

**Minutes of Okehampton Town Council Planning Committee Meeting held on  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7pm in the Council Chamber,  
Town Hall, Okehampton**

**Committee Members Present:** Councillor A Leech (Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs J Yelland (Chairman, P&R)  
Councillor R Rush  
Councillor Mrs V Cushing  
Councillor Dr M Ireland  
Councillor S Parkins  
Councillor C Marsh (Chairman, Parks)

**Other Members Present:** Councillor Mrs J Carpenter  
Councillor Miss C Holt  
Councillor P Vachon

**In Attendance:** Mrs E James (Town Clerk)  
Alex Whish WDBC/SHDC

		Action
565	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> – Cllr Yelland declared an interest as a WDBC member.	
566	<b><u>Apologies for Absence</u></b> – Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Cllr's Cummings, Weekes, Tolley and Goffey	
567	<b><u>Visiting Speaker</u></b> – Alex Whish WDBC/SHDM Natural Environment Specialist was welcomed to the meeting to talk about trees and the planning process. A copy of the presentation would be forwarded to the Clerk for distribution to Members.  Following questions posed to him, he left the meeting.	
568	<b><u>Deferments of Business</u></b> – None.	
569	<b><u>Members Questions</u></b> – Cllr Yelland advised that the Committees response the Exeter Road application was not showing on the portal – Clerk to resend  A further question was posed by Cllr Yelland regarding ownership of the bench on the Granite Way which over looked the Castle, thought to be the Lions.	Clerk
570	<b><u>Minutes</u></b> of meetings held on 29 <sup>th</sup> January and 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2018 were approved and signed, having been proposed by Cllr Ireland and seconded by Cllr Yelland.	
571	<b><u>Matters Arising</u></b> –	
571.1	<b><u>Block Paving Repair Works</u></b> – Comments about the quality of work had been reported back to DCC who were currently undertaking to carry out a repair. Further works to the paved crossings by the traffic lights were currently underway and complaints had been received by local businesses and members of the public. It was reported that the work had been held up by approximately two weeks due to heavy rain in February and the snow last week.	

On the proposition of Cllr Ireland, seconded by Cllr Parkins, it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Leech and the Clerk write to DCC, Highways, the Contractor and the Cabinet Member for Traffic/Infrastructure outlining the issues and concerns.

Cllr Leech/  
Clerk

- 571.2** 0397/16/PAN – Correspondence regarding the terms and conditions of the transfer of Wardhayes to the College had been received from DCC. The property was transferred to the College in 2015 and then included within the assets transferred more recently to the Academy.

- 571.3** Dartmoor Sportive Cycling Event, 27<sup>th</sup> May – The route through the town was noted and that the date coincided with the Rotary May Fair.

Clerk

**572** **Planning Applications** –

**572.1** **0464/18/TPO**

On the proposal of Cllr Marsh, seconded by Cllr Parkins (2 abstentions), it was **RESOLVED** to support the application to fell a Douglas Fir at 32 Leeze Park, Okehampton for safety reasons and as the tree would be replaced with a silver birch.

**572.2** **0423/18/FUL**

On the proposal of Cllr Parkins, seconded by Cllr Cushing (1 abstention), it was **RESOLVED** to OBJECT to the retrospective application to convert a flat and storage area to create 2 additional flats at 34 Fore Street, Okehampton on the grounds:

- Highways Safety - There is no parking provision
- Conservation Area – The property is in a conservation area and consent should be sought with consideration to this and any demolition/alteration work

**572.3** **0538/18/TCA**

On the proposition of Cllr Cushing, seconded by Cllr Parkins, it was **RESOLVED** to support the application for the felling of a Maple tree at Okehampton College due to damage. It was noted that an Oak tree would be planted in its place.

**572.4** **0347/18/HHO**

On the proposition of Cllr Leech, seconded by Cllr Marsh (1 abstention), it was **RESOLVED** to support the application to erect a sun room at 58 Crediton Road, Okehampton.

**573** **Planning Authority Decisions** – The following decisions were noted:

4134/17/TCA    Refused  
4090/17/FUL    Conditional Approval  
3532/17/TPO    Tree works allowed  
0392/18/ARC    Discharge of condition

A motion to suspend Standing Order 3 (z) to permit extension of the meeting was proposed by Cllr Yelland, seconded Cllr Ireland, and **AGREED**.

