



LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

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10 May 2024

TO: Councillors Furlonger, Harvey, Howells, Hughes, and Morris (Chair)

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **Planning, Economy & Tourism Committee** which will be held in the **Council Offices, Church Lane, Ledbury**, on **Thursday, 16 May 2024 at 7.00 pm** for the purposes of transacting the business set out below.

Yours faithfully

Angela Price
Clerk

FILMING AND RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Members of the public are permitted to film or record meetings to which they are permitted access, in a non-disruptive manner. Whilst those attending meetings are deemed to have consented to the filming, recording, or broadcasting of meetings, those exercising the rights to film, record or broadcast must respect the rights of other people attending under the Data Protection Act (GDPR) 2018

A G E N D A

1. **To receive apologies for absence**
2. **To receive any declarations of interest and written requests for dispensations**

(Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Ledbury Town Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011)

(Note: Members seeking advice on this item are asked to contact the Monitoring Officer at Herefordshire Council at least 72 hours prior to the meeting)

3. **Public Participation**

Members of the public are permitted to make representations, answer questions, and give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda. The period of time, which is at the Chairman's discretion, for public

participation shall not exceed 15 minutes. Each member of the public is entitled to speak once only in respect of business itemised on the agenda and shall not speak for more than five minutes. Questions/comments shall be directed to the Committee Chairman.

4. **Nolan Principles** **(Link)**

MINUTES

5. **To approve and sign the minutes of the Planning, Economy & Tourism Committee meeting held on 11 April 2024** **(Pages 700 - 707)**
6. **To review the Action Sheet** **(Pages 708 - 711)**

ECONOMY

7. **St Katherines Square** **(Pages 712 - 715)**

TOURISM

8. **Notes of a meeting of the Tourism Task & Finish Group held on 24 April 2024** **(Pages 716 - 719)**
9. **Draft Tourism Strategy document** **(Pages 720 - 725)**
10. **Painted Room Visitor Numbers** **(Pages 726 - 729)**

PLANNING

11. Planning Consultations

	Application Number	Deadline for comments/ determination	Application details
11.1	240894	Deadline for comments 22.05.2024 Target Determination date 14.06.2024	Proposed replacement detached dwelling and extension to residential curtilage, following demolition of existing dwelling and detached dwelling - Land at Bella Vista, Parkway, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2JG
11.2	241039	Deadline for comments 22.05.2024 Target Determination date 12.06.2024	Proposed Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 203223 (Proposed detached dwelling) – amendments to design – Old Kennels Farm, Bromyard Road, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 1LG

12. **Tabled Applications** (If any)
(applications received after agenda despatch where deadline dates for comments are earlier than the next committee meeting)
13. **Planning Decisions** (Pages 730 - 733)
14. **Planning application no. 223248 Building and curtilage of Greenacres bungalow, and land to the rear of The Knapp and, The Homend, Ledbury – Appeal Notification**
(Pages 734 – 735)
15. **Herefordshire Council Local Plan Consultation** (Verbal Report)
<https://consultations.herefordshire.gov.uk/consultations/article/114/draft-herefordshire-local-plan-regulation-18-consultation>
16. **Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Party update**
(Verbal Report)
17. **Notification of Tree Preservation Order (No. 687 New Street, Ledbury)**
(Pages 736 - 739)

WORKING PARTIES

18. **John Masefield Memorial Working Party**
- i. **Minutes of a meeting of the John Masefield Working Party held on 1 May 2024**
(Pages 740 - 747)
- ii. **Request from John Masefield Memorial Working Party**
(Pages 748 - 751)

GENERAL

19. **Section 106 (Standing item)** (Page 752 - 753)
Notification of receipt of S106 monies by Herefordshire Council in relation to Land North of the Viaduct Site
20. **Community Infrastructure REPF Grants** (Pages 754 - 755)
Community Infrastructure Grant - REPF - Grants – Herefordshire Council
21. **Correspondence received from local resident** (Page 756 - 758)

22. Date of next meeting

To note that the date of the next meeting of the Planning, Economy & Tourism Committee is scheduled for 16 May 2024 at 7.00pm in the Council Offices, Church Lane, Ledbury

Distribution: Full agenda to: - Committee Members (8)
File Copy (1)

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LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLANNING, ECONOMY & TOURISM
COMMITTEE HELD ON 11 APRIL 2024**

PRESENT: Councillors Bradford, Furlonger, Howells, Hughes, McAll, and Morris (Chair)

ALSO PRESENT: Angela Price – Town Clerk
Sophie Jarvis – Minute Taker
Councillor Sinclair
Ledbury West Ward Councillor – Justine Peberdy
2 members of the public

P210. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor l'Anson.

P211. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

P212. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Councillor Hughes queried what members of the public could speak on and asked the Chair if it had to be an agenda item or if they could speak on anything from previous minutes that were on the agenda. The Chair allowed members of the public to speak about items on past minutes that were listed on the agenda and asked the Clerk to clarify for the next committee meeting the exact wording in the Standing Orders for this matter.

Members voted to bring forward minute no. P194 on the action sheet for discussion with members of the public. 'That a public meeting be set up with Councillors from Ledbury Town Council, Bloor Developments and Planning Officer Andy Byng to allow representatives from Golding Way to have more community engagement in the decision of the proposed pathway from the Viaduct site into Ledbury Town Centre'.

Justine Peberdy informed members that Andy Byng had provided here with an update on this, which she share with the committee which included the following points:

- Councillor Peberdy informed members that she had attended various meetings over the last month with Andy Byng and resident Mr Browning regarding the proposed pathway to the Bloor Development near Golding Way.

AGENDA ITEM: 5

- Works started from the Viaduct Site across the back of Golding Way to join New Mills Way and the development. These works comprised of a crossing which is now on the Hereford Road and continues onto the Viaduct Site. These works stopped at the beginning of December 2023 due to residents of Golding Way expressing concerns that they hadn't been properly consulted. Andy Byng and the Herefordshire Planning Officer, Chloe Smart had now reviewed this and discussed their findings with Browning.
- Andy Byng and Chloe Smart met with Mr Browning and informed him that the statutory consultation had been completed and that the decision had been made some time previously that this pathway was to be a cycle path and footway and needed to be tarmacked and lit appropriately in order to encourage people to make use of it.
- This information was provided to Mr Browning but he still had concerns regarding the consultation process.
- The works are due to recommence.
- It is part of the planning conditions that Bloor Developments must complete these works before occupants are in place in the houses on site.
- There were some mitigations that the Council were able to put in place, one of them is to use red LED lighting which has less of an impact on wildlife. The Council are also trying to ensure that the impact on the wildlife is kept to a minimum when laying tarmac.
- Councillor Peberdy stated that she had received a number of representations from other residents in Ledbury exclaiming that they are really keen to see a new track that they can use which is suitable for buggies, bikes and walking.

Mr Browning thanked Councillor Peberdy for her engagement and advised that he had a petition signed by 14 residents of Golding Way in support of the concern around lack of consultation. Mr Browning informed members that he thought a public meeting with the Bloor Developers would be beneficial to help residents understand their intentions. He informed members that residents are not against the upgrade of the pathway, their concerns are about how these works are done and the light pollution it will cause.

Councillor Bradford queried that this may be difficult considering the application had already been agreed some time ago. Mr Browning acknowledged the statement but stated that the way these works are carried out could be more environmentally friendly.

The Clerk informed that she has emailed Bloor Developers and copied Andy Byng in to request a meeting regarding the pathway that residents could attend to express their concerns regarding it, but a response has not been received yet.

The Chair explained to the resident he may have to take up his concerns with Herefordshire Council who dealt with the Planning Consultation and that support from Ledbury Town Council would be given where possible. The Chair explained that the Town Council would also like a meeting with Bloor Developers in which the residents would be welcome to attend once arranged. The Chair instructed the Clerk to follow up this query with Bloor Developers.

P213. NOLAN PRINCIPLES

RESOLVED:

The Nolan Principles were received and noted.

P214. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING, ECONOMY AND TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14 MARCH 2024.

Councillor Hughes asked for the following amendment to be made on the minute no. P197:

‘It was pointed out that this is hugely dangerous for cyclists, and it states in the Highway Code that parking on a *bend* is not allowed’.

Councillor Hughes stated that this is rule 243 in the Highway Code and stated that the policy of Herefordshire Council to use cars in a Chicane to bring speed down is in contravention of rule 243 of the Highway Code and that this should still be questioned. He stated that Herefordshire Council have left a gap in the yellow lines to allow parked cars to do the job of reducing the speed, but it is a risk for pedestrians and cyclists.

Councillor Howells also queried minute no. P197 and asked for clarification on the exact area where this bend is. He suggested a further amendment be made to this line in the minutes for it to read: ‘That Ledbury Town Council support the notification of Traffic Regulation order scheme on various roads in Ledbury but suggest that consideration be given to two additional areas, exit from Churchill Meadow into Little Marcle Road and Orchard Lane’.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the minutes of the Planning, Economy & Tourism Committee meeting held on 14 March 2024 were approved and signed as a correct record subject to the above amendments being made.**

2. That the Clerk be instructed to chase Andy Byng, Highways Officer, to arrange a meeting to discuss this matter further.

P215. TO REVIEW THE ACTION SHEET

Councillor Hughes noted that minute no. P98 should be in red font as this action had not been completed.

RESOLVED:

That the Action Sheet be received and noted.

P216. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE MARKETS WORKING PARTY HELD ON 14 FEBRUARY 2024

It was noted that the minute no. MWP25, Paragraph 2 should read:

“To address such concerns proactively, the Town Clerk presented Members with a draft document containing guidance for traders, including a comprehensive checklist outlining proper food handling procedures. The *committee* unanimously agreed to endorse this document and distribute it to all traders alongside the implementation of a new policy’.

The Chair expressed his concerns with the progress of the Charter Market and the progression of the strategy that was being drafted. Councillor McAll pointed out that he does need to update the Market Draft Strategy.

