

**BRIDGNORTH TOWN COUNCIL****Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting of Bridgnorth Town Council held in the Annexe, College House on Tuesday 3rd October 2023 at 6.45pm.**

Present: Councillors D Cooper (Chair), I Wellings (Vice Chair), and R Ireland
Co-opted Mr B Jones

In Attendance: Mrs C Turner, Town Clerk

PLN/016/2324 WELCOME

The Chair issued a welcome to the meeting and introduced Mr B Jones as a co-opted member of the Planning Committee with none voting rights.

Mr B Jones introduced himself and provided the committee with some back ground of his experience and knowledge with planning matters.

PLN/017/2324 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was proposed by Councillor D Cooper, seconded by Councillor I Wellings
Unanimously agreed by all Councillors present.

RESOLVED: that the Committee receive the apologies for the following Councillors:

Councillor J Buckley – other commitment
Councillor K Sawbridge – other commitment

PLN/018/2324 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

PLN/019/2324 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present and no questions had been received prior to the meeting.

PLN/020/2324 MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor I Welling, seconded by Councillor R Ireland
Unanimously agreed by all Councillors present

RESOLVED: to approve the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 1st August 2023 as a true record of the business transacted.

The Chair updated the item PLN/012/2324 had been corrected and updated. This was noted by the committee.

PLN/021/2324 MEMBERS QUESTION TIME

None was received.

PLN/022/2324 RENEWAL OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Members were asked to note the Renewal of Delegation Authority to submit and agreed at the Full Council Meeting on Tuesday 19th September 2023 – TC/08/2324 resolution (01142/2324)

PLN/023/2324 PLANNING APPLICATIONS FROM 27TH JULY 2023 – 27TH SEPTEMBER 2023



Members noted the Planning applications received, responses submitted by the Town Council under Delegated Authority and Shropshire County Council decisions. Additional information since the agenda was prepared:

- 23/03262/FUL – no objection comment submitted under delegated authority
- 23/03755/FUL – no objection comment submitted under delegated authority
- 23/03706/FUL – extended by 2 days to provide comment based on discussion at this meeting
- 23/03737/ADV – extended until 4th October to provide comment based on discussion at this meeting
- 23/03788/TCA – agreed by Shropshire Council on Monday 2nd October 23

Noted by the Committee.

PLN/024/2324 **APPEALS LODGED**

Members noted the appeals lodge since the last Planning Committee Meeting. Appeal reference included:

- 23/03184/REF – no comment made by Bridgnorth Town Council

Noted by the Committee.

PLN/25/2324 **TOWN CENTRE, SHOP FRONTS AND SIGNAGE**

1. The Committee received an update from the Chairman of the Planning Committee regarding the legislation and regulations that deemed consent with condition for signage / advertising and within a conservation area and the requirement for planning permission where the larger signage / advertising is required as part of the regulations. An update was provided for the possibility of applying for a designated area of special controls through Shropshire Council with the Secretary of State providing consent for this, this would need to be investigated further. It was confirmed that under Bridgnorth District Council there was an Urban Design Guide but it was unsure if this was adopted by Shropshire Council and still in place, as well as unsure if this dealt with signage. The buildings in the High Street are predominantly grade 2 listed and the specific guidance on advertising restrictions on what can be refused.

It was debated that in respect of listed buildings colour pallets that are in keeping with the buildings and the conservation area could be explored and could be discussed with the BID for consideration as part of the project and also Future Bridgnorth Project. It was debated that the Shropshire Council Conservation Officer would be approached to discuss the possibility of a colour pallet and what statement could be included to adapt an approach (Design Guide) for the shop frontages and High Street to advise on what standards could be used.

It was proposed by Councillor I Wellings, seconded by Councillor D Cooper
Abstained by Councillor R Ireland

RESOLVED: for the Town Clerk to approach the BID team, Future Bridgnorth Project and Shropshire Conservation Officer to explore the opportunity to standardise the colour pallet to be used by shops and businesses in the future with an appropriate design guide for the town.

2. Members debated the shop fronts and signage in High Town and Low Town centres. The included:



- 23/03707/ADV Chartwell Business Park

It was proposed by Councillor I Wellings, seconded by Councillor R Ireland
Unanimously agreed by all Councillors present

RESOLVED: to object to planning reference 23/03707/ADV, with the objection response to be: A shorter Totem than was previously proposed does not address the issue of visual clutter and adverse effect on the amenity of the area which formed the basis of the refusal under 23/02320/ADV.

- 23/03702/ADV and 23/03705/LBC Trespass 35 High Street

It was proposed by Councillor I Wellings, seconded by Councillor R Ireland
Unanimously agreed by all Councillors present

RESOLVED: to object to the following planning applications:

23/03702/ADV – Objection response to be, the lettering and logo proposed for the fascia sign appear disproportionately large compared with signs on nearby properties and we would prefer a smaller font size to be used.

23/03705/LBC – Objection response to be, whilst we appreciate that the proposed signage is similar in character to that of the previous occupiers of the building, we feel that a more muted fascia colour would be appropriate for this Grade II* building and would prefer the use of painted rather than applied acrylic lettering and logos.

PLN/026/2324

MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO DISCUSS AND DEBATE OUTSIDE PUB DRINKING AND PAVEMENT LICENCES/PERMISSIONS – BLOCKED PAVEMENTS – RESIDENTS COMPLAINT

Members debated the questions question raised from a resident via Councillor I Wellings regarding if the High Street was a Alcohol Free Zone, it was confirmed it was not, and the issue raised with all the outdoor areas for drinking outside premises at times overspill and boundaries not defined that the general public had to walk on the road to get past these areas. The premises licences and pavement permits were debated.

It was proposed by Councillor D Cooper, seconded by Councillor I Wellings
Unanimously agreed by all Councillors present

RESOLVED: for the Town Clerk contact planning to discuss the proposal for the following for Bridgnorth Town Council:

- Copies of the licences to also accompanied by a map
- Is there a list for Bridgnorth that is in the public domain for shops and business that have a pavement permit and ask for a copy of this.
- For Bridgnorth Town Council to be notified of any new applications for pavement permits
- How Shropshire Council police the licence to address issues of overspill and using areas outside of the boundary.

PLN/027/2324

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

The following items were put forward for a future agenda:

- Local Plan
- Marquee for Bridgnorth Rugby Club

PLN/028/2324

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETING) ACT 1960



It was proposed by Councillor D Cooper, seconded by I Wellings
Unanimously agreed by all Councillors present

RESOLVED: in terms of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, the following items will be likely to disclose exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters and it is, therefore, **RESOLVED:** that pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded.

PLN/029/2324 **ENFORCEMENT**

Members were provided with the background and actions completed regarding the anonymous letter raising concerns. The action taken was noted by the committee.

It was proposed by Councillor I Wellings, seconded by Councillor R Ireland
Unanimously agreed by all Councillors present.

RESOLVED: to agree to submit an enforcement enquiry to Shropshire Council relating to the shop frontage in Low Town.

End: 8.40pm.

Signed: DN Cooper

Date: 8/10/2023