

**Minutes of Okehampton Town Council Planning Committee Meeting held on
Monday 8th July 2013 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall,
Fore Street, Okehampton at 7 pm**

Committee Members Present: Councillor A Leech (Chair)
Councillor Mrs J Goffey (Vice Chair)
Councillor C Letchford
Councillor D Pledger
Councillor P Vachon
Councillor Dr M Ireland
Councillor M Davies (Town Mayor)
Councillor Mrs C Marsh (Chair, Parks)
Councillor Mrs M McDonald (Chair, Policy & Resources)

Other Members Present:

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

83. **Apologies for Absence** - There were no apologies for absence presented.
84. **Deferment of Business** – (for comment by the public) – There were no members of the public present.
85. **Members Questions** – Councillor M Ireland raised concerns over the BID ballot process as a businessman had emailed all Councillors recently in connection with the process. The Clerk advised that WDBC were rechecking the list of electors and referring to their Legal Department and they would give an update once this had been completed. The Chair also advised he had discussed the situation with WDBC solicitors. Councillor Mrs M McDonald requested the list of streets covered in the ballot be checked prior to next week’s full Council meeting.
86. **Minutes** – The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 3rd June 2013 were approved and signed by the Chair on the proposition of Councillor Mrs J Goffey, seconded by Councillor M Ireland.
87. **Matters Arising** –
- 87.1 **Western Greyhound Buses** – The Acting Clerk said this was raised at the recent Eastern Links meeting, no current issues were reported by representatives of Parishes covered by the bus routes.
- 87.2 **Green Spaces/TPOs** – The Clerk reported there was an On Line Tool, Parish On Line developed for Councils where maps could be marked with items relevant to the Council. Agreed this looked worthwhile and an item be added to next Policy and Resources agenda to obtain agreement to signing up to this tool.
88. **Plans** – 00597/2013, Full application, change of use from A2 (office) to A3 (restaurant). Rajpoot Indian Restaurant, Bridge House, 25 Fore Street, Okehampton.

Councillors resolved to support the application, all were in favour, Councillor Mrs Marsh abstaining.

89. Past Planning Applications -

00493/2013 Works to trees in a conservation area at 58 Station Road, Okehampton, WDBC advise they will not be making a TPO and felling of trees approved.

00473/2013 Installation of Bio Mass heat cabin at Okehampton College, notice of conditional consent, noted.

90. Okehampton Masterplan – The Chair reported the consultation had commenced. A joint meeting is arranged for 23rd July, 7pm at Okehampton Town Hall, with Rebecca Black, WDBC, Town Council and Hamlets Parish Council, all encouraged to attend. Aimed for the report to be completed in September. Cllr Leech raised concerns over the infrastructure requirements – health services, social services, community services in particular. Cllr Davies advised he would try to obtain copy of presentation used at recent Health Forum he attended.

91. Renewable Energy and Planning Guidance – The Chair reported WDBC have agreed guidance and the document is available online for consultation. All encouraged to respond.

92. Members Reports –

Ockment Centre - The Chair reported that Okehampton and Tavistock Information Service (OTIS) partnership has been created consisting of Ockment Centre, CAB, CVS, Kingdon House Community Association, Job Centre Plus and Community Transport Group. The change in the CAB structure has meant a delay in receipt of the Lottery funding but the group will be officially created in August. They have advertised for a Trainer, Service Development post and a Business Development post.
Devon Voice – no report.

Dartmoor Railway Supporters Association – Councillor Ireland advised DRSA were looking into the possibility of running trains on the 4 Sundays in August by chartering trains from BARS. They request support from the Town Council and the Chair agreed this be put to full Council.

Okehampton Matters – next meeting due 18 July.

Okehampton Vision - Councillor Vachon reported that subjects covered at recent meeting were Community Energy Plans, BID process, community loyalty card, Masterplan and Neighbourhood Plan, concern over costs of Link Road between Exeter Road and Crediton Road and concerns that if the density of houses is reduced in the Crediton Road developments that developments would have to take place in other areas.

Meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

Councillor A Leech, Chairman