Members noted that unfortunately due to past problems Market traders are unwilling to return to the Charter Market. Members thought it would be beneficial to send a letter to all traders asking them to embrace the Charter Market and to ask for their support. It was suggested that local businesses could be encouraged to have a stall to compliment the shops in Ledbury and a questionnaire should be sent out to retrieve this data and encourage more engagement with the traders of Ledbury.

RESOLVED:

1. **That the minutes of the Markets Working Party that took place on 14 February 2024 were received and noted.**
2. **That the Markets Working Party give consideration to a letter and survey being sent to shop traders in Ledbury encouraging them to support the market and to have a stall on occasions to compliment their shops.**

P217. NOTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOURISM TASK & FINISH GROUP HELD ON 27 MARCH 2024.

Members noted that there were a few spelling errors in the notes of the Tourism Task & Finish Group which need to be amended.

Councillor Howells referred to minute no. 4.2 – ‘That Councillors Howells is asked whether he could work on section 2.2.3 of the strategy – Landscape and Countryside’. Councillor Howells informed members that he would be willing to do this.

RESOLVED:

That the notes from the Tourism Task & Finish Group on 27 March 2024 were received and noted.

P218. PLANNING CONSULTATIONS

- i. **Planning Application No. 240543** – Proposed single storey rear extension and interior alterations – **18 Homend Crescent, Ledbury, Herefordshire HR8 1AJ.**

RESOLVED:

No objections.

- ii. **Planning Application No. 240739** – Proposed removal of existing conservatory and replacement 2 storey rear extension with single storey rear extension element – **16 Prince Rupert Road, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2FA.**

RESOLVED:

No objections.

- iii. **Planning Application No. 240730** – Proposed erection of a two storey side extension and a front porch – **6 Coachmans Court, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2DT.**

RESOLVED:

No objections.

P219. TABLED APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED:

There were no tabled applications.

P220. PLANNING DECISIONS

RESOLVED:

That the Planning Decisions were received and noted.

P221. HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION

Councillor Howells stated that elements from Ledbury Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) could be used to form a response to Herefordshire Council for the Local Plan Consultation. Councillor Howells also informed members that there are two 'roadshows' near Ledbury about the Local Plan Consultation which he suggested would be useful for members to attend. These are on Thursday, 18 April in Colwall (1:30pm – 4:00pm) and Saturday, 20 April in Hereford (10:30am – 2:00pm).

Councillor Hughes noted that Ledbury South Ward Councillor, Stef Simmons, had covered this topic in her Ward report to Full Council on 28 March 2024 which included a map of where the proposed total developments of 602 would be located. Members noted that these proposed developments are outside of the settlement boundary that is stated in the Ledbury Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Councillor Howells stated that Ledbury Town Council did consult regarding this application quite some time ago due to it not only being out of the settlement boundary but also part of it is on a 'protected view' and the other part is on a 'new strategic environment corridor'. Councillor Howells expressed that this consultation from the Town Council seems to have been ignored.

Councillor Sinclair stated that Herefordshire Council's Core Strategy will overrule the NDP.

It was agreed that the Clerk would invite all Ledbury Town Councillors, all Ledbury Ward Councillors, Ann Lumb and Mark Lister to a Major Planning Application Task & Finish Group to discuss the whole of the Local Plan and create a response to Herefordshire Council.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk invite all Ledbury Town Councillors, Ward Councillors, Ann Lumb and Mark Lister to a Major Planning Application Task & Finish Group to discuss the whole of the Local Plan and create a response to Herefordshire Council

P222. NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN WORKING PARTY

Councillor Howells informed members that the Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Party would need be 'resurrected' and that there are still some actions outstanding on the original plan. Councillor Howells also informed members that there is a 'Future of Neighbourhood Development Plans' zoom meeting that NALC are offering on 25 September 2024 which might be beneficial for members to attend. Councillor Howells explained that he would clarify with Sam Banks if this will be worthwhile to attend.

Councillor Howells proposed that the new Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Party be set up to resume work again, Councillor Morris seconded this, and all members were in favour.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That a date be set to resume the work of the Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Party.**
- 2. That Councillor Howells speak to Sam Banks to establish whether it would be worth attending the training session being provided by NALC in September 2024.**

P223. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT WORKING PARTY HELD ON 27 MARCH 2024

Members noted the comments in the minutes from Mr Frechnall with regards to Ledbury Town Council providing their own electric bus service. All members agreed that it sounded like a very complicated idea for a Town Council, and it would not be appropriate to take this on at the current time.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Traffic Management Working Party held on 27 March 2024 were received and noted.

RECOMMENDATION

That a recommendation be submitted to Full Council that due to the information acquired from various investigations into the provision of electric buses, Ledbury Town Council do not pursue electric hopper buses for Ledbury at this time.

P224. SECTION 106 (Standing Item)

RESOLVED:

That there were no updates on Section 106.

P225. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

To note that the next meeting of the Planning, Economy & Tourism Committee is scheduled for 16 May 2024.

The meeting ended at 8:33pm.

Signed Dated
(Chair)

Action Sheet April 2024

Minute No.	Action	To be Actioned by	Date Actioned	Comments	Status
PLANNING, ECONOMY & TOURISM MEETING 14 MARCH 2024					
P194	That a public meeting be set up with Councillors from Ledbury Town Council, Bloor Developments and Planning Officer Andy Byng to allow representatives from Golding Way to have more community engagement in the decision of the proposed pathway from the Viaduct site into Ledbury Town Centre.	TC	02.04.2024	Email sent to Bloor and Andy Byng	Response received (on agenda) plus telephone conversation update to be provided at May meeting.
P198	That the residents who complained about the Vape shop on The Southend be invited to meet with the Chair and Clerk to discuss the issues raised in their letters of complaint.	TC	07.05.2024	Email to be sent to residents - 24.04.2024 contacted both parties by phone and agreed a meeting date of 7 May 2024 at 10.00 am in the Council office	Cllr Morris met with residents 07.05.2024 - update on meeting to be provided at May Pet'S Meeting - completed
P203.2	That the Clerk contact Herefordshire Council Planning Department to query why planning applications 230103 & 231872 are still outstanding.	TC	03.04.2024	Email sent to HC PO's - chaser email sent 24.04.2024	Response awaited
PLANNING, ECONOMY & TOURISM MEETING 11 APRIL 2024					

P214.1	Members instructed the Clerk to chase Andy Byng, Highways Officer to arrange a meeting to discuss the notification of Traffic Regulation order scheme on various roads in Ledbury. In particular to the exit from Churchill Meadow into Little Marcle Road and Orchard Lane.	TC	24.04.2024	Email sent to AB asking for meeting	Email forwarded to the traffic team - response awaited
Minute No.	Action	To be Actioned by	Date Actioned	Comments	Status
P216	That the Markets Working Party give consideration to a letter and survey being sent to shop traders in Ledbury encouraging them to support the market and to have a stall on occasions to compliment their shops.	Markets WP	next meeting	Officers to provide draft letter and survey to next meeting of markets working party	In Progress
P221	That the Clerk invite all Ledbury Town Councillors, Ward Councillors, Ann Lumb and Mark Lister to a Major Planning Application Task & Finish Group to discuss the whole of the Local Plan and create a response to Herefordshire Council.	TC	13.05.2024	Calendar invite sent to all for meeting on 13.05.2024	Completed
P222.1	That a date be set to resume the work of the Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Party.	TC/PH	24.04.2024	Email sent to KG at HC to ask for contact details of Sam Banks replacement	Advised that they are still to recruit to NDP officer - email forwarded to Kelly Collins Thomas new Head of Planning and Building Control

P222.2	That Councillor Howells speak to Sam Banks to establish whether it would be worth attending the training session being provided by NALC in September 2024.	Cllr Howells	24.04.2024	Cllr Howells advised that Sam Banks is no longer the NDP officer at HC	See above
Minute No.	Action	To be Actioned by	Date Actioned	Comments	Status
P223	RECOMMENDATION: That a recommendation be submitted to Full Council that due to the information acquired from various investigations into the provision of electric buses, Ledbury Town Council do not pursue electric hopper buses for Ledbury at this time.	TC	09.05.2024	Minutes to be considered at annual council meeting	Completed

Report prepared by Angela Price – Town Clerk

ST KATHERINES SQUARE, LEDBURY

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to ask Members to give consideration to suggested content of a potential licence between Ledbury Town Council and Herefordshire Council in respect of St Katherines Square, Ledbury.

Equality Duty

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the “general duty” on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- a. eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- b. advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- c. foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and person who do not share it.

The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires Ledbury Town Council to consider how it can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations and demonstrate that they are paying ‘due regard’ in their decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.

St Katherines Square has been developed by Herefordshire Council following the provision of S106 monies from the Aldi Store development. The Square is a flat area, with railings located on the side adjacent to the Masters House and has been designed and built to ensure it is accessible by all.

Detailed Information

Following a meeting with Helen Beale, Estates Manager at Herefordshire Council it was agreed at a meeting of Council held on 28 March 2024 that:

- “1. Ledbury Town Council explore further the option of a licence and that a timeline be established for this.**
- 2. The Clerk be instructed to complete the ‘Expression of Interest’ form to avoid delay.**

- 3. The Clerk be instructed to have discussions with Herefordshire Council to draft some tentative Licence options for consideration.**
- 4. A TEN (Temporary Events Notice) be applied for the Community Day event scheduled for 8 June 2024.”**

Following that meeting the Clerk contacted Helen Beale to request an “expression of interest form” advising that Ledbury Town Council are keen to take on a Licence in respect of the space at St Katherine’s Square and requesting an opportunity to discuss further the option of a licence.

Unfortunately, no response has been received to date, however the Clerk has advised HC that LTC are keen to take responsibility for this area on a trial period of 12-months.

Therefore to move things forward Members are asked to give consideration to what could be included in a licence between Ledbury Town Council and Herefordshire Council in respect of the space at St Katherines.

