



# Town Development & Planning Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 5:00pm

**Due to the Covid19 pandemic and related restrictions the meeting was held remotely using video-conferencing software**

**Present:** Councillors Watkins (Chair); Branyon; Bromilow, Holbrook, Parker and Smith

**In attendance:** Bob Bailey, Town Clerk

20033 **Apologies:** There were no apologies

20034 **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** Dispensations were requested and approved to allow discussion on matters on the agenda.

20035 **Urgent Business:** There were no matters of urgent business

20036 **Minutes:** It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 be approved.

20037 **Planning Applications & Policy Matters:** Members considered the following planning applications:

Application No:	Description
20/00596/FUL	Installation of 7 lanterns – The Canal Turn, Lancaster Road Carnforth
20/00607/VCN	Outline application for residential development comprising 213 dwellings with associated vehicular & cycle/pedestrian access to Scotland Road – Land East of Scotland Road, Carnforth

Planning application 20/00596/FUL was supported in principle.

There was much discussion about planning application 20/00607/VCN. It was acknowledged that the Town Council supported this application in its development stages but now question some aspects of the proposals including the plans to create a new footpath from the rear of development site onto Carnforth Brow/ North Road. It was considered that this will further restrict the width of the carriageway as it passes under the railway bridge at Netherbeck and is a particularly dangerous section of the road. It was considered that if the width of the road is to be restricted at this point better traffic calming measures than those proposed in the application will be necessary.

Further, considering Lancashire County Council's proposal to remove Netherbeck / Higher North Road bridge over the A601(M) and replace it with an at grade junction, it is highly likely that traffic flow on this road will increase.



## Town Development & Planning Committee

Concerns were also raised around the change in housing mix proposed, which seems to be moving away from smaller, affordable, properties. Given the importance of this development to the town it was felt that more time was needed to consider the implications of the amendments proposed in this application and, if necessary, seek advice from planning consultants. **ACTION:** Town Clerk to request an extension to the statutory 21 days consultation to enable further consideration and advice sought, if necessary. Cllr Smith will draft a term of reference for advice to be sought from planning consultants and costs considered

Moving on to discuss other planning matters, Councillors were informed that discussions with City Council Planners and Member training had been on hold during the COVID19 lockdown but will be picked up again in the coming weeks.

The Town Clerk reported that following a remote meeting with the consultants working on Design Codes this detailed document was being finalised, in the meantime, our planning consultants are working on policies that will form part of the Carnforth Neighbourhood plan with a major consultation on the draft plan expected in the Autumn.

It was then **RESOLVED** that updates on planning matters be noted and the Town Council be recommended to consider any proposal received from planning consultants for advice on planning application 20/00607/VCN and its related impact on the emerging Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan (**Please Note:** That a quotation was subsequently received for this work and will be presented at the Carnforth Town Council meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> July)

20038 **Town Development / events:** With the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic and the subsequent lockdown, it was recognised that resources had been concentrated on other areas in recent weeks, but the following general updates were provided:

- 1) **High Street Fund:** Councillor Holbrook commented that Lancaster City Council had recently submitted a bid to revamp Morecambe Town Centre from the Governments Future High Street Fund and drew Councillors attention to the opportunities that could be available to invest in Carnforth in the longer term;
- 2) **Heritage building funding:** Councillor Parker reported that he had brought this to the attention of West Coast railway and has been advised that do not qualify for this funding;



## Town Development & Planning Committee

- 3) **VE & VJ Day Service:** Councillor Watkins reported that plans have progressed to hold a celebration service to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of both VE day (previously cancelled due to COVID19 restrictions) and VJ 75 day on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2020.  
**ACTION:** Details to be posted on social media and invitations sent to interested participants;
- 4) **Transport Heritage Festival:** It has been suggested that a festival celebrating the heritage of transport be arranged, possibly to coincide with the Morecambe Vintage Festival. Further work will be carried out and arrangements made to meet with local organisations and businesses with a view to putting a detailed plan together. **ACTION:** Remote meeting to be arranged with key local businesses to discuss the viability of a Transport Heritage Festival in Carnforth;
- 5) **Town and Community Noticeboards:** It was reported that Councillors Smith and Watkins had recently 'cleaned up' the community noticeboards. It was acknowledged that more can be done to brighten up the Town Council's noticeboards. **ACTION:** The Town Clerk and Councillor Smith to consider and implement options;
- 6) **Park Run/ Local Footpath Day:** On hold

### 20039 **Public Realm:**

- 1) **NHS/Keyworkers seat & Pocket Parks:** No progress made. **ACTION:** Councillor Holbrook to follow up with Lancaster City Council, Council Housing Services now that Covid19 restrictions are being relaxed;

### 20040 **Updates on activities / community matters:** Members considered any updates on general actions and activities, including:

- 1) **District Recovery Project:** The Town Clerk reported that colleagues from Lancaster City Council had been in contact about a district recovery project that will be focusing on public realm and high streets across the district. Proposals are being worked up that will include '*recommended wayfinding signage and key messaging*' that the City Council will be looking to install in and around Market Street.

As part of this they will be purchasing free-standing hand sanitising stations that will be positioned in suitable locations in the town with ongoing being carried out by Lancaster City Council's Street Cleansing teams.



## Town Development & Planning Committee

At present two such stations have been allocated to the town with options to increase the number if necessary.

The meeting closed at 5:55pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Robert Bowler". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

**Town Clerk**

**10 July 2020**

**Tel: 07846 256 006**

**Email: [clerk@carnforhtowncouncil.org](mailto:clerk@carnforhtowncouncil.org)**