

MINUTES OF THE TOWN PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 25TH MARCH 2024 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, EVESHAM TOWN HALL AT 6:30PM

PRESENT: Councillors: Mrs J. Tucker (Chair), M. Goodge, R. Hale and W. Kimberley Mr R. Walker

OFFICERS PRESENT: Mrs J. Adams, Town Clerk

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from ClIrs A. Booth, S. Brotherton, Mrs G. Pawson and Ms C. Tredwell, Place Project Officer.

- 2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interests There were none.
- Minutes of the Meeting of the 22nd January 2024
 It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd January 2024 be adopted as a true record.

4. Biodiversity

a) Update on Natural Networks

Cllr Tucker reported. She had walked round with a member of the Natural Networks team and there had been some good ideas on enhancing areas as well as new initiatives. More wildflower planting would be done alongside plug plants and bulbs. As the deadline was early in April, it was resolved to allocate up to $\pounds 2,400$ of the budget from the new financial year towards the matchfund for the project, which would mean an application value of $\pounds 8,000$.

b) <u>Update on campaigns</u>
 The bee and bug hotel initiative was underway. The promotion of seasonal produce was in discussion.

5. Water Quality

Testing had now been extended as far as Tewkesbury. For the duration of the local testing there had been no improvements seen in water quality. A meeting with Severn Trent Water was planned. Cllr Hale reported that there were only 22 locations with bathing water status across the whole country.



6. Evesham Place Project Officer Report

Ms Tredwell had sent apologies. Cllr Tucker reported that the Place Board was discussing better ways to promote river activities.

7. Transport matters:

a) Active Travel Update

Mr Walker reported that the county council had produced a draft Walking and Cycling Plan. Local stakeholders met to discuss the draft plan and provide feedback to officers. The plan was welcomed but it was suggested that it lacked ambition somewhat.

He had presented his report on how Active Travel could play a role in tackling traffic congestion in Evesham to the Place Board.

A meeting was planned later in the week with the WCC Low Carbon officer.

b) Public Transport

The county council had now confirmed that it was responsible for some bus timetables.

The repair of the bus shelter nearest the station had been completed. The Vale Bus and Rail group was in discussion with bus companies to encourage better links between services.

8. Young People

Cllr Tucker reported. Prince Henry's High School had confirmed their enthusiasm for getting involved in the Town Plan. A further meeting was planned in April.

Public Questions None.

The meeting was closed at 8.10pm.

Date of next meeting: To be confirmed

Cllr Julie Tucker Chairman