Suggested content of license agreement:

The licence will be for a trial period of 12-months and during that period Ledbury Town Council will:

- Manage the area known as St Katherines Square, Ledbury and as such will determine and take responsibility for the management of bookings for the use of this space
- Prepare a booking form which makes clear the responsibility of the group making the booking, as opposed to what Ledbury Town Council and/or Herefordshire Council would be responsible for;
- Ensure that all hirers provide an Event Management Plan to Ledbury Town Council prior to the commencement of their event;
- Ensure that all hirers of the space have relevant insurances, TENs Licences and certifications are in place for each hire
- Set fees and charges for the hire of the space
- Contribute an agreed sum towards the cost of repairs/maintenance from any income received
- Ensure that the area is kept clean and tidy and free from debris and detritus daily
- Determine restrictions on the use of the space i.e. times and type of events

During the 12-month trial period Herefordshire Council will remain the owner of the area known as St Katherines Square, Ledbury and will:

- Be responsible for all maintenance and repair works to the area and railings;
- Provide clear guidance on what Ledbury Town Council would be responsible for as opposed to what Herefordshire Council would be responsible for;
- Determine whether the area should be a designated Public Order Control Notice area

Recommendation

Members are requested to give consideration to above suggestions for inclusion in a Licence between Ledbury Town Council and Herefordshire Council in respect of St Katherines Square and instruct the Clerk to forward these to Helen Beale at Herefordshire Council, subject to any further additions/amendments.

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

NOTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOURISM and TOURIST INFORMATION
CENTRE TASK & FINISH GROUP MEETING
HELD ON 24 APRIL 2024

PRESENT: Councillors: Morris, Hughes, Howells
Non-Councillors – Penelope Shaw (Chair, Christine Tustin, Peter
McCann, Al Braithwaite.

ALSO PRESENT: Olivia Trueman, Community Development Officer (CDO)
Angela Price, Clerk to the Council

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor McAll.

2. NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 27 MARCH 2024

Proposed by Al Braithwaite and seconded by Cllr Morris as approved with amendment to the last paragraph of Item 3, which should read Peter McCann and not Peter Acott.

3. DRAFT INCREASING TOURISM IN LEDBURY V1

Actions arising from the meeting on 27 March 2024 in relation to Item 4- Draft Tourism Strategy 4.01, resolutions 1,2,3 had no further actions as Councillor Hughes sought a slimmed down version of the draft strategy following his meeting with Penelope Shaw (Chair).

The group therefore had on the agenda at pages 137-142, the proposal for discussion, additions and amendments.

A number of comments and revisions were made regarding the paper, with particular focus on the SWOT analysis:

Strengths

- a) Ledbury is within a conservation area/AONB
- b) Dymock footpaths

Weaknesses

- a) Poor toilet facilities
- b) Vulnerability of Conservation Area due to lack of Conservation Area Management Plan (the responsibility of Herefordshire Council for development)
- c) Increasing traffic in and around the town due to development in Ledbury
- d) Uncoordinated opening times of heritage buildings
- e) insufficient volunteer guides to meet the coaches

- f) on driving into town from south via top cross poor image created by nearby empty shops which need whole shop front coverings to hide decay and neglect
- g) poor communications at present with Herefordshire BID to influence their developing cross county Tourist web site
- h) Lack of visitor accommodation

Opportunities

- a) Better Signage in the town
- b) Improved green spaces

Threats

- a) over development of the town, reducing green spaces, footpaths and cycling facilities.
- b) insufficient coach parking near fire station
- c) road congestion caused by new Builders who may not contribute via Section 106 to the town's roads, school places, nor GP facilities
- d) depletion of market

There were a range of comments and suggestions for inclusion in the SWOT analysis, which the chair requested be provided to herself and to the Clerk to the Council for inclusion asap.

A further discussion took place regarding the relationship with BID Herefordshire, with concern being expressed about effective communication with the businesses. This concern was mirrored by lead contact council (Ross on Wye) into LTC and the other local councils.

Peter McCann was schedule to attend a BID event on 25 April and would feedback concerns regarding ineffective communication.

A number of the group, including the chair, did not feel that, though the slimmed down version was succinct in some respects, drawing a brief summary of the multi-faceted offer that Ledbury has, it was not a strategy and did not contain the main elements of a strategy. However, others did consider it a strategy. It was noted that the inclusion of some SMART objectives would provide a direction of travel for the proposal.

There was support for the updated version of the proposal to be presented to the appropriate council committee for approval. It was noted that this Task & Finish Group had therefore concluded its activity. Subject to committee approval of the proposal, there could be an integrated action group, with appropriate skills created covering Providers; Places and Performers established to drive forward the proposal with specific actions.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. Comments on the proposal be feed back to the Chair and the Clerk by 3 May at the latest**
- 2. The proposal to be presented to the Planning, Economy and Tourism Committee on 16th May in it updated version following feedback. The group requested that clear direction and how to proceed with the proposal must be fed back to this group – whether or not members of the group would be part of any future work on Tourism.**
- 3. To improve communication with Herefordshire BID, via appropriate channels.**

DRAFT PROPOSAL
Increasing Tourism
In Ledbury
2024

V1.1

Developed by

Task & Finish Group – Tourism

[Planning, Economy & Tourism Committee]



*“Mine, is a town of ancient grace,
A long street widened at a marketplace.”*

- John Masefield

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Executive Summary

The town of Ledbury, set in the rolling hills of Herefordshire, has a rich offering of heritage, arts, unique retail opportunities and a strong sense of community. It offers many activities for all age groups as well as many local attractions for residents and visitors alike.

Over many years tourism plans have been developed in isolation by some organisations, with no overall direction to deliver a joined up approach to tourism for the overall benefit of the town.

Development of this proposal is aimed at providing that direction and it has been created through evidence-based analysis, contributions from across the various organisations and stakeholders within and surrounding Ledbury.

The SWOT analysis provides the framework to develop solutions that would build on our strengths, whilst addressing weakness and using the opportunities to provide solutions to help overcome threats.

The proposal looks to identify a number of solutions which, with the support of the Town Council, local traders and larger organisations, can be successfully delivered over the coming months and years.

The top three solutions, which are evidenced based include:

1. Development of an integrated tourism leaflet reflecting tourism/heritage sites in the town.
2. Engage with key coach organisations to promote Ledbury as a destination town.
3. Promote the many activities and attractions through social media.

The outcome from implementing this proposal is aimed at providing a much more joined up approach to tourism, that is clear and can be promoted by all organisations in the town to increase footfall and the economic prosperity of the town.

In conclusion, this proposal will provide the framework for tourism across the town and surrounding areas. Creating it with contributions from many organisations and stakeholders recognises the importance of the work and its importance of tourism to the town.

1.0 Vision, aims and objectives

1.1 Vision, aims and objectives

Our vision is:

To create Ledbury as a tourism destination in it's own right as well as being local centre to reach out to other rural parts of West Midlands??

We will do this by:

- 1.1.1 Increasing the value of tourism to Ledbury's economy
- 1.1.2 Enhancing the experiences that we offer
- 1.1.3 Creating value for Ledbury people through the tourism sector
- 1.1.4 Encouraging vibrant places across the town and surrounding areas.
- 1.1.5 Delivering tourism in a sustainable and inclusive way

2.0 Current Performance

2.1 Ledbury hub

Ledbury is ideally placed as a centre or destination hub for English countryside holidays. Greater than the sum of it's parts, Ledbury has a rich and diverse mix of activities. Broad, diverse, engaging and surprising – something for everybody and with ample opportunities to drive economic prosperity for the town: *Providers: merchants and markets; Places: history and heritage; Performers: poetry and arts.*

2.2 Existing

In developing this proposal, information and data has been gathered to inform the current position and provided this "as is" position. Going forward, the data will determine the baseline allowing clear direction to be determined.

2.2.1 Stay

Ledbury, and immediate surrounding area, has a variety of bed spaces in the form of hotels, bed & breakfasts, guest houses, self-catering, and caravan/camping. A list, including, but not limited to: The Feathers, Ledbury (20 rooms), The Talbot, Ledbury (11 rooms), Seven Stars, Ledbury (3 rooms), Verzon House, Ledbury (9 rooms), Holme Lacey (Warners) (181 rooms), and a caravan park.

2.2.2 Eat & Drink

Ledbury is fortunate to have a mix of predominantly independent establishments.

Cafés and coffee houses including, but not limited to: Chocotastic, Coffee #1, Handley Organics, The Feathers, The Malthouse, The Market House Café, The Nest, The Shell House Kitchen, Trumpet Tearooms.

Restaurants, including, but not limited to: Olive Tree, Raduni, Seven Stars, Sitari, The Feathers and The Talbot

2.2.3 See & Do

Attractions including: Butcher Row House Museum, Heritage Centre, Master's House, Painted Room, St Katherine's Hall & Chapel, Weavers Gallery

Events including: h.Art, Ledbury Carnival, Ledbury Poetry Festival

Nearby: Eastnor Castle, Westons Cider, Hellens and Three Counties Showground

Outdoors: Heritage Trail, Poetry Trail, Town Trail, plethora of walks and cycle routes

Close by: British Camp, Dymock, Eastnor, Hollybush, Kempley, Marcle Ridge, Much Marcle and Wellington Heath

Within 30 minutes' drive: Bromyard, Malvern, Newent, Ross-on-Wye and Tewkesbury

2.2.4 Facilities

Ledbury is accessible by public transport, trains, coaches and buses, public car parks with electric charging points, and motorways close by.

2.2.5 Visitor Services

Marketing media including, but not limited to: LTC Facebook, LTC Instagram, LTC website
Ledbury mentioned: Eat Sleep Live Herefordshire website, Visit Herefordshire website. This is alongside marketing by individual organisations to promote their attractions and Ledbury.

