

## Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee Meeting

held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024  
at the Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington

### PRESENT

Cllr. M. Woolford - Chair  
Cllr. B. Bishop  
Cllr. M. Fitton  
Cllr. E. Rolls  
Cllr. P. Sell  
Cllr. R. Warne  
Cllr R. Widdowson

### IN ATTENDANCE

Liz Kelso – Town Clerk  
Ruth Robinson – Assistant Clerk

Minute	Agenda item	
P&E 025-24	1	<b>Apologies, Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation</b> Apologies were noted from Cllrs. E. Banks, & N. Cornish. Cllr. P. Sell declared an interest in agenda item 4(c) and 4(g) as a member of the allotments society and St. Mary's PCC. There were no requests for dispensation.
P&E 026-24	2	<b>Minutes of the previous meetings</b> Minutes of the meeting held on 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2024 were approved and the Chair was authorised to sign the Minutes as a true record of proceedings at that meeting
P&E 027-24	3	<b>Planning &amp; Licensing Matters</b>
	a)	<b>Applications now due for consideration</b> Ref: 231167 (reconsultation) Site: Land West of A4111, Kington Dev: Proposed commercial development site  Comments: Members reviewed the amended documents regarding this application and felt the previous comments still applied. The clerk was instructed to notify Herefordshire Council accordingly
	b)	<b>Planning decisions by Herefordshire Council since the last meeting</b> None noted since the last meeting.  It was noted that following rejection of an appeal relating to a property off the by-pass, there appears to be no action on removing the unauthorised development. It was agreed to raise this with the Planning Enforcement Officer at Herefordshire Council.

**4 Environmental Matters**

**a) Town Centre**

The Mayor reported that he had written to the building owners asking what their plans are for the building and commenting on the impact on the visual amenity of the High Street as a result of the poor state of the building frontage albeit that the metal grid on the window has resulted in a more secure site which is less susceptible to break in. Unfortunately, graffiti has now appeared on the metal grid. A brief response has been received although a more detailed response to a letter by a member of the public has also been reported. A follow up letter will be sent regarding the graffiti.

Members also noted that the Sue Ryder Shop in the High Street is to close resulting in two redundancies. It is believed that this is due to the building being sold.

A request to Herefordshire Council to allow artwork to be placed on the Market Hall has indicated that a licence may be required to allow this. The assistant clerk will follow this up with Herefordshire Council.

Members expressed concern that accident damage to the Market Hall and roof repairs, by Herefordshire Council, have not yet taken place and the impact this is having on the immediate vicinity and image of the town with visitors. Herefordshire Council has indicated that funding is to be applied for but members felt that Herefordshire Council's failure to maintain this listed building which is the centre piece of the town should be raised again with them. It was agreed that Cllrs. Sell, Woolford and Fitton be authorised to write on behalf of the Town Council to express the Town Council's concerns.

**b) Planters and floral displays**

Members noted that the displays are now in place and have received many positive comments.

**c) Allotments**

There was nothing to report under this agenda item.

**d) Footpath and Highway Maintenance**

The Clerk has now submitted the application for funding for public rights of way in support of the work of Kington Walks and the volunteer footpath officer. It was agreed to request a report from the footpaths officer in addition to the report provided at the Annual Town Meeting.

**e) War Memorial**

There was nothing to report under this agenda item

**f) Trees**

There was nothing to report under this agenda item. It was noted that the tree wardens report any issues directly to the assistant clerk for action if/when required.

**g) Churchyard matters**

It was reported there has been damage to the Lychgate following a vehicle collision recently. Cast iron guttering has been damaged on this listed building. An investigation on repair requirements and responsibilities will be needed.

It was also suggested that repairs to the drains at the side of the main path might be necessary. A more formal walk around to assess work required is to be arranged.

**h) Litter and pavement sweeping**

There was nothing to report under this agenda item.

**i) Update on Climate Working Party**

There was nothing to report under this agenda item. The working party, as agreed at the last full council meeting, is yet to meet.

**P&E 029-24**

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

The next meeting will be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 6.00pm in the Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington. An update on issues relating to the property at Lower Cross was requested as an agenda item.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.