- 574** **Traffic Sensitive Streets Review Consultation** – On the proposition of Cllr Ireland seconded by Cllr Yelland, it was **RESOLVED** to comment:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the main road through the town is used as a diversion for all traffic when the A30 is closed</li> <li>• That consideration should be given to the inclusion of the junctions of Crediton Road into Barton Road, and George Street/Market Street from the main road</li> <li>• Key times should include communing and school times</li> </ul>	Clerk
575	<b><u>Okehampton Railway Station and Car Park</u></b> – Cllr Ireland reported on issues and a discussion ensued. On the proposition of Cllr Ireland, seconded by Cllr Marsh, it was <b>RESOLVED</b> that Cllr Leech and the Clerk would write to Andrea Davis to establish the facts regarding ownership/leases in place at the station and associated carpark.	Cllr Leech Clerk
576	<b><u>Residents Parking</u></b> – Cllr Parkins, having declared an interest as a resident, requested that the feasibility of permits for residents parking within areas of the town be considered. It was noted that this subject had been examined approximately 5 years ago and not taken forward. Cllr Leech and the Clerk to investigate the options and report to the next meeting.  (Cllr Marsh left the meeting)	Cllr Leech Clerk
577	<b><u>Neighbourhood Plan</u></b> – Cllr Leech reported that the appointed consultant had been unable to complete the work, and the grant received had been refunded. An alternative consultant has been identified and was willing to review progress to date and identify the way forward, initial costs being in the region of £1,000 to £1,500. It was hoped that approximately 10% of the cost would be met by Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council.  On the proposition of Cllr Ireland, seconded by Cllr Yelland (1 abstention) it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to recommend the spend to Full Council for the appointment of the consultant.	Clerk
578	<b><u>Joint Local Plan</u></b> – The Inspection had been postponed, due to the weather, to 21 <sup>st</sup> March.	
579	<b><u>Correspondence</u></b> regarding traffic and redevelopment of land was discussed. Traffic obstruction issues should be referred to the Police, it was noted that the enforcement officer had not been seen for some time. Cllr Leech to respond.	Cllr Leech

## **PART TWO ITEMS**

It was **RESOLVED** that under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item as it involves the likely disclosure of sensitive and confidential information. Proposed by Cllr Yelland, seconded by Cllr Ireland.

580	<b><u>Enforcement Issues</u></b> – The list of current issues, and case recently closed were noted.	
581	<b><u>Traffic and Infrastructure</u></b> – A DCC Officer had been appointed to investigate the issues and would be liaising with Cllr Leech to arrange an initial meeting.	Cllr Leech

582 **Redrow/Archaeologists Meeting** – Cllr Leech reported that the team were aware of where the archaeology might be within the redevelopment area and were being thorough, but did not have a full watching brief. Open days would likely be held.

583 **DCC Land to the East of Okehampton** – Cllr Leech raised concerns and on the proposition of Cllr Leech, seconded by Cllr Ireland, it was **RESOLVED** to request that Cllr Ball and Andrea Davis attend a Part 2 Meeting of the Council to discuss the issues.

Cllr Leech  
Clerk

The meeting moved out of Part Two and ratified decisions taken on the proposition of Cllr Yelland, seconded Cllr Ireland.

584 **TAP Fund Application** – An application to revitalise the finger posts in the town centre on behalf of the Okement Rivers Improvement Group was **APPROVED** on the proposition of Cllr Yelland, seconded by Cllr Ireland. It was noted that the application could be too late to be included on the next Links Meeting agenda.

Clerk

585 **Environmental Permit Application** – Concern was raised regarding the potential smell and the data used to determine the wind direction which was collated in Exeter rather than Okehampton. On the proposition of Cllr Cushing, seconded Cllr Ireland (3 abstentions), it was **RESOLVED** to agree the application for an environmental permit from Forthglade Foods Ltd for the new facility at Higher Stockley Mead, Okehampton.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.05pm

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Councillor Leech  
Chairman

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Dated