2.2.6 SWOT Analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
Market town status/regular markets Strong culture – heritage, poetry Retail – independent shops Easily accessible by train, coach, bus, car Community – friendly, vibrant voluntary network LTC amenities – Market House Museums Historic Museum Quarter Quintessential Photo Opportunity (Church Lane) Central base for exploring locally and regionally <i>Invite input from the Rugby Club and proposed Soccer Club</i> <i>Invite input from Cider community</i>	
Opportunities	Threats
Shopping trends – shop local/support indie/eco friendly Businesses – team building events and facilities Weddings – Jacobean room Coach parties - sustainable transport Social media – support local businesses/ potential for positive PR and ‘good news’ stories Branding, to create strong SSPs Improving communication with residents and local traders Promote dog friendly Central base for exploring Monitoring and Increasing visitor satisfaction	Economic downturn Lack of accommodation for visitors Lack of coach parking/drop off points in the town

2.2.7 Stakeholders

Business associations including, but not limited to: Marches Growth Hub, Herefordshire & Worcestershire Chamber of Commerce, Herefordshire Means Business, Ledbury Traders & Business Association.

Tourism partners/developers including, but not limited to: Visit Herefordshire, Eat Sleep Live Herefordshire, Visit Britain, Visit England and providers of local attractions.

3.0 Setting the direction and identifying the action

3.1 After the tourism proposal has been accepted, it is proposed that 3 x task and finish groups are set up to each explore Providers, Places and Performers, as mentioned at 2.1, in order to set the direction and identify the action.

4.0 Measuring progress and keeping it going

4.1 To be undertaken by the implementors of a tourism strategy.

Mar-23	Visitor		Staff		Av	
	Nos	Hours	Open	Hours	Daily	visits
Mon	22	12	13	5.5		
Tues	32	12	13	8		
Weds	29	12.5	14.5	7.25		
Thurs	57	12	14	14.3		
Fri		Closed	1			
Sat	9	Closed	5			
Sun		Closed				
totals	149	48.5	59.5			

Mar-23	Visitor		Staff		Av	
	Nos	Hours	Open	Hours	Daily	visits
Mon	23	13	14.5	5.7		
Tues	34	12.8	13.3	8.5		
Weds	50	13.8	17	12.5		
Thurs	26	10	13.8	8.6		
Fri		closed				
Sat	12	0	2	12		
Sun		closed				
totals	145	49.5	60.5			

Apr-23	Visitor		Staff		av.	
	Nos	Hours	open	hours	Daily	visits
Mon	41	12	13.5	13.6		
Tues	70	16	18	17.5		
Weds	76	17	21	19		
Thurs	58	16	18	14.5		
Fri	4	closed		4		
Sat	129	18	20	28.6		
Sun		closed				
totals	378	79	90.5			

Apr-23	Visitor		Staff		av.	
	Nos	Hours	open	hours	Daily	visits
Mon						
Tues						
Weds						
Thurs						
Fri						
Sat						
Sun						
totals	0	0	0	0		

May-23	Visitor		Staff		Av	
	Nos	Hours	open	Hours	Daily	visits
Mon	46	11	22.5	15.3		
Tues	72	20	22.5	14		
Weds	72	20	25.5	14		
Thurs	81	16	18	20.3		
Fri		closed				
Sat	86	12	17.5	21.5		
Sun		closed				
totals	357	79	106			

May-23	Visitor		Staff		Av	
	Nos	Hours	open	Hours	Daily	visits
Mon						
Tues						
Weds						
Thurs						
Fri						
Sat						
Sun						
totals	0	0	0	0		

Jun-23	Visitor		Staff		Av		Jun-23		Visitor		Staff		Av			
	Nos	Open	Hours	visits	Nos	Open	Hours	visits	Nos	Open	Hours	visits	Nos	Open	Hours	visits
Mon	75	16	18	18.8												
Tues	59	16	18	14.4												
Weds	51	14	17	14												
Thurs	84	20		16.8												
Fri			closed													
Sat	58	8	9	29												
Sun			closed													
totals	327	74	62						0	0	0	0				

Jul-23	Visitor		Staff		Av		Jul-23		Visitor		Staff		Av			
	Nos	open	Hours	visits	Nos	open	Hours	visits	Nos	open	Hours	visits	Nos	open	Hours	visits
Mon	110	20	25.5	22												
Tues	139	16	18	34.7												
Weds	67	14	16	19.4												
Thurs	139	16.5	18.5	34.7												
Fri			Closed													
Sat	103	16	24	22.8												
Sun	2		Closed	2												
totals	560	82.5	102						0	0	0	0				

Aug-23	Visitor		Staff		Av		Aug-23		Visitor		Staff		Av			
	Nos	open	Hours	visits	Nos	open	Hours	visits	Nos	open	Hours	visits	Nos	open	Hours	visits
Mon	79	12	13.5	26.3												
Tues	106	16	19.8	26.5												
Weds	103	20	22.5	20.6												
Thurs	118	20	22.8	23.6												
Fri	2		closed	2												
Sat	143	21	32.5	35.8												
Sun			closed													
totals	551	89	111						0	0	0	0				

Sep-23	Incl event			incl. meeting			incl bank holiday			Av			
	Visitor Nos	Hours Open	Staff Hours	Visitor Nos	Hours Open	Staff Hours	Visitor Nos	Hours Open	Staff Hours	Visitor Daily visits	Hours Open	Staff Daily visits	Av
Mon	68	16	18										
Tues	95	16	18										
Weds	106	16	22.8										
Thurs	116	16	27										
Fri	99	4	5.5										
Sat	206	19	30.3										
Sun	27	3	3.5										
totals	717	83	116	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Oct-23	Incl event			incl. meeting			incl bank holiday			Av			
	Visitor Nos	Hours Open	Staff Hours	Visitor Nos	Hours Open	Staff Hours	Visitor Nos	Hours Open	Staff Hours	Visitor Daily visits	Hours Open	Staff Daily visits	Av
Mon	62	12.5	14										
Tues	86	16	18										
Weds	83	16	20										
Thurs	99	17	21										
Fri			Closed										
Sat	126	16	20										
Sun			Closed										
totals	456	77.5	93	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Nov-23	Incl event			incl. meeting			incl bank holiday			Av			
	Visitor Nos	Hours Open	Staff Hours	Visitor Nos	Hours Open	Staff Hours	Visitor Nos	Hours Open	Staff Hours	Visitor Daily visits	Hours Open	Staff Daily visits	Av
Mon													
Tues													
Weds													
Thurs													
Fri			Closed										
Sat													
Sun	10	1	2	10	1	2	10	1	2	10	1	2	10
totals	10	0	0	10	0	0	10	0	0	10	0	0	0

AGENDA ITEM: 12

Planning Decisions Log

Planning App	Details	Case Officer	LTC's Recommendation	HFDS Decision
LTC MEETING 9 February 2023				
230103	Proposed variation of condition 2 of planning application 200066 (Demolition of retail building (A1) and erection of production building (B2)) – additional HGV yard, 1 loading bay to be added 3 loading bays to be removed and parking spaces to be consolidated to the south of the extension - Countrywide Stores Dymock Road Ledbury Herefordshire HR8 2JQ	OJ	No objections	No decision
LTC MEETING 10 AUGUST 2023				
231872	Conversion of and extensions to existing buildings to create a dwelling, and associated works - Land to rear of 1 Bridge Street Ledbury Herefordshire	GW	That Ledbury Town Council did not feel able to provide a response to this application, particularly in relation to how the works would be carried out in a sensitive manner is respect of wildlife. Therefore, they would request more information on this planning application before submitting any comments. Further information provided to PO's by applicant. Ledbury Town Council satisfied	No decision

231873	Conversion of and extensions to existing buildings to create a dwelling, and associated works - Land to rear of 1 Bridge Street Ledbury Herefordshire. LISTED BUILDING CONSENT.	GW	with additional information and submitted no objections. That Ledbury Town Council did not feel able to provide a response to this application, particularly in relation to how the works would be carried out in a sensitive manner in respect of wildlife. Therefore, they would request more information on this planning application before submitting any comments. Further information provided to PO's by applicant. Ledbury Town Council satisfied with additional information and submitted no objections.	No decision
LTC MEETING 12 OCTOBER 2023				
232861	Existing 4 bedroom end of terrace townhouse to be extended at ground floor to the rear and converted to a 1 bedroom ground floor apartment with a 2 bedroom duplex on the floors above – 8 Canal Walk, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2ED	KR	No objections	Refused

LTC MEETING 9 NOVEMBER 2023				
<u>233084</u>	Proposed change of use from Class E (a) (formally A1 Retail) to Sui generis, use as a public house, wine bar or drinking establishment (formally A4) – 4 New Street, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2DX	EM	No objections	Refused
<u>233085</u>	Proposed change of use from Class E (a) (formally A1 Retail) to Sui generis, use as a public house, wine bar or drinking establishment (formally A4) – 4 New Street, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2DX LISTED BUILDING CONSENT	EM	No objections	Refused
<u>233081</u>	Replacement of brick infill panels with wood board panels. Part replacement of rotten wood beams with seasoned oak. Part retrospective – 1 Ivydene Cottages, Homend Crescent, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 1AH	JD	No objections	Approved with conditions
<u>233082</u>	Replacement of brick infill panels with wood board panels. Part replacement of rotten wood beams with seasoned oak. Part retrospective – 1 Ivydene Cottages, Homend Crescent, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 1AH LISTED BUILDING CONSENT	JD	No objections	Approved with conditions
LTC MEETING 14 DECEMBER 2023				
<u>233359</u>	Proposed extension (Retrospective) – The Willows, The Homend, Ledbury, HR8 1AP	JD	No objection	No decision
<u>233360</u>	Proposed extension (Retrospective) – The Willows, The Homend, Ledbury, HR8 1AP – LISTED BUILDING CONSENT	JD	No objection	No decision
LTC MEETING 11 JANUARY 2024				
<u>233023</u>	Proposed variation of conditions 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, and 25 of planning permission 2122433 (variation of conditions 4, 15, 19, and 24 of planning permission 192482 (Outline planning permission with all matters reserved (save access) for the erection of up to 140 dwellings (use Class C3) with associated parking, access roads, public open space, landscaping, sustainable urban drainage, and associated works) – to include revised plans and reports reflecting revised location of roundabout) – To include revised plans and reports reflecting the relocation of the off-site footway/cycleway and the	CS	That the Major Planning Applications convened to discuss planning application no. 233023.	No decision

