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Okehampton Town Council

**Minutes of an Okehampton Town Council Planning Committee Meeting
held on 12th January 2026 at 6.30pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Okehampton**

Members Present:

Councillor T Leech (Chairman) Councillor B Tolley (Chairman, Parks)
Councillor T Cummings
Councillor M Richards
Councillor J Yelland

In Attendance:

Mrs E James (Clerk)

480. Apologies for Absence

On the proposition of Cllr Cummings, seconded by Cllr Tolley, it was **RESOLVED** to accept apologies tendered by Cllr Bird (personal), Cllr Colman (illness) and Cllr Ireland (illness).

481. Declarations of Interest

None.

482. Public Participation

None.

483. Members' Questions

Concern was raised by Councillors about the road closure situation in relation to the gas mains replacement. The works was impacting businesses because of lack of footfall, short taxi rides were longer and costing more, people were choosing not to come into the town. Food delivery services both during the day and evenings were impacted as were groups and organisations such as the Okehampton District Community Transport Group.

A Facebook post earlier in the day by Cllr Grainger, DCC, stated he had negotiated with the contractor and part of the road closure was being lifted, but this was subject to drivers following the diversion. The closure would still need to be reinstated for future work in that area.

(Cllr Fisher arrived).

The Clerk would attempt to establish from DCC the situation and obtain diversion maps and routes, and would forward correspondence to DCC if necessary.

484. Planning Applications

[3495/25/TPO](#) T014 & T018 Ash – sectionally dismantle, fell and remove to ground level, dieback present. T016 Ash – sectionally dismantle, fell and remove to ground level, dead. Rivers Edge Court, Oaklands Drive, Okehampton.

On the proposition of Cllr Cummings, seconded by Cllr Tolley, it was **RESOLVED** to make a split comment following the advice of WDBC's Tree Specialist objecting to the felling of T018

and agreeing to the felling of T014 and T016 subject to them being replaced with Beech trees.

[3625/25/VAR](#) Application for variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning consent 3045/23/FUL. 1-8 Simmons Close, Okehampton.

On the proposition of Cllr Cummings, seconded by Cllr Tolley, it was **RESOLVED** to support the application.

485. Withdrawn Applications

The following withdrawn applications were noted.

[2703/25/FUL](#) Installation of 1 x digital advertising structure. Pavement adjacent to Waitrose, School Way, Okehampton.

[2704/25/ADV](#) Advertisement consent for 1 x digital advertising structure (two-sided display). Pavement adjacent to Waitrose, School Way, Okehampton.

[3216/25/FUL](#) Retrospective Change of use of existing Class C3 (flat) to Class E (Commercial, Business and Service). 4 Church Street, St James Street, Okehampton.

486. 2354/25/FUL – Land at SX 612 953 Stockley

Correspondence relating to the application was noted by the Committee.

487. Urgent Item

The Chairman requested information about materials left on a verge in the Simmons Way area.

The meeting was closed at 7.05pm.

Cllr Leech, Chairman