Economic Development & Planning Committee held on 13 February 2020 be approved and signed as a correct record.**

**P155 PLANNING CONSULTATIONS**

**Planning Application 192371**

**RESOLVED: No comment due to the application having previously been refused and an appeal pending. Also, the committee not having enough information in respect of the why the application had been refused, and whether the current application had taken into account the reasons for refusal.**

**Planning Application 19411**

**RESOLVED: No objection**

**Planning Application 200003**

**RESOLVED: No objection**

**Planning Application 200311**

**RESOLVED: No objection**

**Planning Application 200401**

**RESOLVED: No objection**

**Planning Application 200402**

**RESOLVED: No objection**

**Planning Application 200403**

**RESOLVED: No objection**

**Planning Application 200426**

**RESOLVED: No objection**

**Planning Application 200437**

**RESOLVED: No objection, but that it be noted that should the Viaduct Housing development proceed it is likely that the footpath that runs alongside this application may need widening and therefore may have an effect on this site.**

**Planning Application 200558**

**RESOLVED: No objection**

**Planning Application 200771**

**RESOLVED: No objection**

**P156 PLANNING APPLICATION DECISIONS**

Members were provided with an up to date Planning Application Decision list.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Planning Application Decision list provided be received and noted.**

**P157 APPLICATION 171532: LAND NORTH OF VIADUCT APPEAL**

Councillor Bannister advised that following the decision by Hereford Council not to defend the Bloor appeal in respect of the Viaduct Housing Development, Ledbury Town Council had re-applied for Rule 6(6) Status

and had been awarded. He advised that the timescales for the provision of the Statement of Case and the Proof of Evidence were limited due to the lateness of Rule 6(6) Status being granted. He advised that the Statement of Case needs to be submitted by 20 March and the Proof of Evidence by 6 April.

He advised members that a working party had been set up to start work on the documents and that it had met the previous day and that he felt they had a good team. It was agreed that they would meet again the following week and that the Statement of Case was being prepared via email between the members of the Working Party.

Members were advised that the Clerk had arranged for a local solicitor to act on behalf of the Council and had been in conversation with a Barrister who had agreed that they would be able to act on behalf of the Council.

Members were asked to consider setting aside a budget for costs involved in defending the case and it was agreed that a budget of £40,000 should be set aside to cover legal costs.

It was agreed that a Parish Meeting should be set up to enable a discussion to be held with anyone who would wish to support the Council in the defence of the appeal and also to discuss how third parties could assist. Members were notified that the meeting had been arranged for Monday, 23 March 2020 at 6.30 pm at the Feathers Hotel, Ledbury.

**RESOLVED:**

1. **That a budget of £40,000 be provided to cover the legal costs in respect of the defence of the Viaduct Appeal.**
2. **That it be noted that a Parish Meeting has been arranged for 6.30 pm on Monday, 23 March 2020 at the Feathers Hotel, Ledbury.**

P158

**ROUNABOUT LANDSCAPE PROPOSAL**

Member were asked to consider an application to take over the "Licence to Cultivate" the newly installed roundabout along Leadon Way.

In addition to this request the Clerk advised Members of a request from the Strômstad Twinning Group asking that this roundabout be planted with Blue and Yellow flowers in line with the colours of the Swedish Flag in readiness for a visit by their Mayor later in the year.

**RESOLVED:**

**That an enquiry be made to BBLP whether it would be possible for the Strômstad Twinning Group to plant the newly erected**

**roundabout along Leadon Way with plants that reflect the colours of the Swedish flag as an interim measure and that the request from Barratts for the Licence to Cultivate be referred back to the committee for consideration in the future.**

**P159 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT WORKING PARTY INCLUDING MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 27 FEBRUARY 2020**

The Mayor advised that unfortunately the minutes were not available for the meeting due to them not having been checked for accuracy. However, he provided an update on the progress of the Working Party advising that there was a workshop planned for 18 March 2020. He also advised that it was hoped that the group would have information in respect of Regulation 14 prepared by the end of the year.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. That the update from Councillor Howells be received and noted.**
- 2. That the Clerk contact BBLP and enquire whether the Town Council are able to charge for the Licence to Cultivate.**