	addition of a section on infill – Land South of Leaddon Way, Ledbury, Herefordshire.				
LTC MEETING 08 FEBRUARY 2024					
240171	Proposal to convert existing garden store outbuilding to home office/study to host dwelling. Development to include creation of new balcony under extended roof. Existing asbestos sheet roof to be raised and replaced with clay plain tiles to match host dwelling roof – Bradlow Farm, Bradlow and Westhill, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 1JE.	RJ	No objections subject to the conditions being adhered to set by the Malvern Hills National Landscape.		Approved with conditions
240172	Extension to existing veterinary clinic – The Nook, Hereford Road, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2PR	JD	No objections.		Approved with conditions
LTC MEETING 14 MARCH 2024					
240290	Proposed construction of manege – Siddington Farm, Orllham Lane, Leddington, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2LN.	MN	No objections.		Approved with conditions
240458	Proposed single storey rear extension with replacement and extension of existing side element – 24 Long Acres, Ledbury Herefordshire, HR8 2AU.	AM	No objections.		Approved with conditions
240543	Proposed single storey rear extension and interior alterations - 18 Homend Crescent, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 1AJ.	Awaiting allocation	No objections.		No decision
240558	Addition of internal insulation to first floor external walls - Bishopsgate Cottage, 15 Cottage, 15 Bridge Street, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2AJ. LISTED BUILDING	Awaiting allocation	No objections.		No decision
LTC MEETING 11 APRIL 2024					
240543	Proposed single storey rear extension and interior alterations – 18 Homend Crescent, Ledbury, Herefordshire HR8 1AJ.	Awaiting allocation	No objections.		No decision
240739	Proposed removal of existing conservatory and replacement 2 storey rear extension with single storey rear extension element – 16 Prince Rupert Road, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2FA.	Awaiting allocation	No objections.		No decision
240730	Proposed erection of a two-storey side extension and a front porch – 6 Coachmans Court, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2DT.	Awaiting allocation	No objections.		No decision

Angela Price
Ledbury Town Council
Town Council Office
1-3 Church Street
Ledbury
Herefordshire
HR8 1DH
clerk@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Dear Price

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS:	223248 - Building and curtilage of Greenacres bungalow, and Land to the rear of The Knapp and Westmead, The Homend, Ledbury,
DESCRIPTION:	Proposed demolition of existing buildings on site and erection of Retirement Living apartments with associated access, car parking, landscaping, ancillary facilities, and associated works.
APPELLANT:	Ms Gallagher
APPEAL REFERENCE:	APP/W1850/W/23/3334961
APPEAL START DATE:	8 February 2024
WEBSITE LINK:	https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk

Further to my earlier letter in connection with the above appeal, the Hearing will open on **29 May 2024** and will be held at **Hereford Group Training Association, Holmer Road, Hereford, HR4 9SX**. The Hearing is scheduled to last for **1 day(s)** and will start at **10:00am**. The name of the Inspector is **T Law BSc MSc MRTPI**.

You may attend the Hearing. Anyone wishing to attend the Hearing in person must make their interest known to Herefordshire Council by email before **5.30pm on 22 May 2024**. In the email, please include your name, email address and details of status within the context of the appeal i.e., interested party. This will also assist us if the event needs to move online and be held virtually. To register your attendance, please quote the following Herefordshire Council Reference **223248** Appeal **3334961** and send your email to: Planning_appeals@herefordshire.gov.uk.

At the discretion of the Inspector, you may take part in the discussion. Anyone wishing to speak at the hearing should make themselves known to the Inspector on the day as the Planning Inspectorate will not respond to requests to speak at the event in advance of the hearing. If you or anyone you know wishes to attend the Hearing and are disabled, please contact me so that parking and access arrangements can be made. Please note you will need to bring your own refreshments.

All documents will be published to the Council's website. Appeal documentation can be viewed on the Council's website by using the following link <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk>. If you do not have

access to the Internet, access is available at Herefordshire Council Customer Service Centres - to check opening times please ring 01432 260000.

When the appeal has been determined the decision will be published on the Council's website and online at <https://www.gov.uk/appeal-planning-inspectorate>.

All personal data held is processed in accordance with data protection law. For further information please see our website
https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200142/planning_services/62/apply_for_planning_permission/3

For information only: The Planning Inspectorate Case Officer's contact details for this appeal:
Hamish Walters
Tel: 0303 444 5451
Email: ve.rt@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Mrs Jackie Lloyd
TECHNICAL SUPPORT OFFICER

Town and Country Planning Act 1990

**NEW STREET - LEDBURY 2024 (NO.687)
Tree Preservation Order**

The County of Herefordshire District Council in exercise of the powers conferred on them by section 198 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 make the following Order—

Citation

This Order may be cited as **New Street, Ledbury (2024) (NO.687) Tree Preservation Order**

Interpretation

- 1.— (1) In this Order “the authority” means the County of Herefordshire District Council
- (2) In this Order any reference to a numbered section is a reference to the section so numbered in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and any reference to a numbered regulation is a reference to the regulation so numbered in the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation)(England) Regulations 2012.

Effect

- 2.— (1) Subject to article 4, this Order takes effect provisionally on the date on which it is made.
- (2) Without prejudice to subsection (7) of section 198 (power to make tree preservation orders) or subsection (1) of section 200 (tree preservation orders: Forestry Commissioners) and, subject to the exceptions in regulation 14, no person shall—
 - (a) cut down, top, lop, uproot, wilfully damage, or wilfully destroy; or
 - (b) cause or permit the cutting down, topping, lopping, uprooting, wilful damage or wilful destruction of,
 any tree specified in the Schedule to this Order except with the written consent of the authority in accordance with regulations 16 and 17, or of the Secretary of State in accordance with regulation 23, and, where such consent is given subject to conditions, in accordance with those conditions.

Application to trees to be planted pursuant to a condition

3. In relation to any tree identified in the first column of the Schedule by the letter “C”, being a tree to be planted pursuant to a condition imposed under paragraph (a) of section 197 (planning permission to include appropriate provision for preservation and planting of trees), this Order takes effect as from the time when the tree is planted.

Dated this 30th day of April 2024

Signed on behalf of the County of Herefordshire District Council



.....

Authorised by the Council to sign in that behalf

CONFIRMATION OF ORDER

This Order was confirmed by the County of Herefordshire District Council without modification on the ... day of

OR

This Order was confirmed by the County of Herefordshire District Council, subject to the modifications indicated by....

on the ... day of

Signed on behalf of the County of Herefordshire District Council

.....

Authorised by the Council to sign in that behalf

DECISION NOT TO CONFIRM ORDER

A decision not to confirm this Order was taken by The County of Herefordshire District Council on the ... day of

Signed on behalf of the County of Herefordshire District Council

.....

Authorised by the Council to sign in that behalf

VARIATION OF ORDER

This Order was varied by the Herefordshire Council on the ... day of by a variation order under reference number a copy of which is attached

Signed on behalf of the Herefordshire Council

.....

Authorised by the Council to sign in that behalf

REVOCATION OF ORDER

This Order was revoked by the Herefordshire Council on the ... day of

Signed on behalf of the Herefordshire Council

.....

Authorised by the Council to sign in that behalf

SCHEDULE

Specification of trees

Trees specified individually (encircled in black on the map)

<u>Reference on map</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Situation</u>
T1	Copper Beech/ <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> 'purpurea'	Located adjacent to boundary wall of Beech Croft & Woodleigh rd. Grid Ref 370794 237415
T2	Austrian Pine/ <i>Pinus nigra</i>	Located adjacent to SW boundary of Parkwood, adjacent to New St. Grid Ref 370816 237424
T3	Persian Ironwood/ <i>Parrotia persica</i>	Located adjacent to SW boundary between Parkwood & Beechcroft Grid Ref 370809 237431
T4	Common Yew/ <i>Taxus baccata</i>	Located adjacent to SE boundary of Parkwood, adjacent to New St. Grid Ref 370834 237443
T5	False acacia/ <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Located adjacent to SE boundary of Parkwood, adjacent to New St. Grid Ref 370837 237449

Trees specified by reference to an area (within a dotted black line on the map)

