

**Minutes of Okehampton Town Council Planning Committee Meeting held on
Monday 16 September 2013 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Fore Street,
Okehampton at 7.00 pm**

Committee Members Present: Councillor A Leech (Chair)
Councillor Mrs J Goffey (Vice Chair)
Councillor C Letchford
Councillor P Vachon
Councillor Dr M Ireland
Councillor Mrs C Marsh (Chair, Parks)

Other Members Present: Councillor T Cummings (Vice Chair, P & R)

In Attendance: Mrs J Gillard (Deputising for Town Clerk)

199. **Apologies for Absence** - Apologies for absence were presented on behalf of Councillor M Davies and Councillor Mrs M McDonald.
200. **Deferment of Business** - (for comment by the public) - There were no members of the public present.
201. **Members' Questions** - There were no questions from Members regarding the workings of the Committee.
202. **Minutes** - The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 5 August 2013 were approved and signed by the Chair on the proposition of Councillor Dr M Ireland, seconded by Councillor C Letchford.
203. **Matters Arising** -
- 203.1 **Buses/Bus Stops** - No update, carry forward to next agenda.
- 203.2 **Green Spaces/TPO's** - No update, carry forward to next agenda.
204. **Plans** - See attached appendix A for list of plans received.
205. **Past Planning Applications** -
- (i) 00690/2013 Okehampton Rugby Club - conditional consent granted for demolition of building, siting of steel storage container etc.
 - (ii) 00720/2013 71 Exeter Road, Okehampton - conditional consent noted for erection of dwelling.
 - (iii) It was also noted that the Indian Restaurant application had recently been withdrawn and that the Tesco application had been refused.
206. **Planning Enforcement** - The Chair advised that West Devon Borough Council were now undertaking a more pro-active approach to enforcement, but this was designed to be helpful to the residents. List of current enforcements reviewed and held in Town Hall for Councillors if required.

207. **East of Okehampton Masterplan** - The Chair advised the plan was due to go to West Devon Committee on 17 September and then for public consultation. Highways were being consulted about the access from the new developments onto Crediton Road and also the possible access from area 5 to Exeter Road. The Chair also outlined details of a Rent Plus Scheme, an alternative to affordable housing, this has been adopted by Plymouth City Council and is being considered by West Devon Borough Council. A definition of 'local person' was discussed and the narrative is now available from West Devon Borough Council. The Chair also advised of a Business Voice Initiative.
208. **Licensing Changes** - The Chair advised that it is likely there are to be licensing requirements introduced, this is still being discussed by government bodies at present, more information to follow.
209. **Appearance of Town** - The Chair advised he has not been able to see the appropriate personnel at West Devon to discuss some of these issues. It was also noted that some of the untidy grass areas have now been cut. It was agreed to retain this item on the agenda for future meetings in order that further issues can be discussed.
210. **Members' Reports** -
- (i) Ockment Centre - the Chair advised that Mrs L Svensson is leaving the Centre at the end of September.
 - (ii) Devon Voice - no report.
 - (iii) Dartmoor Railway Supporters' Association - Councillor Ireland advised the last Sunday trains were due to operate 15 September and that the trains had been financially successful. He also advised that the Association had introduced a new Health and Safety document and procedures and that refurbishment of a coach has virtually been completed. He also stated that the letter sent by the Council to other local councils requesting support for the introduction of the rail service from Exeter to Okehampton had received very favourable responses. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs C Marsh and seconded by Councillor M Ireland that a résumé of the support received be sent to Devon County Council, Devon and Exeter Rail Committee, agreed by all Councillors.
 - (iv) Okehampton Matters - meeting to be held this week.
 - (v) Okehampton Vision - meeting to be held this week.

Councillor A Leech
Chairman

Appendix A to Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 16 September 2013

00804/2013 258756,94979

Tree application

Application to carry out works to trees under Tree Preservation Order for the removal of branches overhanging the car park, club and river and the reduction of all other branches to 4m above ground height - works are to sycamore and laurel located on the westerly boundary of Okehampton Table Tennis Club

Okehampton Table Tennis Club, Castle Road, Okehampton EX20 1HT

Okehampton Table Tennis Club

Members resolved to support this application.

00816/2013 258853,95252

Full

Replacement aluminium information board

Okehampton Baptist Church, Fore Street, Okehampton EX20 1AN

Rev Barry Walton

Members resolved to support this application as the replacement would enhance the appearance of the area.

00840/2013 258620,95012

Full

Conversion of existing property to form three one-bedroomed flats

4 Mount Prospect, High Street, Okehampton EX20 1JW

Mrs A Burdus

Members resolved to support this application as it would be an enhancement to the area, however would like to raise a question and ask for clarification on the parking arrangements for the new units.

00907/2013 259237,95077

Full

Householder application for erection of single storey rear extension

25 Simmons Way, Okehampton EX20 1PY

Mr Francis

Councillors resolved to support this application.