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Morpeth Town Council
Minutes of the Planning and Transport Committee
Wednesday 14th March 2018 at 6:30pm
in the Council Chambers at the Town Hall, Morpeth

Present:	Councillors:	J Wearmouth	– Vice Chairman
		N Best	– Mayor, <i>ex-officio</i>
		A Byard	
		J Parreira	
		A Tebbutt	
		J Tebbutt	
	Clerks:	Miss D Smith	– Deputy Clerk
		Ms A Cole	– Administration Officer
		Mrs J Wilson	– Office Manager
	Absent Councillors:	Cllr R Wearmouth	- Business
		Cllr K Holmes	- Personal
		Cllr J Gebhard	- Business
		Cllr N Bawn	- No Apologies received

In the absence of Cllr R Wearmouth, Cllr J Wearmouth assumed the Chair.

392/17 **Committee Chairman's Announcements**

- Members were advised of the usual rules about the recording of meetings.
- Members were reminded that mobile phones should be turned on to silent and should not be used during the meeting.
- The Vice Chairman advised that Northumberland County Council (NCC) have confirmed that they have been out to review the signage for the A697. A written response will be sent to the Morpeth Town Council (MTC) in due course.

393/17 **Mayoral Announcements**

- The Easter Oranges annual event will take place at Carlisle Park, Morpeth on Monday 2nd April 2018 at 11am.
- The Annual Charity Swimathon took place on Saturday 10th March. Cllr Byard and her team completed 78 lengths of the pool. All monies raised will be split between the Morpeth Lions and the Mayors charity.
- A presentation will take place prior to Full Council on Wednesday 21st March at 6pm from both 'Yes' and 'No' campaigners for the Business Improvement District (BID) proposals.

394/17 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest received on this occasion.

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395/17 **Public Participation Time**

There were no members of the public present who wished to ask a question on this occasion.

396/17 **Minutes of the Planning and Transport Committee held on 21st February 2018**

The minutes of the above meeting was approved as a true record with the following amendment:-

Page 4 – Min no 367/17 - Planning Application 17/04652/FUL - Cllr Hogg also attended the meeting, sentence amended to - *Cllr J Wearmouth, Hogg and Byard attended a meeting with Barratts Technical Director to resolve some ongoing issues.*

Page 9 – Min no 364/17 - Prohibition of Driving Order - add 'than spaces', sentence amended to - *Residents parking permits were suggested, however it is likely that there would be more permits issued than spaces.*

RESOLVED

- a) That the Minutes of 21st February 2018, a copy of which had been previously printed and circulated to each Member, be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chair.

397/17 **Matters Arising**

See Appendix B

398/17 **Items referred from other Committees and Working Groups**

There were no items referred on this occasion.

399/17 **Licences**

There were no licenses to consider on this occasion.

400/17 **Town and Country Planning Act 1990**

- (i) Members considered the planning applications for w/c 5th March 2018, see Appendix C.

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(ii) Members were provided for information with the comments submitted to applications on planning lists 19th February, and 26th February 2018.

(iii) 17/03131/S106A - Former St. Georges Hospital, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2NS

Members were advised that the above application was withdrawn at the applicant's request.

RESOLVED

a) Information duly noted.

401/17

Morpeth Northern Bypass

Members were asked to consider a response to the above consultation.

RESOLVED

To submit the following response:-

1. Yes, we were happy with the level of engagement throughout the project
2. No issues which were not expected with this type of work. Some business benefited from the construction with an increase in footfall from construction workers. The Fairmoor Garage in particular has suffered from the new road layout as the flow of traffic entering and leaving the town no longer passes the garage.
3. The planting alongside the road is good and the partnership work to complete the planting on one of the roundabouts to support the Morpeth in Bloom entry is appreciated. The cycle paths along the stretch of road is a good addition to the new layout. The signage, in particular for the A697, is not sufficient and a number of tourists and locals have been unable to get on to the correct road.
4. The reduction of traffic on the A197 would indicate that people are aware of this road being an alternative route.
5. There has been a slight increase in traffic using Pottery Bank following the opening of the scheme.
6. Morpeth is expecting a large number of new houses in the future, therefore we believe this will negate any benefit that we are feeling at this time.

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402/17

Newmarket East Car Park Closure – Fair Day

Members were asked to consider a request received from NCC Parking Services regarding the closure of the above car park from 5th – 11th June, 2018.

RESOLVED

- (a) Information duly noted
- (b) To respond to NCC Parking Services to advise that Members' request that any closure of the car park remains the same as previous years – late Wednesday to Sunday.

403/17

Proposal for Changes to the Post-16 Transport Policy in Northumberland

Members were asked to consider a response to the above consultation. Members agreed that this consultation was more appropriate to rural areas.