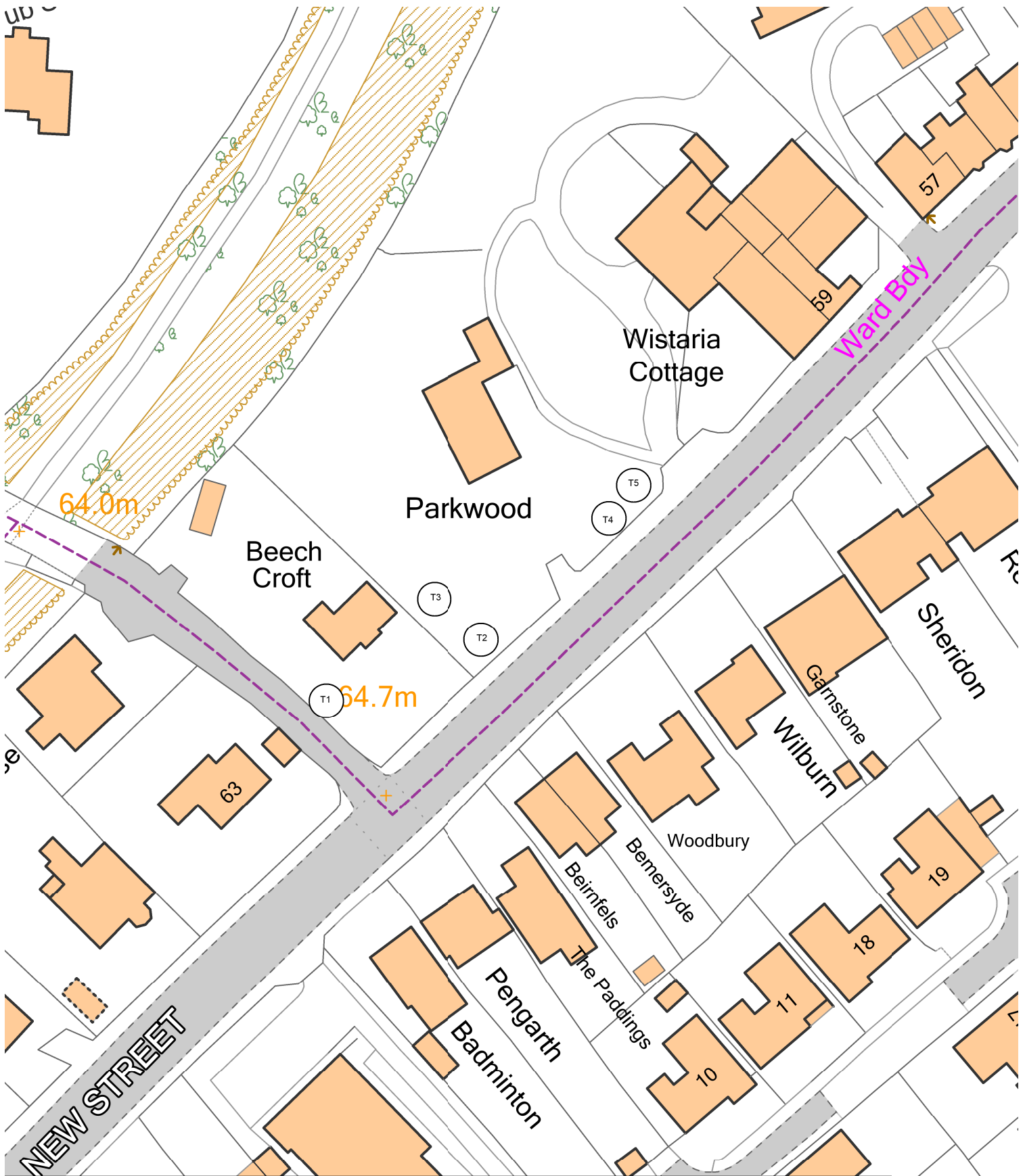
<u>Reference on map</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Situation</u>
None		

Groups of trees (within a broken black line on the map)

<u>Reference on map</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Situation</u>
None		

Woodlands (within a continuous black line on the map)

<u>Reference on map</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Situation</u>
None		



TREE PRESERVATION ORDER

GRID REFERENCE: 349,502, 259,136

OS REFERENCE:

TPO NUMBER: TPO_687

LOCATION DESCRIPTION:
New Street,
Ledbury

Herefordshire Council

SCALE 1:700

NORTH

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE JOHN MASEFIELD MEMORIAL WORKING PARTY HELD ON WEDNESDAY 1 MAY 2024

PRESENT: Councillors Furlonger, l'Anson and Morris (Chair)
Non-Council Members: Dr Jane Mee (Funding Co-ordinator), Justine Peberdy (Ward Councillor and minute taker), Christine Tustin (Ledbury Civic Society), Tim Keyes (Tower Captain Church Bell Ringers) Caroline Magnus (Great niece of John Masefield, JM Society), Philip Errington (JM Society)

ALSO PRESENT: Angela Price (Town Clerk)
Olivia Trueman (Community Development Officer)

JM143 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Lesley Ingram, Chris Noel, and Amy Howard.

It was noted that Jessica Locke was invited but had not responded.

JM144 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Morris recorded a pecuniary interest in relation to item 7.2. Councillor Furlonger recorded a non-pecuniary interest in the same item.

JM145 TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE NOTES FOR THE JOHN MASEFIELD MEMORIAL WORKING PARTY MEETING HELD ON 3 APRIL 2024

Councillor Morris drew attention to the new action sheet to be considered alongside the minutes.

Dr Jane Mee pointed out that although she was in touch with Tony Hodder it was not in relation to the Rural Media survey (JM133). Councillor Morris queried Tony Hodder's title. Tim Keyes confirmed that he is effectively CEO of LEAF (Locally Encouraging All to Flourish).

RESOLVED:

That the notes of the meeting of the John Masefield Memorial Working Party meeting held on 3 April 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record, subject to the above amendments.

(PROPOSED Councillor Morris, SECONDED Councillor Furlonger, PASSED unanimously)

JM146 ACTION SHEET

Justine Peberdy agreed to set up a shared google document for the Action Sheet and include the link in the minutes. Tim Keyes suggested a glossary for initials on the action sheet, for clarity. Councillor Morris suggested that the top line be repeated on each page.

The Working Party went through the Action Sheet item by item.

(Updates are recorded on the action sheet, with some additional notes around discussion below)

JMM133 (4) Various organisations and leaders for community engagement projects were suggested. Dr Jane Mee said that there would need to be a procurement exercise with 2 or 3 organisations pitching for the work.

JM133(7) It was noted that Dean Asker PR for RSC was encouraging and supportive to the Working Party. Councillor Morris suggested an approach to Friends of the Master's House about a possible display of costumes. Philip Errington felt that the archive recording of the RSC's Box of Delights would not be suitable for a public showing. Councillor Morris advised that Sir Roy Strong is now a Ledbury resident.

JM133(8) Philip Errington referred to a previous connection between John Masefield and the Cutty Sark through his book launch. Dr Jane Mee reminded the working party of her enquiries about tours and rig climbs with the Cutty Sark in the context of the 3 engagement activities. The Clerk agreed to share the engagement activity document. Caroline Magnus referred to the Conway Club (Conway was Masefield's school ship).

JM134(1) Dr Jane Mee shared details of her conversation with Mark Richards re: commissioning process for e.g. a bronze statue

- £100K is about right
- Time scale could be shorter
- Suggestion that the commissioning process could include paying 3 – 5 shortlisted artists £1000 each to produce drawings and maquettes, which would then be displayed for stakeholder feedback to inform selection
- Henry Moore Foundation fund sculptures up to £20K
- 3 examples of alternative work (Hereford sculpture trail, Burning Man, Iron Age Hut installation)

Dr Jane Mee agreed to share the examples referred to by Mark Richards with the Working Party. Angie Price pointed out that drawings and maquettes created and paid for as part of the commissioning process would be in the ownership of LTC and could be used beyond the event.

AGENDA ITEM: 18I

Councillor Morris raised the competition model for commissioning. Dr Jane Mee pointed out that the result has to align with the consultation process, which could mean that a competition isn't an appropriate process.

JM134(4) Tim Keyes has been in touch with Peter Carter, who raised that JM Society produced a map. Philip Errington thinks it was done by Barbara Baylis, a Masefield walk based on the Ledbury Scenes. Chris Noel would likely have a copy. Tim Keyes will ask Chris Noel to share it. It was suggested that Peter Carter could be a valuable addition to the committee. He has previously been chair of the Masefield Society.

There are concerns that some perceptions are that this could be a vanity project. The project is difficult to communicate when we do not know what form the memorial will be. We are inviting people to participate in the process of identifying what the memorial will be.

Caroline Magnus expressed concern that John Masefield's work, image and name may be hijacked to a project that has tenuous links to him. There was discussion around the Working Party's job to create engagement and consultation activities, and final brief based on that consultation, that are a fitting memorial to him. Dr Jane Mee emphasised that the project must always draw on the four investment principles (saving heritage; protecting the environment; inclusion, access and participation; organisational sustainability).

Councillor Furlonger left the meeting.

Philip Errington suggested forging a relationship with homeless charities.

Helen l'Anson informed the Working Party that John Masefield School would like to expand their theatre facilities. Justine Peberdy commented that it is not the job of the Working Party to come up with what the memorial will be. Dr Jane Mee pointed out that this is not a heritage project. The Working Party recognised that although John Masefield's name is known, through the school, Ledbury residents don't necessarily know who he was.

Tim Keyes pointed out that tourists may also not know who he is and they could also be consulted. Dr Jane Mee cautioned the Working Party about widening the scope of the application too much, but recognised the importance of their input.

JM135(1) The Clerk will update the Risk Register and share with the Working Party for contributions. Dr Jane Mee will use this information to address risk in the application.

JM138(1) The Clerk suggested that any inc/exp relating to the JMMWP be included in a specific budget line in the council accounts and that she would raise this when the budget is next set. Council are to be asked to match fund £5K, as a one off payment. Payments made in advance could be paid from general reserve and then refunded when NLHF pay out.

This is the link to the Action Sheet -

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1wZkeJMaaDBkPrkJBa9uyiL-8uR4kWo36TrlcO6k48hc/edit?usp=sharing>

RESOLVED:

1. **That Justine Peberdy create a google link to allow a live version of the Action Sheet to be shared with the group, and include the link in the minutes.**
2. **That updates are recorded on the Action Sheet rather than minuted.**
3. **That the Town Clerk share Engagement Activities document with the Working Party members.**
4. **That Dr Jane Mee share the examples from Mark Richards with the Working Party.**
5. **That Tim Keyes ask Chris Noel to share the Ledbury Map by Barbara Baylis.**
6. **That the Clerk will update the Risk Register and share with the Working Party.**
7. **That the Working Party will contribute to the Risk Register.**
8. **That the Clerk raise, when the budgets are next set, that there should continue to be a specific budget line for JMMWP.**

JM147 IMPORTANCE OF CORRECT COMMUNICATION & ADMINISTRATION

The Town Clerk raised concerns about communication in the Working Party. It was agreed that the Working Party would endeavour to keep meetings more formal with notes promptly forwarded to the Clerk. It was agreed that the Clerk and Chair would be copied into all correspondence. The Clerk shared the Terms of Reference with the Working Party. It was agreed that the time frame would be updated to state 'will not extend beyond end of 2028'. The revised terms of reference will bring the group under the remit of the Planning Committee.