**P160 COLWALL REGULATION 16 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN REGULATION 16 SUBMISSION CONSULTATION**

**RESOLVED that this item be referred to the Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Party.**

**P161 HEREFORDSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM (HLAF) ACCESSIBILITY WORKING GROUP (AWG)**

**RESOLVED that this item be referred to the Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Party.**

**P162 GUIDANCE NOTE – ADVERTISING BOARDS AND DISPLAYS OF GOODS ON THE HIGHWAY IN HEREFORDSHIRE**

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. That the information be received and noted.**
- 2. That the information be made available to the Traders Association.**

P163. **GUIDANCE NOTE – SIGNS PLACED WITHIN THE HIGHWAY BOUNDARY IN HERFORDSHIRE**

**RESOLVED:**

1. **That the information be received and noted.**
2. **That the information be made available to the Traders Association.**

P164 **LAND SOUTH OF LEADON WAY – BOVIS HOMES**

Members were provided with an email that had been received from Bovis Homes in response to the email to them in respect of the land south of Leadon Way and a possible route change to promote pedestrian safety.

The email advised that Bovis were considering the feasibility of future proofing land for such a connection, albeit this is not a planning requirement of the current application in terms of S106.

**RESEOLVED:**

1. **That the response be received and noted.**
2. **That Bovis be invited back to a future meeting of the Committee following an update from Councillor l’Anson in respect of the current status of the application.**

P165 **TO AGREE A DATE FOR THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING PARTY**

Members of the public were invited to speak on this agenda item, and the advised that they were present at the meeting as they were interested in being part of the Climate Emergency Working Party and asked whether the Council had agreed any points for action by the Group. The Clerk advised that the purpose of the first meeting of the Working Party would be to set the priorities going forward.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the inaugural meeting of the Climate Emergency Working Party be scheduled to take place at 7.30 pm on 1 April 2020.**

P166 **RIVER LUGG POSITION STATEMENT ON DEVELOPMENT IN THE RIVER LUGG CATCHMENT AREA**

Members were provided with a Statement on Development in the River Lugg catchment area which had been provided by the Director of Economy, Communities and Corporate Services.

**RESOLVED:**

1. **That the Clerk be instructed to write to Hereford Council and ask how they intend to address the housing land supply in Hereford as a result of the exclusion area.**
2. **That this be included as an item for discussion with the Hereford Council Cabinet.**

P167 **HEREFORDSHIRE COUNTY PLAN**

**RESOLVED:**

That the County Plan provided by Herefordshire Council be received and noted.

P168 **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ITEMS**

Councillor Morris expressed his concerns over the lack of items on the agenda that relate to Economic Development. The Clerk directed him to Minute No's 142 and 143 of the previous meeting and advised that these two items were placed on the agenda of the previous meeting for discussion under Economic Development at the last meeting. Councillor Morris acknowledge these two items and asked what had been done about them and why they were not on the agenda for an update. The Clerk advised that due to her workload she had not been able to action these two items and therefore there was not update available.

Councillor Morris advised that he felt "Economic Development" should be a standing item on the agenda of the Committee, to which Members directed him to the agenda front pages, which clearly showed that this was the case, and that indeed the previous three items had been discussed under that heading.

**RESOLVED:**

**That Councillor Morris' comments be noted.**

P169 **TO RECEIVED THE NOTES OF A MEETING OF THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT WORKING PARTY HELD ON 9 MARCH 2020**

Unfortunately, due to the Clerks work load the notes of the Traffic Management Working Party held on 9 March 2020 were not available at the meeting.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the notes of the Traffic Management Working Party held on 9 March 2020 be submitted to the next meeting of the Economic Development & Planning Committee.**

P170

**WEST MERCIA PCC ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY**

Members were asked to give consideration to the West Mercia PCC Road Safety Strategy with a view to providing a response to the questions therein.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the following response be sent:**

**Q1. Yes**

**Q2. Yes**

**Q3. Yes**

**Q4. The proposed approach appears to be well measured and achievable.**

P171

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED: to note that the next meeting of the Economic Development & Planning Committee is scheduled for 9 April 2020.**