

**Minutes of Okehampton Town Council Planning Committee held on  
Monday 24 August 2015 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Okehampton at 7.00 pm**

**Committee Members Present:** Councillor A Leech (Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs J Goffey  
Councillor Dr M Ireland  
Councillor R Rush  
Councillor D Weekes  
Councillor P Vachon (Town Mayor)  
Councillor Mrs C Marsh (Chairman Parks) from 7.45 pm  
Councillor Mrs J Yelland (for Chairman P & R)

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

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

	<b>Action</b>
<p><b>149. <u>Apologies for Absence</u></b> - Apologies for absence were presented on behalf of Councillors Cummings, Cushing and Stephens.</p>	
<p><b>150. <u>Urgent Items for Information</u></b> - The Chairman reminded Members of the Developers' Forum scheduled for 7 September at Kilworthy which was open to all Councillors from Okehampton Town and Hamlets Parish Council.</p>	
<p><b>151. <u>Deferment of Business</u></b> - No members of the public present.</p>	
<p><b>152. <u>Members' Questions</u></b> - (i) Councillor Vachon enquired on progress concerning the shutters installed at the Plume of Feathers. The Chairman reported that the objection has been registered. (ii) Councillor Ireland registered an inquiry from the 318 town bus driver concerning parking at the top of North Street. It was noted that there was a high visibility of Traffic Enforcement Officers, and this should assist in deterring inappropriate parking causing obstruction to through traffic. It was suggested that a letter drop be arranged for businesses possibly parking at the top of North Street and also at the junction of Mill Road to the Mill Road car park requesting co-operation in responsible parking. The Chairman agreed to speak directly to businesses concerned.</p>	Cllr Leech
<p><b>153. <u>Minutes</u></b> - The minutes of the Planning Committees held on Monday 29 June and Monday 27 July 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman on the proposition of Councillor Ireland, seconded Councillor Goffey and agreed.</p>	
<p><b>154. <u>Matters Arising</u></b> -</p>	

	<b>Action</b>
<p><b>154.1 Mortuary Arrangements</b> - The Clerk had investigated an issue of mortuary arrangements in principle reporting that arrangements were normally made through County and with local hospitals or undertakers and sought clarification of the particular aspect of concern. It was understood that when the new Okehampton Hospital was built, provision for mortuary provision was minimal. It was agreed that more substantive data was required and Councillor Yelland agreed to research this and report back.</p>	Cllr Yelland
<p><b>155. <u>Planning Applications:</u></b>  <b>00699/2015</b>  Full.  Householder application for single storey rear extension at 20 Maceys Terrace, North Street, Okehampton EX20 1BJ  <b>After discussion it was proposed to support the application on the proposition of Councillor Goffey, seconded Councillor Weekes and agreed.</b></p>	
<p><b>156. <u>Prior Notification Applications</u></b> - The Committee noted the following application for which no consultation was required under Part 3W of the General Permitted Development Order 2015:  <b>00696/2015</b>  Application for lawful development certificate for a proposed use or development for a change of use of first and second floor office space to residential flat at 20-22 Fore Street, Okehampton EX20 1AJ.</p>	
<p><b>157. <u>Planning Decisions</u></b> - The Committee noted the following decisions:  <b>00376/2015, 00401/2015, 00478/2015, 00485/2015, 00486/2015, 00570/2015, 00612/2015.</b></p>	
<p><b>158. <u>Our Plan</u></b> - Councillor Leech reported that the Borough Council were still working on the draft stages of Our Plan.</p>	
<p><b>159. <u>Market Street Pelican Crossing Lights</u></b> - The Chairman reported that he had attempted to contact Devon County Council with reference to the gridlock that was increasingly frequent in Market Street and Fore Street due to traffic light sequencing, eventually receiving an unhelpful and unsatisfactory response. The key problem appeared to be the timing of the lights at the pelican crossing. It was agreed that the County Council should again be contacted to request some positive action be taken to adjust the timing initiated by activation of the pedestrian button.</p>	Clerk
<p><b>160. <u>Section 106 Agreement - 318 Bus</u></b> - The Chairman reported he was in the process of researching the Section 106 Agreement that had reportedly been made available to support the town bus service. The Committee noted items of correspondence that had been sent to the Town Council expressing concern and disappointment at the imminent loss of the 318 service. Both the Chairman and Councillor Goffey had sent personal replies in some cases.</p>	

On the proposition of Councillor Goffey, seconded Councillor Yelland, it was agreed to send a freedom of information request to Devon County Council to obtain detailed running costs of the 318 town bus service, to include analysis of income from receipts and bus passes.

**Action**

Clerk

**161. Members' Reports/Reminder for Agenda Items -**

- (i) Dartmoor Railway Supporters' Association - Councillor Ireland reported that the opening of the Museum had received very positive press coverage. It was further reported that, in view of the Sundays that were likely to be lost due to First Great Western's strike action, the Sunday Rover service would be extended for either 1 or 2 additional Sundays in September. The Sunday Rover service was continuing to experience great usage.
- (ii) Ockment Centre - Councillor Leech had no formal report, but commented that a large number of organisations were currently using the Ockment Centre from time to time.

**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 Councillor Ireland, seconded Councillor Weekes and agreed.

**Action**

**162. Review of Enforcement Cases**

The meeting was closed at 8.05 pm.

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**Councillor Leech**  
**Chairman**