

**Minutes of Okehampton Town Council Planning Committee held on  
Monday 3 April 2017 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Okehampton at 7pm**

**Committee Members Present:** Councillor A Leech (Chairman)  
Councillor R Rush (Vice Chairman)  
Councillor T Cummings  
Councillor Mrs V Cushing  
Councillor Dr M Ireland  
Councillor Mrs J Goffey (Town Mayor)  
Councillor D Weekes (Chairman, Property)  
Councillor Mrs J Yelland (Vice Chairman, Policy & Resources)

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

**In Attendance:** P R Snell (Town Clerk)

	<b>Action</b>
569. <b><u>Apologies for Absence</u></b> - Apologies were presented on behalf of Councillors Marsh and Stephens.	
570. <b><u>Deferment of Business</u></b> - No public presence.	
571. <b><u>Urgent Items</u></b> - The Mayor asked Members to consider nominations for Okehampton Mayor's Awards to be submitted by 24 April.	
572. <b><u>Members' Questions</u></b> - Cllr Ireland had noted a barbecue in use outside a shop in Fore Street and asked if a licence was required. He also asked if there was any progress concerning parking on the pavement outside Sezam. The Chairman agreed to enquire further at West Devon Borough Council and Okehampton Matters. Cllr Ireland further enquired where it was appropriate to raise an issue of rowdy behaviour involving damage to a parked car in the Hunters Gate area. Cllr Goffey said she would take this to Okehampton Matters if she had the details supplied.	Cllr Leech  Cllr Goffey
573. <b><u>Minutes</u></b> - The minutes of the Planning Committees held on 30 January, 13 February, 6 and 13 March 2017 were approved and signed on the proposition of Cllr Ireland, seconded Cllr Yelland.	
574. <b><u>Matters Arising</u></b> - The Clerk reminded the Committee that, arising out of the December meeting on planning issues when Cllr Sanders and Mr Whymer had attended, Mr Whymer had sent a formal response to the issues raised. This had been circulated to all Members in March. It was agreed to put this on the next agenda for consideration.	Clerk
575. <b><u>Planning Applications</u></b> - Cllr Yelland declared a personal interest as a Member of the West Devon Borough Council Licensing and Planning Committee and abstained from voting.	

**0393/17/ADV**

Advertisement consent.

Retrospective advertisement consent application for 2 externally illuminated fascia signs at 3 Estate House, West Street, Okehampton EX20 1JZ.

Mr J Brockett

**Resolved to support the application on the proposition of Cllr Weekes, seconded Cllr Cummings.**

**576. Planning Authority Decisions** - The Committee noted the decisions made by West Devon Borough Council as follows:

00938/2015 – Refusal for erection of 2 residential dwellings adjacent to Castleford

3488/16/TPO – Tree works allowed at Maesbury, Darkey Lane

3891/16/FUL – Conditional approval to retain original fire station and convert to a 3-bed dwelling at the site of Bob’s Garage

3914/16/HHO – Conditional approval for alterations to double garage

3178/16/TPO – Refusal for removal of TPO T1: Ash

00911/2015 – Certificate of Lawfulness to listed building granted

0195/17/HHO – Conditional approval to widen access for off-road parking.

**577. Joint Local Plan** - The Chairman reported on the consultation events organised by West Devon Borough Council during March and on the briefings that WDBC Members had received on the Joint Local Plan (JLP). Councillors of both Town and Hamlets had also met informally last Thursday to discuss areas of common interest and the parameters for response to the consultation set out by WDBC.

It was agreed that a Planning Committee scheduled for 24 April (before closure of consultation on 26<sup>th</sup>) would include consideration of a formal response from Okehampton Town Council to the consultation. In order for this to happen, Members were asked to submit their contribution by not later than 18 April to Cllr Leech, copied to the Town Clerk. The key areas of focus were:

- prioritisation of the Exeter Road-Crediton Road link
- prioritisation of a town centre relief road
- emphasis of employment and infrastructure before residential development
- alternatives to eastward extension of the settlement boundary
- emphasis on a functioning town centre.

All Members

**578. Chairman’s Reports** -

**578.1 Strategic Housing and Land Availability Assessment** - Cllr Leech reported on the submissions of land offers received in the Neighbourhood Planning process; that there was a mix of potential brown-and greenfield sites and that the next step would be to classify the identified areas for purpose through public consultation prior to policies being formulated.

**578.2 Settlement Boundary** - Cllr Leech produced a map showing the settlement boundary for Okehampton and Hamlets Parishes and reported that the

boundary had been altered to the east to reflect the outline planning permission that had been granted for parcel 4, which was previously outside the boundary. It was hoped that the offers of land elsewhere within the town and to the west of Okehampton would result in the development of this parcel not proceeding.

**579. Members' Report and Reminders for Agenda Items -**

- (i) Dartmoor Railway Supporters' Association (Cllr Ireland) - The Sunday Rover Service due to operate between 21 May and 10 September, but the 08 shunter is currently under repair and there is a concern that there may not be a locomotive to power the heritage trains during this period. Great Western had undertaken to produce leaflets for the outgoing and inbound services.
- (ii) Ockment Centre (Cllr Leech) - Volunteers had now succeeded in removing all plants from the gardens thereby creating more open space.

**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 Cummings, seconded Cllr Yelland.

**Action**

- 580. Review of Enforcement Cases** - The Clerk reported on the enforcement cases list noting changes from the previous version. Three cases had been closed as being not expedient to pursue.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.23 pm.

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**Councillor Leech**  
**Chairman**