

## Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee

held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
at the Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington

### PRESENT

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

### IN ATTENDANCE

Liz Kelso – Town Clerk  
Ruth Robinson – Assistant Clerk  
1 member of the public

Minute	Agenda item	
P&E 001-26	1	<b>Apologies, Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation</b> Apologies were noted from Cllrs. N. Cornish, J. Gardner and E. Rolls. Cllr. E. Banks declared a personal interest in agenda item 4(f) relating to Churchyard matters and Cllr. P. Sell declared a personal interest in agenda item 4 (c) relating to allotments and 4(f), Churchyard matters. There were no requests for dispensation.
P&E 002-26	2	<b>Minutes</b> Minutes of the meeting held on 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2025 were approved and the Chair was authorised to sign the Minutes as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.
P&E 003-26	3	<b>Planning and Licensing Matters</b> a) <b>Planning applications now due for consideration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ref: 253551 Site: 9 The Square, Kington Dev: Tree works in conservation area</li></ul> Members resolved to support this application. b) <b>Planning enforcement action</b> It was noted that Herefordshire Council planning enforcement officers are to investigate a potential breach of planning regulations in a conservation area within the town. This will be reported in full when a report from the officer is received. c) <b>Planning decisions since the last meeting</b> It was noted that consent has been given for the repair work on the Market Hall.

**d) Consultation on HM Government proposed changes to National Planning Policy Framework**

It was agreed that a response be sent to this consultation highlighting that the proposed NPPF is not consistent with what members consider to be appropriate for rural areas.

P&E 004-26

**4 Environmental Matters:**

**a) Town Centre**

Members noted reports of vandalism through the town on New Year's Eve and that this will be raised with the police at next week's full council meeting. It was also noted that slippery surfaces had led to a number of vehicle and pedestrian accidents in the town. Grit bins provided by Herefordshire Council are now empty and a refill has been requested.

Damage to the wall of the property forming part of the Wesleyan Chapel was noted. It is the landowners responsibility to repair this.

**b) Planters and Floral Displays**

It was noted that planters have been replanted for the winter and are being maintained by a contractor on behalf of the Town Council.

**c) Allotments**

It was noted that all plots have been allocated for the forthcoming season.

**d) Footpath and Highway matters**

Members thanked Cllr. Woolford for his intervention resulting in the footpaths being swept by Herefordshire Council. It was noted that plans are being formulated to ensure this takes place twice a year in future.

**e) War Memorial**

It was agreed that the asst. clerk seeks quotations and advice on grant availability for improving the clarity of the lettering on the war memorial and potentially the addition of names currently not recorded on the war memorial. The families of those not recorded would need to give permission for new names listed.

**f) Churchyard Maintenance**

There was nothing to report under this agenda item although the proposed volunteer clean up day has not yet taken place. Weed and bramble growth on the outside of the churchyard was identified as the responsibility of Herefordshire Council as highways authority.

**g) Litter and Pavement Sweeping**

There was nothing further to note under this agenda item.

**h) Update on proposal for 20mph zone in Kington**

Members noted that informal public support for a 20mph zone in Kington has been positive although a more formal consultation would be necessary to formally support the proposal. It was agreed that this also be discussed with the police in due course.

P&E 005-26      5      **Update on Public Realm Funding**  
Cllr. Woolford reported that a meeting he was to attend with Herefordshire Council/Balfour Beatty had been cancelled and is to be reinstated shortly with parking provision in Church Street and the coloured road surface around the Market Hall as the main items requiring discussion/resolution. A further report will be made to the full council meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> January when the final agreement of items etc. will need to be agreed by full council.

P&E 006-26      6      **Date and time of next meeting**  
It was agreed that the next meeting originally scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> February would only take place if there is a business reason to do so but otherwise will be deferred to Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. There were no additional items requested for the agenda.

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