RESOLVED:

That all members will share notes of meeting as soon as possible after the meeting, and copy Clerk and Chair into correspondence.

RECOMMENDATION

That a recommendation be submitted to the Planning, Economy & Tourism Committee that the time frame in the Terms of Reference be updated

JM148

DRAFT APPLICATION

Dr Jane Mee requested feedback and outstanding information for the draft application by Friday, 17 May.

Dr Jane Mee asked if Levelling Up funds were available. Justine Peberdy reported that the UKSPF fund is now closed, but there is likely to be another round of funding. The project sits well within the scope of eligibility for Elmley Foundation funding. A description, estimated costs and amount of grant requested should be sent initially to open a dialogue about a possible application for funding. Councillor Morris agreed to follow this up.

Caroline Magnus asked if there were other Foundations the group could approach. Current ideas for raising £25K include individual donations, grant application, gala fundraising event. The Clerk suggested Awards for All. Dr Jane Mee suggested Sainsbury family trusts. Justine Peberdy suggested Cadbury family trusts. Philip Errington and Caroline Magnus agreed that John Masefield Society would be happy to be the recipient of funding, if having no charitable status precluded LTC from applying for a particular fund.

Justine Peberdy suggested that the Herefordshire Council Economic Plan might be worth referencing.

Dr Jane Mee and Tim Keyes suggested that it would be useful to reference Ledbury Poetry's aspirations for Ledbury as a Poetry Town.

The Clerk flagged up that Fit for Future membership gives LTC access to funding advice and support.

Caroline Magnus asked where the Daffodil Fields were that were referred to in the application. Justine Peberdy suggested it could be the Golden Triangle (Kempley, Dymock, Much Marcle). Dr Jane Mee said that Community Action Ledbury provide transport to the Daffodil Walks locally, and could be an engagement activity for older people.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That Philip Errington contribute to Heritage Focus c. 300 words.**
- 2. That Philip Errington contribute to Heritage at Risk c. 500 words.**
- 3. That the Clerk contribute to Permissions Required p.4.**

4. That Justine Peberdy contribute to Match Funding c.500 words.
5. That the Clerk contribute to list of questions on p.9.
6. That the Clerk contribute costs relating to laptops/phones.
7. That Justine Peberdy contribute to how the funding application supports The Economic Plan.
8. That Councillor Morris approach Elmley Foundation with an initial enquiry re: submitting a funding application.

JM149

UPDATE FROM COMMUNICATIONS STEERING GROUP AND ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- i. The notes of a meeting held on 22 April 2024 were shared.

Councillor Morris left the room.

- ii. Recommendation in respect of submissions for visual identity.

There had been four submissions received, which had been considered by a small group of working Party Members (Cllrs l'Anson and Peberdy, and Caroline Magnus, and Members were advised of their preferred option. It was felt that this designer had a showed a good knowledge of John Masefield and that the designs provided within the submission highlighted this. It was agreed that a recommendation should be made to the Planning, Economy & Tourism Meeting on 16 May 2024 that they approve the submission No. 4.

Philip Errington confirmed that there would be no copyright issues with the suggested designs.

Councillor Morris rejoined the meeting.

- iii. Database

Councillor Morris asked the Clerk to ask Olivia Trueman to share the recent update of the database.

- iv. Community Day

Councillor Morris has registered a stand for Saturday 8 June, it is likely to be in the Poetry House. Caroline Magnus asked for help manning the stand. The Clerk said that she or Olivia Trueman could possibly help once the LTC stand was set up. Philip Errington asked what will be on the stand. Justine Peberdy suggested a flier with the key messages and a banner.

It was agreed that a decision must be reached on the name of the project. The result of the discussion was to adopt "Masefield Matters". It was noted that it would be a courtesy to let Rural Media know, since this was the name they used for their previous project. The Clerk agreed to keep trying to contact them about this. Philip Errington suggested a strapline to the name. It was agreed that the group would go with 'Masefield Matters - celebrating the life and works of John Masefield', with further input needed from other members of the group and the designer.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Planning, Economy & Tourism Committee be asked to approve the appointment of Designer no. 4 in respect of the providing the designs for the visual identity of the John Masefield project, following which the designer will be advised accordingly.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the Clerk ask Olivia Trueman to share the updated version of the database.**
- 2. That the Clerk inform Rural Media that we intend to use the name Masefield Matters.**

JM150 FINAL UNVEILING June 1 2028

Philip Errington suggested that King Charles should be asked to attend because John Masefield wrote a poem on the occasion of his birth.

JM151 CONSENT TO SHARE CONTACT DETAILS (GDPR)

Everyone was in agreement that their email could be shared with the rest of the group for the purposes of this Working Party.

JM152 NEXT STEPS

It was agreed that letters of support from Rugby Club, Food Bank, John Masefield Society, John Masefield School, Merchant Seaman would be required. Dr Jane Mee advised that she will contact them to repeat her request for letters of support and give guidance about what they should include.

The submission date for the application was discussed. It was agreed that the draft application was very good. It was agreed that Dr Jane Mee should consider a sensible submission date.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That Dr Jane Mee request letters of support with guidance on what letters should include**

- 2. That Dr Jane Mee consider what the application submission date should be

JM153 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

To note that the next meeting of the John Masefield Memorial Working Party will be held on Monday 10 June 2024 at 2.00 pm in the Council Offices.

The meeting ended at 4.05pm.

Signed Dated

DRAFT

Report prepared by Angela Price – Town Clerk

REQUEST FROM JOHN MASEFIELD MEMORIAL WORKING PARTY

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to ask Members to give consideration to a request from the John Masefield Memorial Working Party in respect of the “Masefield Matters” Project.

Equality Duty

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the “general duty” on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- a. eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- b. advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- c. foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and person who do not share it.

The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires Ledbury Town Council to consider how it can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations and demonstrate that they are paying ‘due regard’ in their decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.

Detailed Information

In order to progress the John Masefield Project there are a number of recommendations from the Working Party that need to be considered and approved by Council.

Securing funding from NLHF is a highly competitive process and whilst this is believed to be a worthwhile project there is no guarantee of funding.

The whole project is underpinned by community participation.

1. Employing staff – as part of the project the Working Party has identified that there will be a need to engage two members of staff on full-time, two-year fixed term contract.

The proposal is that two project staff would be recruited, one being a young person (under 25) as a paid (living wage) intern on a fixed-term, one year contract and a Project Coordinator which would be a full-time role on a salary of circa £27,344-£29,439, which is in line with the Community Engagement Officer's salary.

The funding for these two roles will be part of the funding application, however, as they will be employed by Ledbury Town Council approval is required from the Council in respect of these roles.

2. Match funding – It is a normal requirement of funding applications via National Ledbury Heritage Funding (NLHF) to have a percentage of the fund requested as match funding. It has been suggested that the Working Party should aim for 10% of the application. The funding application being submitted is for £250,000 and therefore 10% of this would be £25,000.

There have to date been two offers of £1,000 from local residents towards this project and the Working Party are asking Ledbury Town Council to agree to match funding of £5,000, which would be in addition to the £15,000 the Council has already pledged in support of setting up this project.

3. A Copy of the draft proposed funding application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund will be provided separately to this report, for GDPR purposes, for a sum of £250,000.

Members should note that there are some areas within the report that need to be completed, however the Working Party are hoping to have this application ready for submission in June 2024 and would therefore request authority from Ledbury Town Council to do so, subject to the remaining segments being completed.

4. One of the points that needs clarifying within the attached application is who would be responsible for the maintenance of the final memorial and how this would be managed.

As this is a Ledbury Town Council project and the application is being made in their name as the primary partner of the project, the Working Party has assumed that Ledbury Town Council would take on the responsibility of the memorial following completion, which would include appropriate maintenance and management. However, it should be borne in mind that this would undoubtedly mean an annual cost to Ledbury Town Council and therefore Members need to give consideration as to whether it would be the Council who would be responsible for the memorial on completion, and if not who and how it would be maintained, accepting that there is likely to be an annual cost to the council which would be dependent on the design/style of the final memorial.

It is proposed ongoing maintenance will be a consideration within the brief for the memorial.

5. The Working Party would like to hold a fund-raising event for around 35 distinguished guests in June 2024. It is hoped that this event will help secure the remaining £18,000 (or more) required for the match funding of the project.

It is proposed that this could be held in the Masters House, noting that if the weather was in their favour they could make use of the Court Yard within the boundary of the Masters House.

Therefore, the Working Party are requesting that approval be given to drawing down on the remaining funds allocated for the project from within the Council budgets for 2024/25 which there is currently circa £5,000 remaining.

Recommendation

That a **RECOMMENDATION** be submitted to Council that:

1. The recruitment of two staff by the Council, one being a young person (under 25) as a paid (living wage) intern and a Project Coordinator which would be a full-time role on a salary of circa £27,344-£29,439, which is in line with the Community Engagement Officer's salary, be approved, noting that the funding for these two roles would be part of the NLHF application.
2. Ledbury Town Council to agree to match funding of £5,000, which would be in addition to the £15,000 the Council has already pledged in support of setting up this project.
3. The Working Party be authorised to submit the NLHF application, subject to the remaining information being included accordingly.
4. Members give consideration as to whether it would be the Council who would be responsible for the monument on completion, and if not who and how it would be maintained, accepting that there is likely to be an annual cost to the council which would be dependent on the design/style of the final memorial.
5. Approval be given to drawing down on the remaining funds allocated for the project from within the Council budgets for 2024/25 which there is currently circa £5,000 remaining, to enable a fund-raising event to be held in the Masters House as outlined above.

