

Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee Meeting

held on Monday 18th March 2024
at the Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington

PRESENT

Cllr. M. Woolford - Chair
Cllr. E. Banks
Cllr. N. Cornish
Cllr. M. Fitton
Cllr. P. Sell
Cllr. R. Widdowson

IN ATTENDANCE

Liz Kelso – Town Clerk
Ruth Robinson – Assistant Clerk

Minute	Agenda item	
P&E 013-24	1	Apologies, Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation Apologies were noted from Cllrs. A. Dixon, and E. Rolls. Cllr. P. Sell declared an interest in agenda item 4(g) as a member of St. Mary's PCC. There were no requests for dispensation.
P&E 014-24	2	Minutes of the previous meetings Minutes of the meeting held on 19 th February 2024 were approved and the Chair was authorised to sign the Minutes as a true record of proceedings at that meeting
P&E 015-24	3	Planning & Licensing Matters
	a)	Applications now due for consideration
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ref: 240551 & 240647 Site: Beech Cottage, 10 Church Road, Kington Dev: Re-slating of roof, removal of porch and additional works <p>Members considered this application and had no objections to the proposed development.</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ref: 240554 Site: 14 Bridge Street, Kington Dev: Tree works in conservation area <p>Members considered this application and had no objections to the proposed works.</p>

b) Planning decisions by Herefordshire Council since the last meeting

None noted since the last meeting

c) To consider responses to Herefordshire Council's consultation on the licensing of sex establishments

It was agreed to delegate authority to Cllrs. Widdowson & Woolford to respond on behalf of the Town Council and report back to the next meeting.

d) s106 Portfolio of works delivery briefing

Members noted that the next parish briefing for s106 portfolio of works delivery is scheduled for 25th and/or 26th March. It was agreed that Cllr. M. Woolford attend on behalf of the Town Council.

P&E 016-24

4 Environmental Matters

a) Town Centre

There was nothing to report under this agenda item.

b) Planters and floral displays

It was noted that several planters now need repair or repainting prior to being refilled for the current season. The Clerk will obtain quotes for maintenance for consideration as soon as possible. Quotes for filling and maintaining the planters have already been requested for consideration by the Town Council as soon as possible. Planters are usually filled no earlier than late April or May, depending upon the weather.

c) Allotments

It was reported that flooding has been an issue at the allotments with some plot holders giving up their plots as a result. The allotment association are working with Herefordshire Wildlife Trust to put in place measures to reduce the damage by flooding.

d) Footpath and Highway Maintenance

The Clerk reported that as requested a pavement sweep of Mill Furlong Lane by Balfour Beatty was requested but she had received notification that the work could not take place as the equipment used did not fit down the narrow path. A manual sweep has been ordered but it is unclear when this will take place. BBLP have also advised that pavement sweeps must be requested each time; there is no schedule for this work.

It was agreed that regular sweeps should be requested and work requested to remove moss from footpaths as this represents a slip hazard.

Finally it was noted that there has been no response to our request for lines to be painted adjacent to the garage to ensure a footway is maintained for pedestrians where vehicles tend to park. Herefordshire Council/BBLP charge for this work but have not yet provided a cost for consideration.

e) War Memorial

The Clerk confirmed that she had not received an alleged complaint about the lettering on the war memorial but a previous complaint about the war memorial generally had been dealt with when the area was cleaned last year. It is known that some names

might be missing from the memorial but this will be addressed when a fuller refurbishment of the area takes place.

f) Trees

The Clerk has met with the new tree wardens who are now active in the Town and who have undertaken some pruning work in public open spaces.

g) Churchyard

- **Volunteer working group**

It was noted that a meeting to review how volunteers could be used to maintain the churchyard had taken place and a procedure for recording volunteer work devised to ensure that appropriate health and safety issues are addressed and that the town council insurance covers the work and those involved in that work.

- **Future work requirements**

The grass cutting contractor has been requested to now cut back saplings under the trees and trim around the trees now that lower branches have been removed. A sign is to be fixed to the compost bins to try to ensure only compostable material is placed in them.

- **Walk around group**

It was agreed that a regular walk around of the churchyard to identify work required should take place, using the opportunity to document testing of memorials at the same time. Cllrs. E. Banks and P. Sell with the assistant clerk will undertake this walk around quarterly although other councillors are welcome to join.

h) Litter and pavement sweeping

This was addressed under agenda item 4(d) above.

i) Ethical and Environmental Policy

Members agreed that this agenda item, together with agenda item 4(j) and 4(k) were linked with the Declaration of Climate Emergency and underpinned the Town Council's approach to environmental matters in its day to day activities. It was agreed that this be referred to a meeting of the Town Council with a view to setting up a separate working party to take these issues further.

P&E 017-24

5 Date and time of next meeting and items for the agenda.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 22nd April 2024 at 6.00pm in the Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington. As well as items noted above, it was agreed to include an update on Herefordshire Council's Local Plan consultations and implications for the Town Council on the agenda.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.00pm