RESOLVED

- (a) Information duly noted
- (b) MTC support this *Proposed policy, JW* consultation

404/17

Local Event Road Closures

Members were provided for information with an email from Northumberland County Council Streetworks department regarding costs for road closures for events held in Morpeth.

RESOLVED

- a) Information duly noted
- b) To respond to NCC to thank County Cllr Glen Sanderson for providing financial assistance for events in the coming year, and also to ask if further consideration can be given for events such as Fair Day which is of economic significance to the town.

405/17

Tree Preservation Order (TPO)

- (i) Members were asked to consider if there are any Tree Preservation Orders they would like to be applied for in the Morpeth area.

RESOLVED

- a) There were no TPO's requested on this occasion

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406/17

Road Closures

Members were advised of the following road closures:-

1. U6114 Bennetts Walk, Morpeth
2. U6107 Rectory Park, Morpeth

RESOLVED

- a) Information duly noted

407/17

Morpeth Forum

The Vice Chairman advised members that the Storey Park consultation has now ended, with approximately 200 responses. These are being recorded and results will be reported to the Finance and General Purposes Committee in due course.

RESOLVED

- a) Information duly noted

408/17

Local Council Issues

There were no issues on this occasion

There was no other business to discuss and the meeting concluded at 7:15pm with Councillors J Wearmouth, N Best, A Byard, J Parreira, J Tebbutt and A Tebbutt present.

396/17 Matters Arising from Previous Committee Meetings – Appendix B

Minute Number	Item	Current Position	Action from meeting
364/17, (321/17) (289/17) (251/17)	Prohibition of Driving Order, Morpeth Town Centre	The Deputy Clerk advised members that Sgt Forster would organise 2 separate days for officers to speak to those parking in the area to confirm they have accessed the street legally. Anyone parking illegally will be advised to move and not return to park illegally. He will do this again and publicise it. After this has been done, Police officers only will be able to enforce the signage and prosecute if necessary. These measures should improve the situation and Sgt Forster will keep us informed of progress.	Information duly noted
367/17	Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - (v) Application 14/02140/FUL – Clifton Caravan Centre, Great North Road, Clifton, Morpeth NE61 6DG	Members were advised that no response has been received to the concerns below which were raised with the planning officer at Northumberland County Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why has it taken until now for the application to be granted permission when it was minded to approve in 2014; • A Section 278 requirement was to be fulfilled before any development could take place, can a copy of the Section 278 agreement be provided? • Will additional footpaths be installed between the development and the bus stops on the A197? (Part of the Section 278 agreement) 	Information duly noted To chase up a response.
369/17	Funding for Infrastructure - St. George's Wood	The Deputy Clerk advised members that the funding secured is effectively loan funding. The loan will ensure the early provision of the link road with the funding then repaid to the Council in full. This does not offer any financial saving to the developer therefore there is no scope to secure any S106 funding. The hope is to secure early delivery of the road with a target completion date in 2019.	Information duly noted. To respond to Stuart McNaughton to ask if KEVI school could be involved in the infrastructure related scheme.

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371/17	Low Stanners/Dark Lane Flood Alleviation Scheme	Members were advised that NCC have confirmed that Morpeth Town Council will be provided with regular bulletins of the progress of the Flood Alleviation works.	Information noted. To request an update on progress of works.
373/17	Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan and Housing Figures	Members were advised that no response has been received from NCC Cllr John Riddle and Planning Officer Mark Ketley to a request made for confirmation of when the issue as to when does "above minimum" number of houses stop being viable and how will the emerging Local Plan reflect the pressure on Morpeth and the housing already being delivered. Cllr Best advised that the CPRE have produced a report on the impacts of development viability as a planning consideration on the delivery of affordable housing. Cllr Byard informed members that she would like a meeting with Neil Easton at NCC regarding the T1 town bus service.	Information duly noted. To chase a response, copying in Cllr R Wearmouth. A copy of CPRE report, to be circulated to all members.
364/17 (326/17)	Consultation -- Morpeth Car Parking Studies		Information duly noted. A meeting is to be arranged and Cllr Byard to attend.

Appendix C - PLANNING APPLICATIONS W/C 5th March 2018

PLANNING REF	NAME & LOCATION	PROPOSAL	MTC RESPONSE	MIN NO	NCC DECISION
18/00697/FUL	Hayley Brown Barnabas Safe And Sound Project Wellwood House Dark Lane Morpeth NE61 1SU	Proposed Change of Use application to convert mixed use property (including B1 Office and A1 Shops) into short term residential accommodation (C2 Residential institutions) for vulnerable young adults.'	Morpeth Town Council support this application subject to the information available at this time.		

SIGNED: 
 DATE: 11/04/18
 CHAIRMAN/VICE-CHAIRMAN
 MORPETH TOWN COUNCIL
 STANDING COMMITTEE