MEMORANDUM

To : Cllr Harvey, Cllr Peberdy, Cllr Simmons, Ruth Jackson, Town Clerk, PMO
 From : Yvonne Coleman – Planning Obligations Manager
 Tel : 01432 383083 My Ref : 171532
 Date : 24 April 2024 Your Ref :

SITE: LAND NORTH OF VIADUCT, ADJOINING ORCHARD BUSINESS PARK, LEDBURY, HEREFORDSHIRE
DESCRIPTION: SITE FOR A MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT INCLUDING THE ERECTION OF UP TO 625 NEW HOMES (INCLUDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING), UP TO 2.9 HECTARES OF B1 EMPLOYMENT LAND, A CANAL CORRIDOR, PUBLIC OPEN SPACE (INCLUDING A LINEAR PARK), ACCESS, DRAINAGE AND GROUND MODELLING WORKS AND OTHER ASSOCIATED WORKS. THE PROPOSAL IS FOR OUTLINE PLANNING PERMISSION WITH ALL MATTERS RESERVED FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ACCESS. (FOR DOC 9&18 SEE 212830) (FOR DOC 10 SEE 220181) (FOR DOC 5 SEE 222395) (FOR DOC 7 SEE 223651) (FOR DOC 5 SEE 230899) (FOR DOC 28 SEE 231304) (FOR DOC 14 SEE 231340) (FOR DOC 22 SEE 231394) (FOR DOC 20 AND 21 SEE 231464) (DOC 18 SEE 231617) (DOC 25,29 SEE 233060)

PLANNING APPLICATION NO: 171532

The following payment has been received with regards to the above development and paid into the following accounts:

PAYMENT TOWARDS	PAYMENT RECEIVED	AMOUNT	PAYMENT HELD IN ACCOUNT NUMBER
Sports - means outdoor sports facilities in the form of football facilities identified in the Council's Playing Pitch Assessment 2012 and outdoor sports investment plan 2016 by the council at its discretion	£102,767.34		B99999 B03302 FIN2291 GT04

This is a site for up to 625 new homes and is being built out in 3 phases. The above payment is for phase one and has been paid in full for this phase. The spend date will not be triggered until the final payment for phase 3 has been received.

**MRS YVONNE COLEMAN
 PLANNING OBLIGATIONS MANAGER**

Report prepared by Angela Price – Town Clerk

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT FUNDING SCHEME

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to bring to Members attention information on a Community Infrastructure Grant that is currently available and ask them to give consideration to any projects that they feel would meet the requirements of this funding opportunity.

Equality Duty

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the “general duty” on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- a. eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- b. advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- c. foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and person who do not share it.

The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires Ledbury Town Council to consider how it can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations and demonstrate that they are paying ‘due regard’ in their decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.

Detailed Information

The following link provides details of the Community Infrastructure Grant scheme that is currently open to for applications.

[Community Infrastructure Grant - REPF - Grants – Herefordshire Council](#)

This is a **capital** funding scheme to enable community and voluntary groups, town and parish councils, etc. to

- Strengthen our social fabric and foster a sense of local pride and belonging
- Build pride in place and increase life chances in our local communities
- Build resilient and safe neighbourhoods
- Creation and improvements to local rural green spaces
- Provide improved facilities which reduce the need for people to travel to access recreational facilities

The closing date for a submission of Expression of Interest is 3 June 2024 and Members are asked to consider whether they are aware of any projects that would meet the criteria for this funding.

Members may wish to consider the following as a possible project:

Improved disabled access at Leadon Walk

Recently Councillor Sinclair has been approached by a local resident who has raised the matter of disabled access to Leadon Walk. He has corresponded with Councillor Simmons in respect of this who has advised that there is some funding available via a PRWO Scheme, and the Clerk has submitted an initial enquiry in relation to this but is awaiting the Expression of Interest Form. However, to submit this form Ledbury Town Council will need to provide details of the works and a rough cost estimate for materials or works required.

As this is Herefordshire Council land it would be assumed that they would make arrangements for the works to be carried out and therefore it would be sensible to approach either their officers or BBLP to provide costings and requirements for such a project. This is likely to be the case for infrastructure funding also.

Therefore, if Members consider this to be a worthwhile project to investigate they will need to instruct officers to investigate this further with HC and BBLP, along with interested stakeholders such as the Footpaths Officer, Lengthsman, Sustainable Ledbury and the Cycle Forum.

Recommendation

1. That Members review the information provided in the link above and consider whether there are any projects that would fit the criteria of the scheme that could be considered via an Expression of Interest and make recommendation to a meeting of Council accordingly.
2. That Members instruct the Clerk to investigate disabled access at Leadon Walk, with a view to submitting an expression of interest either under the PROW funding scheme, or the Infrastructure Funding Scheme.

25.04.2024.

125 APR 2024

Dear Ledbury Town Council Clerk,

I would be grateful if you would bring this email to the attention of the Councillors for Ledbury Town Council.

My home is in Jubilee Close, Ledbury, fronting onto an existing public footpath, with the Paddock that runs between Jubilee Close and Leadon Way being adjacent to my front and rear garden.

You will be aware that this paddock is owned by builders and is subject to an application for a cycle path to be placed on it. I am not aware of any subsequent application that supersedes this one.

I would like to encourage Councillors to fight to keep this paddock for public use as a cycle path, footpath and public open space. This would help to make it possible to connect existing cycle paths, footpaths and public open space, such as the Riverside Park and the Old Railway Track, while almost completing the circle of such paths close to and around the Town Centre.

Since the builders have bought this piece of land, residents have created their own desire lines, using the paddock as a short cut, a place for families to play and for dogs to be walked.

The paddock is already inhabited by bats, newts, barn owls and lots of other birds. It is visited by deer and has an abundance of wild flowers such as Cowslips and Orchids.

If this Paddock is kept as open space, organisations such as the Woodland Trust could be invited to become involved to assist in maintaining and developing the diversity of habitat in this beautiful piece of land for residents and wildlife to enjoy. I would be more than happy to become involved in recruiting local residents to form a community group to assist in this goal.

With current building works, lots of wildlife habitat has been destroyed in Ledbury, wouldn't it be great to actually plant more trees and plants to help balance this loss?

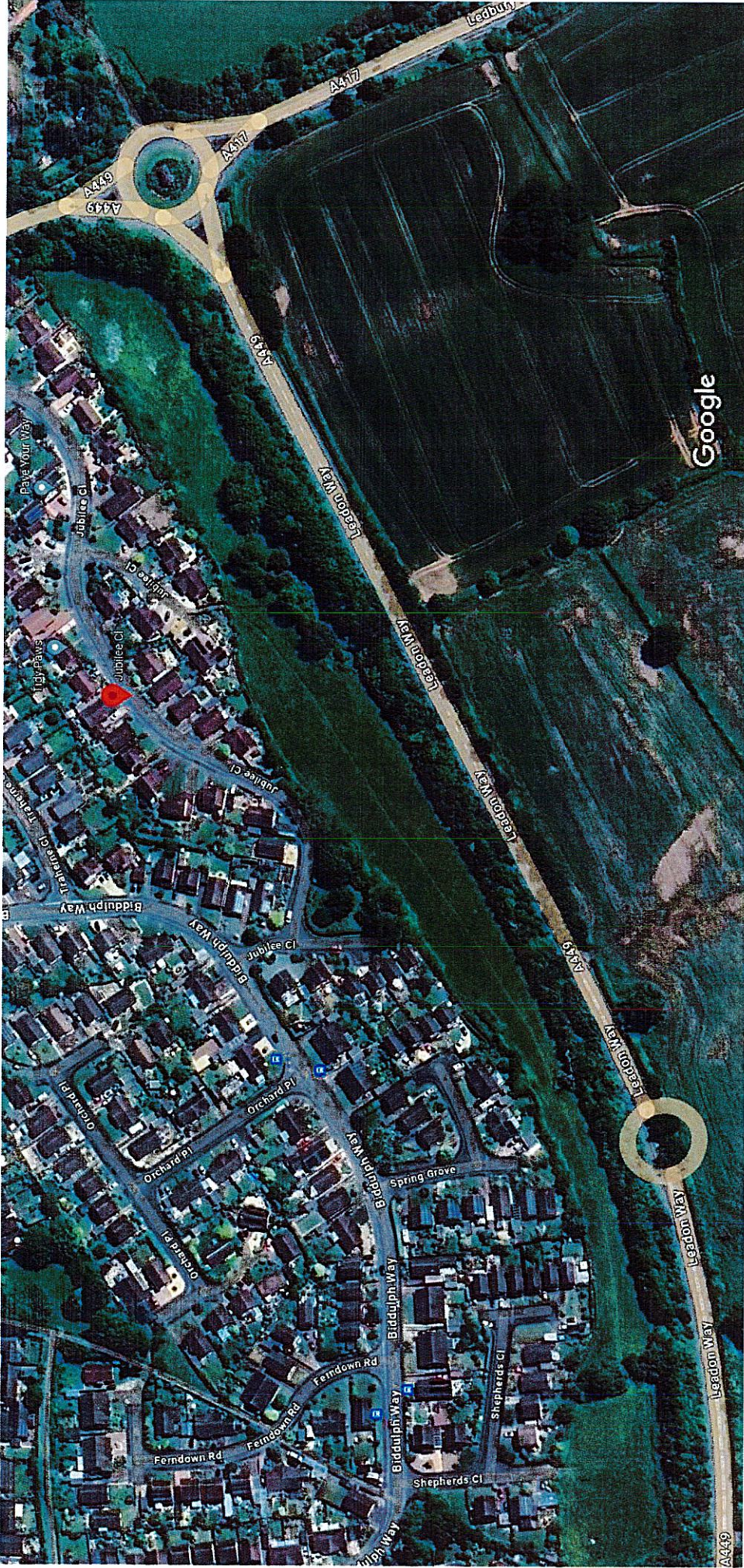
I request that the Town Council do not forget about this piece of land and endeavour to keep this paddock as public open space to prevent the loss of irreplaceable wildlife habitat, for the benefit of our climate and for the health and wellbeing of Ledbury residents.

Thank you for reading and thank you for all of the hard work you perform for the benefit of Ledbury residents.

Yours faithfully

Mr. Dominic Everiss MBE

28 Jubilee Close, Ledbury, HR82XA
Dom.everiss@hotmail.co.uk 07484292566




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Jubilee CI

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