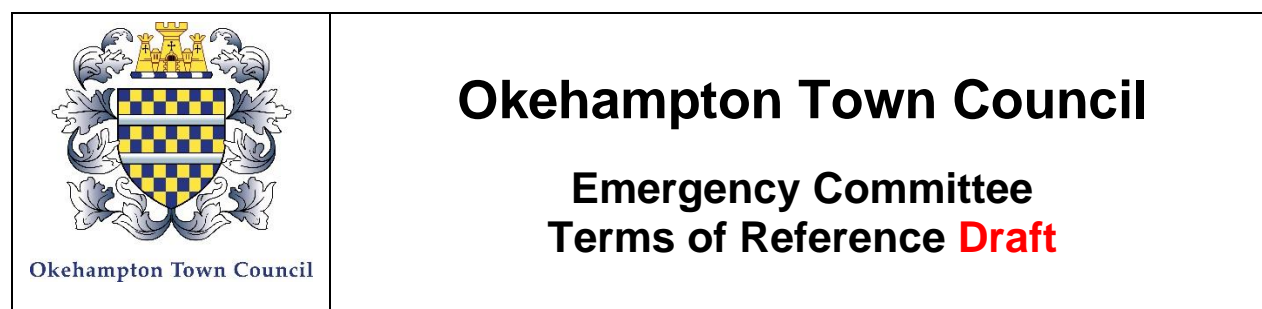


Okehampton Town Council
Full Council Meeting 26th June 2023
Meeting Report

Date:	19 th June 2023
Name:	Emma James

Terms of Reference - To resolve to approve the following Terms of Reference:

Note – the other Terms of Reference were previously circulated with the relevant Committee paperwork to all Councillors.



Membership

The core constitution of the Emergency Committee shall be the Mayor, and the Chair of each of the Council's Committees (Parks, Planning, Policy & Resources and Property).

The Chairman of the Committee shall be chosen from the Members serving on the Committee.

Purpose

This committee will only normally convene, at the request of the Clerk or Assistant Clerk, in the event of a major disruption or emergency which:

- is likely to affect the Council's overall ability to undertake its normal day to day business or the running of its services as set out in the Business Continuity Plan, or
- in the event that there is a major emergency affecting the larger Okehampton area as set out in the Emergency Policy

Terms of Reference

1. Following an incident directly affecting the Council, to assess the overall impact on the delivery of the council's services in line with the Business Continuity Plan
2. Following a major emergency affecting the larger Okehampton area, to assess the overall impact to the community and how the council can assist Emergency Services and residents

Budget

In the that immediate remedial action is required, the Committee may consider suspension of the council's Financial Regulations allowing work to be undertaken without the need to obtain 3 quotations or estimates, up to a value of ~~£2,000~~ £4,000 (note this is in line with Financial Regulations which were updated in 2022)

Payment of Expenses – To have authority to authorise cheque and BACS payments for all invoices and expenses, during the course of an emergency situation.

Reporting

The Committee shall report to meetings of the full Council as and when necessary.

Emergency Planning – To resolve to create a Task & Finish Group to create an Emergency Plan and to liaise with Launceston Town Council, and others at their invitation, to work collaboratively in this regard.

With the ever-increasing evidence of extreme weather events, some of which appear to be very localised, e.g. the recent flooding in Devon, I believe it would be to the mutual advantage of the towns we represent if we were to discuss the options that might be available to us so that, in the event of another such event, we might be able to seek/obtain (comparatively) local support and assistance. In that way it might be possible for any of the areas to benefit from the resources available in nearby towns.

You will notice that this e-mail is addressed to Town Council's in Devon as well as Cornwall. I realise that may cause a few raised eyebrows but I personally believe that a County boundary should not stand in the way of providing support to a nearby community that requires help.

I believe that if this suggestion has any merit it should be discussed to establish the extent of that support and, if it exists, how we might proceed. To address that question I would suggest that in the first instance we should convene a "virtual meeting" which would hopefully include one or more representatives from each of the Councils to which this e-mail is addressed.

If you and your Council hold similar views I would be grateful if you would indicate your acceptance of my suggestion to convene a virtual meeting. Should there be some acceptance I will begin to make the necessary arrangements with a view to holding a meeting - probably just after the main summer holiday season - possibly in early September.

20's Plenty for Devon – To consider correspondence in relation to joining the campaign for a reduced speed limit in cities, towns and villages in Devon and the appointment of a Councillor/s to represent the Council at any meetings that may arise and to which committee they will report

You may be aware that a growing number of Devon Parish Councils are campaigning to make 20mph the default speed limit where people and motor vehicles mix, with 30mph being an exception.

These Parish Councils have started their campaigns with the support of 20's Plenty for Us, a not-for-profit organisation which campaigns to make cities, towns and villages better places to be.

