

**Minutes of a Remote Okehampton Town Council Extra Ordinary Planning Committee  
Meeting held on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 9.30am**

**Committee Members Present:** Councillor T Leech (Chairman)  
Councillor J Yelland (Mayor)  
Councillor J Goffey (Chairman, Property)  
Councillor C Marsh (Chairman, Parks)  
Councillor B Tolley (Chairman, Policy & Resources)  
Councillor M Ireland

**Other Members Present:** Councillor D Sanger

**In Attendance:** Mrs Emma James (Town Clerk)  
2 members of the public

|  | <b>Action</b> |
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| 278 <b><u>Declaration of Interests</u></b> – Cllr Yelland declared a personal interest in items 282 and 283 being a Member of WDBC’s Planning Committee  |               |
| 279 <b><u>Apologies for Absence</u></b> – Apologies received from Cllr Jessop who was unable to attend due to work commitments were approved on the proposition of Cllr Goffey, seconded Cllr Ireland.<br>Apologies received from Cllr Holt who was not a member of the Committee were noted.  |               |
| 280 <b><u>Deferments of Business</u></b> – A member of the public raised an issue regarding parking along the street in which he lives in Okehampton and explained the existing constraints. Residents parking permits were requested to be considered. Cllr Leech advised that DCC were the responsible body and that a consultation would be required.<br><br>(Cllr Marsh arrived)<br><br>Cllr Leech advised that he would be happy to take the issue forward to DCC.<br><br>(1 member of the public left the meeting) | Cllr Leech    |
| 281 <b><u>Members Questions</u></b> – Cllr Ireland requested an update on a previously raised issue which would be followed up.  | Cllr Leech    |
| 282 <b><u>Premises Licence Application</u></b> – On the proposition of Cllr Tolley, seconded Cllr Goffey (1 abstention) it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to support the variation application amendments at The Co-op, 2 Market Street, Okehampton.  | Clerk         |
| 283 <b><u>WDBC Licensing Consultation</u></b> – On the proposition of Cllr Ireland, seconded Cllr Tolley (1 abstention), it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to agree to the consultation subject to amendment of the wording in clause 5.4.3 to include the words ‘to WDBC’ as follows: ‘Alternatively, the authority may advise the individual to request their local councillor make a representation to <u>WDBC</u> on their behalf.’   | Clerk         |
| 284 <b><u>Devon County Council (Crediton Road &amp; Chichacott Road, Okehampton) (Restricted Road &amp; 30mph Speed Limit) Order LAB/B17479-5757</u></b> – Debate took place and comments were made including the proximity of the road to the new primary and the potential need for a 20mph zone outside the school at each end of the school day.<br><br>On the proposition of Cllr Tolley, seconded Cllr Ireland (4 in favour, 2 against), it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to agree the proposal for a 30mph speed limit.     | Clerk         |

285 **Consultation – Changes to the Current Planning System** – Cllr Leech had attended a presentation recently in relation to the proposals, the aim was to speed up the planning process. WDBC was not seeking to canvas wider opinion as this was a consultation they were also responding to.

(Cllr Tolley left the meeting)

Concerns were raised that; it was not suitable for rural areas; green areas would be developed instead of brown field sites, the affordability threshold would increase, the current 5 year land supply could be depleted a lot quicker, retention/protection of good agricultural land was essential.

(Cllr Marsh left the meeting)

The algorithm approach being used in relation to affordability may not be appropriate for some areas, especially rural areas, the system would be reviewed on an annual basis so would be constantly changing.

The housing standard was proposed to be improved through building regulations. The ratio between house prices and income would increase significantly in areas such as Cornwall, local people working and servicing the tourism and other industries could be forced into sub-standard housing. An increase in second homes would increase the disparity.

On the proposition of Cllr Leech, seconded Cllr Ireland, it was **RESOLVED** to submit a response using Cllr Yelland's answers as a base, other Members to fill in any gaps which would be sent to all Members for comment and formulate the Council's response for submission by the Clerk.

(A member of the public left the meeting)

286 **Consultation – Planning for the Future White Paper** – Cllr Leech report that development plans would have to be completed within 30 months, there were fixed timescales for each of the stages. The neighbourhood plan remit under the proposed system was not clear and he commented upon other aspects of the paper including CIL.

On the proposition of Cllr Goffey, seconded Cllr Ireland, it was **RESOLVED** to defer the item to the Planning Committee meeting scheduled to take place on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020, Members to consider a draft response prepared by Cllr Yelland and submit any comments they had to the Clerk for circulation prior to that meeting.

Clerk

Members/  
Clerk

The Chairman closed the meeting at 11.25am.

**Councillor Leech**  
**Chairman**