

BUCKFASTLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Planning, Environment and Transport Meeting held on 3rd May 2017.

Present: Councillors Janet Jones (Chair), Pamela Forbes, Ron Fox, Andy Stokes and Judith Hart (Town Clerk)

Part I (Open to the Public)

17/14. Questions raised by the public: None

17/15. Apologies for absence: Cllrs Pam Barrett, Mark Maish and Linus McCloskey

17/16. Declaration of Interests: None

17/17. To approve & sign as a correct the Minutes of the Planning, Environment and Transport Committee meeting on Wednesday 5th April 2017.

Signed by Cllr Janet Jones

17/18. Review of actions from previous meeting:

Greater Exeter Strategic Plan, Newton Abbot Draft Development Framework Plan and the South Hams Special Area of Conservation Mitigation for the Heart of Teignbridge and Bovey Tracey – The Clerk confirmed that a letter was sent to the Principal Planning Officer for Spatial Planning at Teignbridge District Council (TDC) on 12th April 2017 which to date has not been acknowledged.

X38 Stagecoach bus service – Following the response from Stagecoach dated 27th March 2017, the Clerk sent a further letter requesting that Stagecoach look at the feasibility of providing a scheduled stop for the Falcon, Plymouth to Bristol coach service in Buckfastleigh. No response received to date.

Holne Road allocated site – notification of community engagement by a potential developer – The Clerk sent an email on 5th April 2017 inviting the developer to meet with representatives of the Town Council at the earliest opportunity. No response received to date.

The Clerk was asked to re-send any correspondence not responded to within a reasonable period of time.

17/19. Planning Applications:

17/0031 Proposed tree works – to fell a rowan at 24 Market Close, Buckfastleigh

No objection

17/20. Planning Applications received after Agenda set:

0209/17 Proposed: Erection of single storey lean-to extension and installation of dormer windows at 34 Bossell Road, Buckfastleigh.

Support – Members agreed that the proposed alterations would be an improvement to the property.

17/21. To discuss the planning, management and communications issues for projects which are within the remit of this committee:

Buckfastleigh Helipad – The Clerk confirmed that Cllr Pam Barrett had sent an email to Toby Russell, Community Landing Site Development Officer for Devon Air Ambulance to provide a progress update and that John Bailey, Chair of Buckfastleigh Rangers Football Club had advised that TDC have not responded positively to this project.

Action: All correspondence to be shared with the Members of this committee.

Solar Panel installation for community buildings – The Town Hall and swimming pool have been identified as appropriate community buildings for the installation of the solar panels, but the other buildings identified are either not used enough to benefit from this initiative or have a suitable roof space to accommodate the panels which ideally should be south to south-west facing.

Action: Cllr Andy Stokes to pursue further and discuss with the Devon Association of Renewable Energy who have been engaged by the Town Council. Cllr Ron Fox to discuss the practicalities of the proposed installation at the next Buckfastleigh Swimming Pool meeting. It was also suggested to consult with the community via the Town Council Facebook page regarding other community buildings within the parish that may be able to benefit from this project.

17/22. To develop a Parish Policy on Green Space:

Members agreed that it would be proactive to develop a parish policy on green space, but to firstly identify which parcels of land could be included for eg. publicly owned, held in trust etc. The policy could provide advice on issues such as wildlife management, the use of chemicals, planting, hedge cutting and what the land will be used for in the long term.

Action:

1. To create a forum for communication
2. To provide education and channels of information
3. To create a cohesive strategy between landowners for the parish

Members to research and report back to this committee.

17/23. Buckfastleigh Neighbourhood Plan update:

Action: Clerk to circulate all the responses to the pre-submission Neighbourhood Plan consultation to Cllrs Janet Jones, Andy Stokes and Pamela Forbes to collate and to arrange a steering group meeting to examine the submissions.

17/24. Correspondence: None

17/25. Items requiring urgent attention:

Cllr Pamela Forbes raised concerns about the alleged use of units at the Devonian site. No change of use applications for other businesses to operate from this site have been received by the Town Council.

Action: Clerk to consult with the planning authority

Cllr Ron Fox: The bollard at Crest Hill has still not been replaced by Devon Highways and their website does not facilitate this request.

Action: Cllr Fox to report this matter directly to the Highways Officer.

Cllr Pamela Forbes: A request to TDC to provide a dog waste bin at Bridge Street was declined despite this area of town having no provision for dog waste or litter.

Action: Cllrs Forbes and Jones to pursue with TDC

Cllr Andy Stokes: The Town Council has formally requested that TDC stops using glyphosate based chemicals to control weeds around the parish which has been agreed, but the Council now needs to consider the alternatives to keep Buckfastleigh green spaces tidy.

Members agreed that some of this work could be undertaken by the new Town Ranger.

Meeting closed at 8.20pm