

**Minutes of an Extra Ordinary Okehampton Town Council Planning Committee Meeting
held on 21st October 2024 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Okehampton**

Committee Members Present: Councillor T Leech (Chairman)
Councillor M Ireland (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor A Fisher (Mayor)
Councillor R Colman (Chairman, Property)
Councillor B Tolley (Chairman, Parks Committee)
Councillor J Yelland (Chairman, Policy & Resources)
Councillor T Cummings
Councillor M Richards

In Attendance: Mrs E James (Town Clerk)

	Action
338 <u>Apologies for Absence</u> – None	
339 <u>Declaration of Interests</u> – None	
340 <u>Public Participation</u> – None	
341 <u>Members Questions</u> – Cllr Cummings raised concerns regarding the uneven paving slabs in Fore Street. Clerk to email DCC.	Clerk
342 <u>Minutes</u> – On the proposition of Cllr Ireland, seconded Cllr Colman, it was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 1 st July, 19 th August and 9 th September 2024 for signing by the Chairman.	
343 <u>Planning Applications</u> 2684/24/FUL Update and modernise detached property, demolish and rebuild extension. 84 Crediton Road, Okehampton EX20 1NY. On the proposition of Cllr Cummings, seconded Cllr Colman, it was RESOLVED to support the application.	Clerk
3126/24/TCA Cllr Leech declared a personal interest. T1: Oak – reduce lateral branches on east side by up to 2m. T5: Beech – reduce lateral branches on east side by up to 2m. G1: (Species unknown) – prune back lateral branches by up to 1m on east side to clear obstruction of footpath. Castle Ham Lodge, Castle Road, Okehampton. On the proposition of Cllr Cummings, seconded Cllr Ireland, it was RESOLVED to submit a neutral response.	Clerk
344 <u>Planning Authority Decisions</u> – Decisions made by the planning authority as listed on the previously circulated report were noted.	
345 <u>Highway Traffic Order ENV ID 6005</u> – It was noted that the 30mph speed limit extension and 40mph speed limit came into force on 15 th August 2024 along specified lengths of Exeter Road in Okehampton and Stockley.	
346 <u>Speeding</u> – Concerns about speeding in the Crediton Road and surrounding residential areas were noted. Cllr Leech to email to Cllr Samuel for HATOC consideration.	Cllr Leech
347 <u>Street Lighting</u> – Concerns about the early switch off of streetlights in the evenings was noted, including potential health and safety risk to pedestrians and	

increased risk of crime and antisocial behaviour. Cllr Leech to include in email to Cllr Samuel for HATOC consideration.

Cllr
Leech

348 **Consultations**

348.1 **Devon and Torbay Local Transport Plan 4** - It was agreed comments relating to the following be included in a response to the consultation:

Clerk

- Pleased to note the inclusion of the reinstatement of the railway from Tavistock to Plymouth
- Reinstatement of the railway between Tavistock and Okehampton should be included within a plan as this is important for resilience given the impact of climate change on the Dawlish/coastal route and in relation to defence of the realm - the Devonport Naval Base/Dockyard located in Plymouth.
- In relation to 15 minute bus services between Exeter and surrounding towns – the towns classed as surrounding Exeter are not defined and it is hoped that Okehampton is included within that statement
- Bus frequency needs to better coincide with the train services at the existing Okehampton Station, both now and when the Interchange Station opens
- Okehampton should be included in a statement in line with Torbay '*Greater Places for People: Revitalise the public realm spaces in the town centres and improve access to transport interchanges*'.

348.2 **Devon Countywide Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)**
– It was agreed comments relating to the following be included in a response to the consultation:

Clerk

- Routes should be linked and not come to a stop
- This plan should be linked to the Transport Plan rather than both working independently
- Use of old railway lines as cycle/walking routes should be carefully considered and only done so with the view that they may be reinstated as working railway lines in the future. Consideration should be given to creating walking/cycling infrastructure parallel to them.

349 **Payment of Invoices** – On the proposition of Cllr Fisher, seconded Cllr Colman, it was **RESOLVED** to approve the payment of invoices as per the schedule, noting that a direct debit payment to Eon had been incorrectly recorded as £379.82 instead of £379.73.

350 **Members' Reports and Requests for Agenda Items**

350.1 **Dartmoor Railway Association** – Cllr Ireland reported the Okehampton had won a Station in Bloom Award for heritage, flora and welcome, and progress was being made to the reopening of the footbridge.

350.2 **OkeRail Forum** – Cllr Ireland advised the AGM had been held on 17th October and preparation for the 3rd Anniversary celebrations of the reopening of the line being held on 20th November.

350.3 **Ockment Centre** – Cllr Leech advised work to repair roof leaks had been undertaken and replacement of the leat platforms was planned.

350.4 **Okehampton & Area Health & Wellbeing Alliance (CVS)** – Cllr Richards reporting on a meeting attended and work that the group and connected organisations were doing.

351 **On the proposition of Cllr Ireland, seconded Cllr Fisher was RESOLVED that under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act**

1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items which are CONFIDENTIAL by virtue of relating to legal and/or commercial matters, staffing and/or the financial or business affairs of a person or persons other than the Council.

352 **Enforcement Issues** – The current enforcement list was noted.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm

Chairman