I am supporting the campaign through my role at Totnes Town Council as any effort put into getting 20mph limits locally might as well be put into the Devon-wide campaign to get DCC to change their default policy.

We are now trying to contact those Parish Councils that are not yet involved (as far as we know) to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to participate in this countywide initiative. Could you therefore please bring this email to the attention of your councillors.

If you already support this campaign, please do let us know and we will add you to our ever-growing map: <https://shorturl.at/imgEP>

We have two webinars coming up: **28 June, 1-2pm** and **6 July, 7.30-8.30pm**.

We can also arrange for 20's Plenty for Us to give you a Zoom presentation directly if neither of these dates are suitable.

- There is increasing evidence that residents (and voters) want a 20mph default speed limit. They are fed up with intimidatory and anti-social driving, air and noise pollution and in particular they are concerned for their own safety and that of their families.

- There is now a considerable amount of research showing that the introduction of 20mph limits can be low cost and bring wide benefits, including fewer road casualties, less air and noise pollution, and increased walking and cycling.
- At present, Devon County Council's process for introducing 20mph limits is expensive, slow, ad-hoc and village-by-village. We are asking them to change their speed management policy to make 20mph affordable for local communities.
- Devon and Cornwall Police have indicated that they are supportive of 20mph limits. Even without their support, the evidence suggests that the imposition of 20mph limits means that drivers voluntarily reduce their speeds by up to 6 mph on faster roads.

If you or your Parish Council are interested in becoming part of this campaign, please reply to this email or visit the 20's Plenty for Us website (<https://www.20splenty.org>) or ask any questions. Whatever you decide to do, please let us know.

We have also prepared a map showing which parishes are already supporting 20mph. It would be great to see your parish represented there: <https://shorturl.at/imqEP>

Active Travel Project – To note correspondence providing an update on the West Devon Borough Council and South Hams District Council cycling and walking project and consider the appointment of a Councillor/s to represent the Council at any meetings that may arise and to which committee they will report

We are excited to now be in a position to provide you with more information about the cycling and walking project that is currently underway. We have appointed active travel consultants Phil Jones Associates together with Cycling UK to deliver this exciting piece of work, which is being funded from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. This project is due to conclude at the end of this year.

The project has two halves that will come together to recommend a series of prioritised infrastructure measures and behaviour change initiatives in our main towns/larger villages (listed below for your information). The infrastructure side of the project is known as a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP), this looks at existing circumstances and how things might beneficially change. It comprises a number of stages, as outlined below, throughout which we would like to work with you. These stages include:

1. Gathering data. The LCWIP is a data led project to map demand for future walking and cycling routes in our towns.
2. Identifying the main active travel routes between where people live and where they travel to
3. Auditing the main routes in each town and identifying barriers to active travel on these
4. Creating a prioritised list of interventions in each town to be supported if funding becomes available
5. Ensuring the outcomes of this project are integrated into Neighbourhood plans, Local Plans, Transport plans etc

There will be three main periods for engagement with Town/Parishes in this project as outlined below,

When	Format	Purpose	Before the event please can you:
W/C 26th Jun 23	Virtual meeting	PJA will introduce the project Discuss shared goals	Please come with knowledge of any policies/priorities which are likely to align/misalign with this project Timeline for projects that may interface with this work Local knowledge of known problem areas in your town/village Local knowledge of relevant community groups to be engaged
End of summer 23	Virtual meeting, with follow up discussions	PJA to share emerging active travel routes PJA to outline possible infrastructure solutions Identify other stakeholders to engage Discuss public consultation Discuss behaviour change work	Think about good stories contributing to getting more people walking, wheeling or cycling in your area Details of any other public consultation or events happening Knowledge of any organisational/institutional barriers to moving the project along
Sept/Oct 23	Virtual meeting, with follow up discussions	PJA to share confirmed active travel routes and list of interventions identified Discuss funding Identifying integration with other policies/priorities Identifying any obstacles	

as well as continuous engagement with yourselves and other stakeholders throughout. It should also be noted that as Devon County are the Highway Authority they will play a critical role in this project and the recommended outcomes.

On the behaviour change side of this work, Cycling UK will shortly release a public survey that will be followed by workshops and in-depth interviews. We will send a separate email on this side of the project so this email doesn't get any longer!

In you have any questions on this project in advance of your first engagement meeting, or you want to send any relevant information on your town please do get in touch.

Identified settlements in West Devon within the LCWIP project:

Main towns	Okehampton Tavistock
Smaller towns and key villages	Bere Alston Hatherleigh Lifton
Local centres as defined by Dartmoor National Park local plan.	Chagford Horrabridge Princetown Yelverton