

**Minutes of Okehampton Town Council Planning Committee Meeting held on  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber,  
Town Hall, Okehampton**

**Committee Members Present:** Councillor A Leech (Chairman)  
Councillor R Rush  
Councillor Mrs V Cushing  
Councillor Dr M Ireland  
Councillor Mrs J Goffey (Town Mayor)  
Councillor Mrs J Yelland

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

**In Attendance:** Mrs E James (Town Clerk)

	<b>Action</b>
<p><b>Declarations of Interest – Members are reminded that they should declare any relevant interest in the items to be considered.</b> Cllr Yelland declared an interest in planning applications 1771/17/FUL and 2131/17/TCA and also a general interest as she is on the West Devon District Council Licensing and Planning Committee.</p>	
<p><b>89 <u>Apologies for Absence</u></b> – Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Cllr Marsh</p>	
<p><b>90 <u>Deferments of Business</u></b> - There were no members of the public present.</p>	
<p><b>91 <u>Members Questions</u></b> – Cllr Ireland enquired as to progress on previous parking issues. The Chairman advised that they had been passed to Cllr Ball, no feedback had been received. Cllr Ireland also advised that an area of grassland towards Crediton was frequently used for the parking of commercial vehicles.</p> <p>Cllr Cushing enquired about promised double yellow lines. The Chairman advised that DCC were attending on 20<sup>th</sup> July to view the area. Land in Simmons Park proposal to be used as additional sports facilities was briefly discussed.</p> <p>Cllr Tolley advised that the audible sound on the pedestrian crossing in East Street was not working and that the cycle path in North Street was being used for the parking of vehicles. The commitment given to Okehampton by the authority responsible for the enforcement of parking issues to be established.</p>	Cllr Leech
<p><b>92 <u>Minutes</u></b> – Minutes of 15<sup>th</sup> May and 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017 were approved and signed, having been proposed by Cllr Ireland and seconded by Cllr Goffey.</p>	
<p><b>93 <u>Matters Arising</u></b> – A response from Cllr’s Ball and Davies regarding an email send on 6<sup>th</sup> June relating to issues in the High Street was awaited. <b>Resolved, on proposal by Cllr Cushing seconded by Cllr Goffey, that another two weeks to be given as a response time, failing which a higher authority to be contacted.</b></p>	Cllr Leech
<p><b>94 <u>Planning Applications</u></b> – Cllr Yelland abstained from voting on both applications, having previously declared an interest.</p>	

**a) 1771/17/FUL**

Application for a new dwelling on land adjacent to 10 Upper Crooked Meadow, Okehampton, EX20 1WW

**Resolved to object to the application on the proposition of Cllr Goffey, seconded Cllr Ireland, on the grounds of density, the size and levels of the site, the impact on the neighbours, and surface water drainage.**

**b) 2131/17/TCA**

Application to fell and remove 1 x monkey puzzle and 2 x conifer trees, 38 Station Road, Okehampton

**Resolved to request further information regarding the application on the proposition of Cllr Leech, Chairman.**

- 95** **Planning Authority Decisions** – The below decisions were noted by the Committee:

**0443/17/TPO** – Refused

Felling and removal of T1 beech, 11 Steeperton Close, Okehampton

**1786/17/TCA** – Exempt

Works to a tree in a conservation area, Okehampton Community College

**1008/17/FUL** – Conditional Approval

Removal of existing steps and provision of an internal ramp, Royal Bank of Scotland

- 96** **Appeal Received: APP/Q1153/W/17/3171503** – Application 00938/2015  
Erection of 2 residential buildings, land adjacent to Castleford, Castle Road, Okehampton. The Committee noted that the address was incorrect, the land referred to being almost opposite Castleford, not adjacent to, but that it could not be changed after advertisement.

- 97** **Deferment of Item 7 (Min Ref 16) from 15<sup>th</sup> May Meeting** – Cllr Yelland declared a personal interest being a West Devon Borough Council member. A discussion took place regarding what could be classified as a reasonable section 106 funding amount.  
**On the proposal of Cllr Rush, seconded by Cllr Ireland (one abstention), it was resolved that Mr Pat Whymer be requested to review the Committee's assessment of 106 funding, to comment on the previous year's funding and that of upcoming proposed development.**

- 98** **Town Centre Access Road** – The issue would be discussed under Part 2.

- 99** **Retrospective Plan, 23 The Heathers, Okehampton** – The Committee had objected to the application and had requested that it be referred to the WDBC Planning Committee. Cllr Leech reported that WDBC could use delegated powers to decide on the application and that he had reluctantly agreed with that decision.

- 100** **Moyses Lane, Okehampton** – Item already discussed under matters arising.

- 101** **Items for information** –

**a) Development Management Briefing Paper:** The previously circulated paper, containing information regarding a consultation which may lead to the

Cllr Leech

discontinuation of the current system of hard copies of planning applications being sent to Town and Parish Councils, and the offer of free planning training by Mr Pat Whymer was discussed. The electronic screening of planning applications via a projector to be trialled at the next Planning meeting and Mr Whymer to be asked to suggest dates he could attend to deliver planning training to the Council.

Clerk

**b) Knowle Quarry** – The conditions imposed under planning application 1786/17/TCA were noted.

**c) Block Paving Refurbishment** – Proposed repairs to the curtesy crossings in the town were discussed, most of them would be repaired with the one in Market Street being removed. Concern that these acted as a traffic calming measure was expressed, as where those that they contributed to the back up of vehicles at the traffic lights.

**Resolved, following proposal by Cllr Rush seconded by Cllr Ireland, that Highways be invited to the next meeting to discuss the proposals further.**

Clerk

**Resolved, following proposal by Cllr Goffey seconded by Cllr Yelland, that Standing Orders limiting the length of the meeting to 1½ hours be suspended to allow the meeting to continue.**

**102 Members Reports -**

**a) OkeRail** – Cllr Ireland reported that vandalism had recently occurred at Meldon Quarry, with substantial damage to the train carriages. It was hoped that the safety certificate for the track between the station and Coleford Junction would be received this week allowing trains to run over 25mph and the timetable could revert to normal.

**b) Ockment Centre** – Planning permission for alterations to the windows had been refused, and negotiations with the Planning Department for a way forward were in progress.

**103 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 items as it involves the likely disclosure of sensitive and confidential information. Proposed by Cllr Yelland, seconded Cllr Ireland.

**a) Enforcement Cases** – The list of current enforcement cases was noted.

**b) Town Centre Access Road** – Further feasibility study to be undertaken.

**c) Boundary Review** – Further work to be undertaken on the proposals in due course.

Cllr Rush

**Resolved, following proposal by Cllr Ireland seconded by Cllr Yelland, Standing Orders were reinstated.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm.

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**Councillor Leech**  
**Chairman**

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**Dated**