

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.



- 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)

