

Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee Meeting

held on Monday 1st September 2025
at the Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington

PRESENT

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

IN ATTENDANCE

Liz Kelso – Town Clerk
Ruth Robinson – Assistant Clerk
2 members of the public

Minute	Agenda item
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The Chair welcomed members of the public to the meeting, noting that although no formal public participation session formed part of this agenda, they were welcome to make comment although discussion could not take place without the matter being an agenda item. Members then noted a brief presentation from the applicant of planning application ref. 251442 explaining that the applicant was in the process of revising plans for the application which would be re-presented to the Town Council by Herefordshire Council for consideration in due course.

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| P&E 40/25 | 1 | Apologies, Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation
Apologies were noted from Cllr. J. Gardner. Cllr. P. Sell declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 4c (allotments) and 4g (Churchyard). Cllr. E. Banks declared a personal interest in agenda item 3(c) relating to work on Hargest Ridge and Hanter Hill Common. There were no requests for dispensaton. |
| P&E 41/25 | 2 | Minutes
Minutes of the meeting held on 7 th July 2025 were approved and the Chair was authorised to sign the Minutes as a true record of proceedings at that meeting. |
| P&E 42/25 | 3 | Planning and Licensing Matters
a) Planning applications now due for consideration
There were no planning applications now due for consideration.

b) To note planning decisions by Herefordshire Council since last meeting.
None noted |

c) Consultation under Commons Act 2006

Members noted the consultation for proposed works on Hergest Ridge and Hanter Hill common. It was agreed to request a map or plan of the proposed location and defer comments to the next full council meeting.

d) S106 Wish List

Members noted that the s106 wish list highlights the town council's preferred projects if/when a large scale planning application is agreed by Herefordshire Council and may or may not be taken into consideration by Herefordshire Council when negotiating s106 agreements. The list submitted to Herefordshire Council in 2023 was reviewed and it was agreed that it is still appropriate for the town. The Clerk will resubmit the list to Herefordshire Council accordingly.

P&E 43/25

4 Environmental Matters:

a) Town Centre

Members noted issues raised by members of the public on Friday 15th August when the High Street was closed for emergency water repairs as exhibitors and visitors were arriving for Kington Vintage weekend, leading to significant disruption. At the same time, a medical emergency at the Co-op was hampered by access to the defibrillator although it is unclear why the difficulty arose. It was noted that consultation by Welsh Water on the emergency works had been patchy and the Clerk has had discussions with Balfour Beatty, as agents for Herefordshire Council, regarding the issues for the town if or when the High Street is closed for emergency or planned works.

b) Planters and Floral Displays

Following a request to consider winter flowering plants and/or bulbs to be used in planters over the winter, it was noted that a proposal will be put to full council for this at the September meeting. A further quote for ongoing maintenance through the winter will also be sought although this had not been budgeted for the current financial year.

c) Allotments

Electrical work has still not taken place although should take place in September or October.

d) Footpath and highway matters

Cllr. Woolford reported that he is to raise questions about Herefordshire Council's budget for footpath sweeping with the responsible Herefordshire Council cabinet member.

e) War Memorial

It was agreed that Herefordshire Council be requested to remove weeds from the lights around the War Memorial before Remembrance Sunday in November. It was further agreed to seek advice from specialist War Memorial conservators regarding refurbishment of the surface of the war memorial to ensure names are visible. Noting that there may be some names not included, it was also agreed to see guidance on procedures required to add missing names to any war memorial.

f) Churchyard maintenance

It was noted that the repair work to the Lych Gate has now been completed. It was agreed to ask for photographs of the work from the contractor.

g) Litter and pavement sweeping

There was nothing further to report on this subject.

h) Proposal for 20mph zone in Kington

Cllr. Widdowson presented the proposal from the Environment Working Party for a 20mph speed limit in Kington. After due consideration it was agreed that this be put to full council for consideration at the next meeting and noted that if agreed, the processes, which would include a consultation with various statutory bodies and local residents, would take some time to take place.

P&E 44/25

5 Date and Time of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the planning & environment committee will take place on Monday 13th October at 6.00pm in the Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, which is one week later than original scheduled due to expected staff absences. There being no further business, the chairman declared the meeting closed.