

PETERSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

A meeting of the Town Development Committee was held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Petersfield on 1st March 2019 at 3.00 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr J Palmer (Chairman), Cllr J Deane, Cllr J Matthews, Cllr Ms M Vincent, Cllr Mrs L Farrow, Cllr Mrs J Butler (East Hampshire District Council), Mr P Marshall (Petersfield Society), Ms L Bevan and Mr G Morgan-Owen.

Also in attendance: Mr N Hitch (Town Clerk), Mr S Field (Project and Office Manager) and Mrs S Fisher (Committee Administrator). There were 2 members of the public present.

T 0706 **CHAIRMANS REMARKS**

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting, and welcomed Gethin Morgan-Owen to the Committee.

T 0707 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr C Wilton, Cllr R Oppenheimer (Hampshire County Council), Mr R Mocatta (South Downs National Park Authority), Mr D Humphries .

T 0708 **GRANTING OF DISPENSATION UNDER SECTION 33 OF THE LOCALISM ACT (2011)**

There were no requests for dispensation.

T 0709 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

T 0710 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Town Development Committee minutes of the meeting held on 1st February 2019, previously circulated, were approved.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Town Development Committee, held on 1st February 2019 be approved.

T 0711 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public representation.

T 0712 **PRESENTATION FROM DAVE WINSOR**

Members received a presentation from Dave Winsor in respect of joining the Town Development Committee as a non-voting member.

Members were particularly interested to note Mr Winsor's background in electricity distribution infrastructure.

RECOMMENDED that Dave Winsor be invited to become a non-voting member of the Town Development Committee.

T 0713

INFORMATION REGARDING PROPOSED EXTENSION TO THE CAR PARKING AT THE STATION

Members received and noted an email from Jeff Rose, Senior Project Manager at South Western Railways Car Parking Enhancement Programme and were advised by the Town Clerk that East Hampshire District Council is seeking clarification from South Western Railway as to the proposed revenue stream in relation to capital investment. Members agreed that if the Town Council were to provide funding for the additional parking infrastructure then it would expect a revenue share. It was noted by the members that there is a requirement in the Petersfield Neighbourhood Plan for additional car parking in the town and that commuter car parking is different to the needs of short term parking. The members also noted that additional car parking at the station might help to alleviate on street car parking issues in the area surrounding the station but that other measures would also need to be explored to resolve this issue.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is to respond positively to Jeff Rose at South Western Railways with regard to the proposal to extend car parking at the station.

T 0714

FINGERPOST SIGNAGE FOR THE TOWN

Members reviewed the indicative quote for cast iron fingerpost signs for the Town (but not installation costs), there are currently 6 signs which need replacing and possibly a further 4 to be installed. Funding for the finger post signage was included in both of the recent Community Infrastructure Levy and Hampshire County Council Infrastructure Fund bids, totalling £25,000. Members expressed concern that the signs are actually made overseas and that they were relatively generic and might not provide a link with the signage used in the South Downs or the Shipwrights Way or Hangers Way.

RECOMMENDATION the Council Officers to prepare a proposal as to the replacement and refining of the finger post signage in the Town

Council Officers to investigate alternative quotes and design for alternative signage options (especially

T 0715

UPDATE FROM TOURISM SUB-GROUP

Members noted that the Tourism Sub-Group had identified that Petersfield should sell itself better and define its brand and offering. The Tourism Sub-Group has identified 3 possible consultants to prepare a tourism strategy for the Town: Tourism South East, Acorn Tourism and the consultant which recently assisted Alton Town Council with its re-branding. Members agreed to instruct a consultant and noted that this would also shape the decision making with regard to the future of the Town Visitors Centre (TVC). It was recognised that funding for this work has already been approved in the Council's budget and that the timescales were very tight as the tourism strategy would be required before a decision could be made on the future of the TVC (probably in September or October of this year). It was therefore agreed that a decision as to which consultant to instruct to carry out this work would need to be made at the next Town Development Committee Meeting in April.

RESOLVED

that Council Officers are to brief Tourism South East, Acorn Tourism and a third company (the company which was instructed by Alton Town Council), to invite them to present a pitch, including fee structure, for the preparation of a tourism strategy for the Town (the brief is to include the Neighbourhood Plan); this is to be to the Tourism Sub-Group, along with any other Members wishing to attend, on 5th April 2019 before the Town Development Committee Meeting

T 0716

TO REVIEW PROGRESS ON RESOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS FROM OTHER MEETINGS

Members noted that Gethin Morgan-Owen has now been officially invited to join the Town Council as a non-voting member.

Cllr Mrs J Butler advised that Future High Street Fund is oversubscribed and that the focus of the fund is on regeneration projects so it is unlikely that the application will be successful.

Gethin Morgan-Owen was invited to take on responsibility for cycling related issues.

Members were advised that a bid has been submitted for Community Infrastructure Levy funding to replace the map boards.

(Cllr Mrs J Butler left the meeting at 4.04pm).

Louise Bevan notified members that a response had been received from Tesco with regard to the water meadow land near the store however there was no real update, Ms Bevan will respond.

Members discussed the issue of the footbridge over the A3 and that this would be beneficial for tourism and walking routes. It was noted that this is an issue for Highways England.

RESOLVED Town Clerk to make contact with Highways England and establish a dialogue on the issue of a footbridge/alternative crossing of the A3.

T 0717 **TOP 5 IDP PROJECTS**

There were no significant updates.

Shared Spaces – Town Spine (Project Delivery Team) – funding is awaited.

Station /Lavant Street - Town Spine (Project Delivery Team)

Car Parks (Mr R Mocatta)

Cycle Ways (Cllr C Wilton)

Link to Countryside (Mr R Mocatta)

T 0718 **PLANNING APPLICATION REVIEW**

Members reviewed the planning meeting agendas that had taken place since the last Town Development Meeting, and there were no comments on these planning applications.

T 0719 **PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER 18/0692/OUT**

Members considered the outline planning application for Buckmore Farm and noted the concerns raised by the Planning Committee in relation to the application. Members were concerned that the application does not refer to the Neighbourhood Plan, in particular the self-build element, and is very high density (35 dwellings per hectare, higher than anywhere else in the Town). Members agreed that the Town Council would not support the applications as it stands and that it would prepare a draft response should be prepared to put to the South Downs National Parks Authority Planning Committee when it considers the application.

RESOLVED that Petersfield Town Council will prepare a response to Planning Application number 18/0692/OUT to put to South Downs National Parks Authority Planning Committee, such a response to focus on:

- (i) The high density of the proposed development;

- (ii) The lack of explanation or information regarding custom self-build or affordable housing included in the application
- (iii) The lack of public consultation on the proposed development
- (iv) The indicative design layout and orientation fail to integrate into the existing landscape.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.37p.m.

