

**Morpeth Town Council**  
**Minutes of the Planning and Transport Committee**  
**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at 6.30pm**  
**in the Council Chambers at the Town Hall, Morpeth**

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Councillors:</b>	J Wearmouth	- Chairman
		N Best	- Vice Chairman
		J Gebhard	- Mayor (ex-officio)
		N Bawn	
		A Byard (arriving at 6.34pm)	
		D Herne	
		K Holmes	
		A Tebbutt	
	<b>Clerks:</b>	Miss D Smith	- Deputy Clerk
		Mrs J Wilson	- Office Manager
		Ms A Cole	- Administration Assistant
	<b>Absent Councillors:</b>	Cllr J Tebbutt	- Illness
		Cllr J Parreira	- Personal

**152/18**      **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.

**153/18**      **Mayoral Announcements**

- The traditional Collingwood Toast will take place on Sunday 21st October 2018 at 11:40am. The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Alison Byard, will be making the toast.
- The annual Remembrance Parade and two-minute silence will take place on Sunday 11th November 2018.
- The Mistletoe Fair and Christmas Lights Switch On event will take place on Saturday 17th November 2018.

**154/18**      **Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest on this occasion.

**155/18**      **Public Participation Time**

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

**156/18**      **Minutes of the Planning and Transport Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

The minutes of the above meeting was approved as a true record.

**RESOLVED**

- a) That the minutes of 19<sup>th</sup> September 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.

**157/18**      **Matters Arising**

See Appendix B

**158/18**      **Items referred from other Committees and Working Groups**

**Finance and General Purposes Committee**

**i)      Community Action Plan**

Members were asked to consider the following items in relation to the Community Action plan.

1. Environment – Comprehensive Tree Strategy

Members were advised that the Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan (MNP) Tree Management Community Action encourages the adoption of an active approach to tree management to include a programme of street tree replacement and planting in Morpeth town centre and establishing guidelines for planting of appropriate trees in new developments.

**RESOLVED**

- a) Information duly noted
- b) To ask NCC for detailed guidance relating to the planting of appropriate trees in new developments;
- c) To ask Morpeth Town Council (MTC) Allotment Officer for advice regarding town trees and to work with Cllr Best and any other volunteers from the town council to progress the tree strategy.

## 2. Resources – S106 Discussions

The Deputy Clerk read a response from Northumberland County Council (NCC) regarding the Town Council involvement in s106 discussions.

Concerns were raised that a protocol has been set by NCC that excludes 3-way negotiation on the basis that it is impractical, and potentially delays decision notices, to negotiate on that basis.

### **RESOLVED**

- a) Information duly noted
- b) To invite NCC officers to meet with members to discuss their response;
- c) To raise concerns regarding the response received from NCC at the next Local Area Council meeting.

## **159/18**      **Licences**

There were no licenses to consider on this occasion.

## **160/18**      **Town and Country Planning Act 1990**

- (i) Members considered the planning applications for w/c 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018, see Appendix D.
- (ii) Members noted the comments submitted to applications on planning lists for the 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> September and 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018.
- (iii) 17/02225/FUL – Workshop, Chantry Place, Morpeth NE61 1PJ

Members were advised that an appeal had been made to the Secretary of State against the decision of Northumberland County Council on the grounds of appeal against refusal to the above application. MTC did not object to this application.

### **RESOLVED**

- a) Information duly noted.

(iv) 16/04486/FUL- Land North of the Garth, Pottery Bank, Morpeth

Members were advised that the above application is going to a public inquiry and were asked to consider seeking Rule 6 Party status to give evidence at the inquiry.

Cllr Best enquired whether the Pottery Bank residents group had been asked to seek Rule 6 Party Status.

**RESOLVED**

- a) Information duly noted
- b) To advise NCC that MTC will not be seeking Rule 6 Party Status;
- c) To contact the Pottery Bank Residents Association to offer the support of MTC, if they choose to seek Rule 6 Party Status;
- d) To email the North Ward Councillors to advise them of the decision.

**161/18**      **Morpeth Parking Direction Signage**

Members were provided for information with proposals to improve the directional signage to Morpeth car parks.

**RESOLVED**

- a) Information duly noted.
- b) To ask NCC for the opportunity to comment once the parking signs are in situ and;
- c) To ask if it is necessary to display the name of the car park on the sign.

**162/18**      **Car Parking Feasibility Study**

Members were advised that concerns have been raised regarding parking at Morpeth Railway Station and Station Cottages and additional parking plans are being discussed for nearby land.

**RESOLVED**

- a) Information duly noted
- b) To ask County Cllr Beynon for an update regarding future parking provision for the railway Station and an update regarding issues raised regarding parking at Station Cottages.

**163/18**      **Consultation on Street Naming and Numbering**

Members were asked to consider the following consultations for street naming and numbering:

1. St. George's Hospital, Morpeth – Suggestion of Hemmingway Road
2. Fulbeck Grange, Morpeth – To remain Fulbeck Grange

Members agreed that Hemingway Road did not tie in with the Victorian theme and something more appropriate should be used.

**RESOLVED**

- a) Information duly noted.
- b) To write to NCC and ask for Rastrick Way to be considered for the St Georges Hospital site and;
- c) For Fulbeck Grange to remain unchanged.

