

# LEOMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

## PLANNING & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 commencing at 19:00 hours remotely via Zoom.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillors Rosser (Chair), Williams (Vice-Chair), Herschy, Parris, Preece, Rumsey and Thomas.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ward Cllrs Bartlett and Marsh and two members of the public.

**OFFICER PRESENT:** Town Clerk.

**PH13/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

**PH14/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Declarations of Interest were made:

- Cllr Herschy -Trustee of LARC ref. Planning item 500989

**PH15/20 HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Herefordshire Council members were in attendance in an advisory role and were not involved in any decision making.

**PH16/20 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

No requests for dispensation had been received.

**PH17/20 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

A member of the public raised the issue of vehicles speeding on Hereford Road. Whilst working from home recently he had noticed that it had become a frequent occurrence and asked if any traffic calming had been considered for the road. The Chair asked Cllr. Marsh if she would like to respond and she informed the member of the public that a request had been sent to the local authority and monitoring had been carried out. The results of the monitoring indicated that heavy traffic calming measures would be required in order to ensure that traffic regulations were respected. At the time of the enquiry there was no funding available for implementing measures and a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) would be required. The request for a TRO was added to the Herefordshire Council list. Recently Herefordshire Council passed a motion to reduce speed limits to 20mph in residential areas, which would be easier to enforce at a county level.

A second member of the public read out a letter regarding application 201466 that outlined the reason for the application to build a rural enterprise worker's dwelling.

**PH18/20 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2020 be agreed and will be signed as a correct record when social distancing restrictions are lifted.

**PH19/20 PLANNING**

(a) **Planning applications** – It was **RESOLVED** to submit the following comments to Herefordshire Council:

**Application no & site address:** Planning Consultation - **200523** - Alexander And Duncan, Southern Avenue, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 0QB

**Description:** Proposed replacement building.

**Comment:** No Objection

**Application no & site address:** Planning Consultation - **200642** - 31 Bridge Street, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 8DU

**Description:** Proposed loading bay attached to the existing building

**Comment:** No Objection

**Application no & site address:** Planning Consultation - **201424** - 110 Bridge Street, Leominster, HR6 8DZ

**Description:** Pollard two ash trees, due to over shading of two gardens and trees too big for gardens.

**Comment:** No Objection

**Application no & site address:** Planning Consultation - **200852** - Hillcrest, 143 Bargates, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 8QS

**Description:** Reduce 3 leylandii trees by 50%.

**Comment:** No Objection

**Application no & site address:** Planning Consultation - **201468** - Grange Court, The Grange, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 8NL

**Description:** T1 - Austrian Pine tree to remove any hazardous dead or hanging snapped out branches. Crown thin by 20-30% removing branches no larger than 80mm, to reduce weight loading and lessen wind resistance.

**Comment:** No Objection

**Application no & site address:** Planning Consultation - **201411** - 16 South Street, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 8JB

**Description:** Change of use from shop area to two bed apartment and workshop to two bed house involving minor alterations to interior and replacement of windows and doors to the rear.

**Comment:** Objection – Overdevelopment.

**Application no & site address:** Planning Consultation - **201412** - 16 South Street, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 8JB

**Description:** Change of use from shop area to two bed apartment and workshop to two bed house involving minor alterations to interior and replacement of windows and doors to the rear.

**Comment:** Objection – Overdevelopment of a listed building

**Application no & site address:** Planning Consultation - 201466 - Land at Stag Batch House, Monkland Road, Stag Batch, Herefordshire.

**Description:** Proposed site for erection of a rural enterprise worker's dwelling

**Comment:** No Objection

## PH20/20 DECISIONS

The following planning decisions received from Herefordshire Council were noted. These were presented at the meeting:

### **Leominster West**

**Number:** P200099/FH

**Current status:** Determination Made

**Type:** Full Householder

**Location:** 70b Bargates Leominster Herefordshire HR6 8QS

**Proposal:** Proposed conversion of garage to bedroom and single storey extension.

**Comment:** No Objection

**Decision:** Approved with Conditions

### **Leominster East**

**Number:** P201258/PA7

**Current status:** Determination Made

**Type:** All others - Prior Approval

**Location:** Land West of Widgeon Hill Leominster Herefordshire

**Proposal:** notification of agricultural development - excavation/waste material - pond extension to hold flood water.

**Comment:** No Comment

**Decision:** Prior Approval Not Required

## PH21/20 HIGHWAYS AND PARKING MATTERS

### (a) Highway and Parking Matters

- Leominster Public Realm – Cllr. Preece expressed concerns regarding the poor state of the public realm in the town and highlighted that the works being carried out on A49 from Ashton to OK Diner shouldn't be prioritised over the town roads. The clerk confirmed that A49 was the responsibility of Highways England and not Herefordshire Council. Cllr. Bartlett stated that it was a countywide issue and that post COVID-19 Leominster's Heritage Action Zone Scheme should progress, addressing some of the required public realm works.

- Highway Utility Covers – Cllr. Thomas had spoken to the Balfour Beatty Locality Steward regarding the defective utility covers on Barons Cross Road that had been causing a noise nuisance. Balfour Beatty would be resetting the covers, but to comply with current social distancing regulations as a response to COVID-19, their staff would be required to travel to site in separate vehicles, causing a delay to the works schedule. It was requested that the clerk invite Cllr. John Harrington, Cabinet Member - Infrastructure and Transport, to the next meeting of the Planning & Highways Committee.

**(b) Speeding Incidents**

- This was discussed during the public questions section of the meeting but it was proposed by Cllr. Rosser and seconded by Cllr. Preece and voted unanimously that the Town Council should support the move by Herefordshire Council to impose 20mph limit in residential areas. It was also suggested that the clerk should contact the Safer Roads Partnership regarding speed monitoring.

**(c) Cycling and Walking COVID-19 response**

- On 9<sup>th</sup> May 2020 a new £2billion package was announced by central government to deliver alternative ways to travel, such as walking and cycling. This will allow councils to reallocate road space for increased numbers of walkers and cyclists and enable social distancing before the relaxing of regulations takes full effect. This would mean using cones and barriers to widen footways eg. Near to schools, reducing speed limits and introducing pedestrian and cycle zones by restricting access for motor vehicles at certain times. This would require Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders and the local authority would have to consider access for Blue Badge holders, deliveries and other essential services and they would have to consult with police, emergency services and local businesses. Cllr. Thomas said that he had already spoken to several businesses regarding the matter and had received a positive response. Following discussion, it was agreed that any measure would have to be disability compliant and that the local businesses would have to be involved in the consultation process. It was proposed by Cllr. Preece and seconded by Cllr. Rosser and unanimously agreed that Leominster should be added to the list for review and a briefing from Herefordshire Council should be organised to find out more detail and discuss consultation with local businesses.

**PH22/20 LICENCING MATTERS**

No licencing applications had been received to consider.

**PH23/20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Committee noted that the next meeting would be held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020 commencing at 7:00pm either remotely via Zoom or in the Council Offices, 11 Corn Square, Leominster, HR6 8YP depending on the lifting of social distancing restrictions by central government.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 20.28 hours.

**CHAIR:**

**DATE:**