

BUCKFASTLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Planning, Environment and Transport Meeting held on 6th September 2017.

Present: Councillors Andy Stokes (Acting Chair), Pam Barrett, Pamela Forbes, Ron Fox, Mark Maish and Judith Hart (Town Clerk)

In attendance: 1 member of the public regarding planning application no. 17/0054

Part I (Open to the Public)

17/67. Questions raised by the public: None

17/68. Apologies for absence: Cllr Janet Jones

Cllr Linus McCloskey did not attend

17/69. Declaration of Interests: None

17/70. To approve & sign as a correct the Minutes of the Planning, Environment and Transport Committee meeting on Wednesday 2nd August 2017.

Signed by Cllr Andy Stokes

17/71. Review of actions from previous meeting:

Community Assets Register - Members agreed that Cllr Andy Stokes will liaise with the Town Ranger regarding the creation of a community assets register. Clerk to pursue a progress meeting with the new Teignbridge District Council (TDC) Assets Manager who is now in post.

Green Policy for the Parish – Cllrs Mark Maish and Andy Stokes to look at current and future arrangements with TDC.

It was agreed that a management plan is needed for the maintenance of verges, the pond and small pieces of land which could be designated as areas for planting and improvement such spring bulbs and wildflowers or maintaining protected species such as the Deptford Pink.

Action: Town Ranger to liaise with Cllr Mark Maish

Dartmoor National Park Authority consultation on proposals to introduce a Pay and Conserve parking scheme – the Clerk confirmed that the response from the Town Council had been acknowledged and will be considered as part of the consultation process by DNPA Members in October.

17/72. Planning Applications received after Agenda set:

Application 17/0053: Proposed tree works at Market Barn, Market Close, Buckfastleigh

No comment

Application 17/0052: Proposed tree works at Dart Garage, Dart Bridge Road, Buckfastleigh

No objection

Application 17/0054: Proposed tree works at 28 Fullaford Park, Buckfastleigh

No objection to the work proposed within the grounds of applicant's property, but 5 of the 6 trees referred to in the application are within the Town Council owned area of the Ducks Pond. Members agreed that a working party is required to discuss this matter further with the applicant who oversees the maintenance of this area on a voluntary basis.

17/73. Dartmoor Local Plan Settlement Profiles – Consultation with Parish and Town Councils:

Numerous inaccuracies had been identified by Members and the Clerk with respect to Buckfastleigh which has raised concerns about the accuracy of information published in the Dartmoor Local Plan.

Action: Clerk to meet with Cllr Pamela Forbes to highlight all the errors and submit to DNPA.

17/74. Initial discussion with reference to the Devon planning application 0402/17 Proposed: Demolition of store and erection of new trimming building at Devon Sheepskins & Tannery Ltd, Mardle Way, Buckfastleigh

A site visit had been carried out and Members agreed that a masterplan is essential for this site to avoid piecemeal development. The Town Council would like to have the opportunity to be involved with the development of the whole area as part of a DNPA led masterplan. Concerns were raised about the condition of several buildings including the offices and trimming building.

The provision of space for other small businesses within the site is supported by the Town Council, but it was suggested that this should be developed with reference to the Neighbourhood Plan.

Decision: Recommendation from this committee that the Town Council does not support this application unless it is put forward as part of a masterplan for the site. Cllr Andy Stokes to draft a response to the planning application which will be circulated and discussed further at the September Town Council meeting.

17/75. Whitecleave Quarry update and draft letter of complaint to Devon County Council:

A draft letter had been circulated to Members prior to this meeting and additional comments and amendments were noted.

It was highlighted that this is a formal complaint regarding the current situation at Whitecleave Quarry and how this has been mismanaged by Devon County Council.

Action: Clerk to send out the final draft to all concerned.

17/76. Buckfastleigh Neighbourhood Plan update:

A high number of recommendations and comments had been received which need to be examined before the plan is ready to go to referendum.

Action: Cllr Simon Rines, Janet Jones and Andy Stokes to arrange a date within the next few weeks to meet and discuss further.

17/77. Preliminary review of car parks within the Parish:

Action: Recommendation to September full Council to commission a viability study regarding the transfer of TDC owned car parks to the Town Council.

17/78. To discuss the planning, management and communications issues for projects which are within the remit of this committee:

Buckfastleigh Helipad – DNPA have confirmed that planning permission is not required to change the lumens to LED bulbs on the existing floodlight poles at the football ground and the Football Club have the quotes for this work to take place.

Action: Meeting to be arranged with Toby Russell, Devon Air Ambulance, John Bailey of Buckfastleigh Rangers Football Club, Cllr Pam Barrett and the Clerk to discuss the next stage of installation, a maintenance programme, responsibilities and contingency costs.

Solar Panels – Cllr Andy Stokes is awaiting the decision of a grant application. Two energy reports were undertaken for both the Town Hall and the swimming pool and it was found that the pool has the highest continuous use of energy during the summer season which makes it more suitable for the installation of solar panels.

It was agreed that if the grant application is unsuccessful the installation of panels for the pool goes ahead as the preferred option and if the application is successful the solar panels are installed to both the pool and the Town Hall

17/79. Correspondence: None

17/80. Items requiring urgent attention: None

Meeting closed at 8.37pm