**164/18**      **Road Closures**

Members were advised of the following road closures:

1. U6190 – Abbey Meadows, Morpeth
2. U6114 – Bennetts Walk, Morpeth

**RESOLVED**

- a) Information duly noted

**165/18**      **Morpeth Forum**

Members were advised that there were no updates on this occasion.

**166/18**      **Local Council Issues**

See Min 158/18 (i) (2c)

There were no other issues raised on this occasion.

There was no other business to discuss and the meeting concluded at 7.20pm with Councillors J Wearmouth, N Bawn, N Best, A Byard, J Gebhard, D Herne, K Holmes and A Tebbutt present.

### 157/18 - Matters Arising from Previous Committee Meetings – Appendix B

Minute Number	Item	Current Position	Action from meeting
88/18 (66/18)	Northumberland Local Plan – Spring Consultation	<p><b>Members were provided with a further response from NCC to the following question -</b></p> <p><b>1. What are the next steps for the Morpeth Link Road and to arrange a meeting with NCC regarding this?</b></p> <p>NCC confirmed that as it stands the link road is not being progressed and has no funding attached to it. NCC will take a report to Council Cabinet which will refresh the strategic transport objectives for the council. An update will follow as it becomes available. NCC also advised that a ‘one year after monitoring and evaluation report’ for the Morpeth Northern Bypass is being finalised and they would be willing to come to Committee to provide an update in the future.</p>	<p>Information duly noted.</p> <p>To invite NCC to give an update on the Northern Bypass</p>
92/18	Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan Housing Policy	<p>Members were advised that a date has not yet been set with NCC to discuss the weight of the Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan when considering applications.</p>	<p>Information duly noted</p> <p>To chase up NCC for a date to meet.</p>

**Appendix D - PLANNING APPLICATIONS W/C 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

PLANNING REF	NAME & LOCATION	PROPOSAL	MTC RESPONSE	MIN NO	NCC DECISION
18/03347/LBC	<p><b>Requested to be brought to committee by Cllr Gebhard, from planning list w/c 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018</b>                      Ms Linda Lockett                      Morpeth Castle,                      Castle Walk,                      Morpeth, NE61                      2PP</p>	<p>New external black painted wrought steel handrail in courtyard. New internal black painted wrought steel handrail to main spiral stair.                      Overcladding of main spiral stair treads with oak to provide level firm footing.</p>	<p>Morpeth Town Council welcome any improvements to address any health and safety issues and conditionally support this application upon an assessment being carried out by the Conservation Officer and the proposed works being appropriate to the building.</p>		<p>Application Withdrawn</p>
18/03394/REM	<p><b>Requested to be brought to committee by Cllr Best, from planning list w/c 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018</b>                      Euro Garages Ltd                      Land West of Lancaster Park,                      Pinewood Drive,                      Lancaster Park,                      Morpeth</p>	<p>Reserved matters Application relating to 16/00078/OUT – Development of Phase 1 of proposals which include Trunk Road Service Area, Hotel and Innovation Centre plus associated access, parking, landscaping and other associated infrastructure.</p>	<p>Morpeth Town Council strongly object to this application as it represents a serious departure from the proposals granted outline approval by Northumberland County Council.                      The proposed development offers less in every respect</p>		

PLANNING REF	NAME & LOCATION	PROPOSAL	MTC RESPONSE	MIN NO	NCC DECISION
			<p>than the proposals put forward for Outline Permission.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two thirds of the number of bedrooms in the hotel;</li> <li>• Less than half of the consented floor space of Use Class A3;</li> <li>• Less floor space of Use Class A1;</li> <li>• Basic office space as opposed to the “Innovation Centre for the research and development sector”;</li> <li>• Designs do not meet the Morpeth Neighbourhood</li> </ul>		

PLANNING REF	NAME & LOCATION	PROPOSAL	MTC RESPONSE	MIN NO	NCC DECISION
			<p>Plan Des1 policy criteria;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A significant reduction in the overall number of jobs to be created.</li> </ul> <p>The Officer's report which supported the Outline application placed a very significant weight on the economic benefits of the proposal. To quote:  " Having considered the benefits of the proposals in terms of affordable housing provision, job creation, both in the short and longer term, including provision of an Innovation Centre for the research and development sector, it is considered that the economic benefits of the proposals justify a departure from local</p>		

PLANNING REF	NAME & LOCATION	PROPOSAL	MTC RESPONSE	MIN NO	NCC DECISION
			<p>planning policies, including policies contained within the Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan.” Without such perceived benefits it is clear that permission would not have been granted. As such, Morpeth Town Council strongly suggest that this application should be refused on the grounds listed above. We also note and fully support the objections lodged by the Environment Agency and Lead Local Flood Authority.</p>		
18/02953/FELTPO	<p>Mr David Snowden West Jesmond Tree Surgery Ltd 1 St James Place, 7 Dacre Street, Morpeth, NE61 1HW</p>	<p>Tree Preservation order application for T2 Sycamore – Fell and G1 Sycamore crown raise to 4m</p>	<p>Morpeth Town Council have no comment to this application.</p>		<p>Application Granted</p>



