

MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the **REPRESENTATIONAL COMMITTEE** held in the Stable Block Meeting Room, Stone House, Corve Street, Ludlow on **TUESDAY 8th MARCH 2011** at **7.00pm**

R/81 PRESENT

Chairman: Councillor Wilcox

Councillors: Aitken, Callender; Davies; Hunt; McCormack and Smithers

Officers: Communications & Cemetery Officer, Gina Wilding

Also attending: Dyanne Humphreys, Principle Planning Officer, Shropshire Council

R/82 APOLOGIES

No apologies for absence were received

R/83 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with the terms of the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) (England) Order 2007 issued under Section 51 of the Local Government Act 2000 Members declared interests as follows: -

Personal Interest:

Cllr McCormack	11/00523/TCA	knows the applicant
Cllr McCormack	11/00518/LBC	knows the applicant
Cllr McCormack	7c	resident of Gravel Hill
Cllr Hunt	7d & 7e	works as a bus driver in Ludlow

R/84 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION (15 minutes)

There were two members of the public present.

Cllr Mrs Rosanna Taylor-Smith, Shropshire Councillor
Mill Street, Ludlow

Cllr R Taylor-Smith mentioned that there had been a Bus Strategy roadshow in Ludlow - January 2011

And asked if LTC consideration of demountable VAS signage was a direct result of the initiatives from the LJC

Mr Nash, Ludlow Civic Society

Asked members to support the 'Stop the Blot' campaign

R/85 MINUTES**RESOLVED (unanimous)**

That the minutes of the meeting of the **REPRESENTATIONAL COMMITTEE** held on **8th February 2011** were approved and signed as a correct record.

R/86 PLANNING DECISIONS FROM SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL**RESOLVED (unanimous)**

The decisions listed below were **NOTED**:

10/01762/FUL	Decision Grant	10/05555/FUL	Decision Grant
10/05479/LBC	Decision Grant	10/04546/REM	Decision Refused
10/05357/LBC	Decision Grant	10/04956/FUL	Decision Grant
10/05470/FUL	Decision Grant	10/05358/ADV	Decision Grant
		10/05483/VAR	Decision Grant

R/87 PLANNING APPLICATION COMMENTS**RESOLVED**

11/00523/TCA (unanimous)	Rhosymedre Linney Ludlow	No Objection
11/00169/LBC (unanimous)	52 Lower Broad Street Ludlow	No Objection
11/00355/LBC	111 Corve Street Ludlow no papers available - deferred to next meeting	
11/00518/LBC 6:1:0	Maryvale Mill Street Ludlow	No Objection
11/00629/COU (unanimous)	15 Tower Street Ludlow	No Objection
11/00633/LBC (unanimous)	15 Tower Street Ludlow	No Objection
11/00651/ADV 6:0:1	Whitcliffe Common Dinham Ludlow	No Objection
11/00715/FUL 5:0:2	Orchard Cottage Springfield Close Ludlow	No Objection
LTC comments:	Subject to highways approval	
11/00378/OUT (unanimous)	Eco Business Park (Phase 2) Sheet Road	No Objection

LTC comments: Members support the principle of the development of a new hospital, however they believe there is evidence of a lack of joined up thinking within the current outline proposals. Members raised concerns regarding the impact on the existing Park & Ride facility, the provision of a pharmacy within the development and the potential impact that may have on pharmacies within the town centre; access to the site and volume of traffic likely to pass through the site and the potential for conflict between users.

Suggested access to the hospital should be along the eastern boundary of the site to ensure minimal conflict. Members also suggested that a pedestrian bridge walk-way may be necessary over the A49. The volume and potential congestion of traffic using the existing access routes may also be further exacerbated by the potential for residential development adjacent to the site.

11/00801/FUL Cecil Guest House, Sheet Road, Ludlow
(unanimous)

No Objection

R/88 GRANTS, PLANNING, TRANSPORT, PARKING & PATHS

(a) Bridgnorth & South Shropshire Crucial Crew

RESOLVED (unanimous)

To award £200 project support grant

(b) Land behind 9-10 King Street, Ludlow

RESOLVED (unanimous)

To make a written public statement reiterating Ludlow Town Council's opposition to the proposed development of land behind 9-10 King Street, Ludlow; and voicing their concern about the wording used to describe the outcome of the Southern Planning Committee vote.

Cllr Wilcox explained in his oral report that after the vote at the Southern Planning Committee had taken place Shropshire Council members were advised that the minutes should record they were 'minded to reject' the proposal to grant approval for the application. The wording 'minded to refuse' is not as finite as saying 'refuse.' The matter was then referred to the Strategic Planning Committee where the decision of the Southern Planning Committee was overturned.

(c) Ludford Bridge Weigh Limit

RESOLVED (unanimous)

To find out if there is a current vehicular length restriction for Ludford Bridge.

To suggest to SC that a survey is undertaken to assess the impact of the bridge closure on other access routes to Ludlow.

(d) Bus Strategy for Shropshire 2011 – 2016 – Consultation

RESOLVED (unanimous)

To make the following points regarding bus services in Ludlow:

Ludlow is a rural town surrounded by smaller rural communities needing access to Ludlow for health services, social activities, schools, shopping and work. Adequate access to public transport is a necessity for many people, especially low paid workers, families, the young and elderly.

Service 435

One Councillor, with experience of driving the 435 Ludlow to Shrewsbury bus and therefore direct access to customer experience, stated that the 435 does not go directly to Shrewsbury Hospital, which means passengers have to change buses. However, the proposed reduction in frequency would allow enough time for the service to extend to encompass Shrewsbury hospital, which would be a great benefit to many travellers using the service.

Rural Bus Services

Members were very concerned that the reliability becomes more important when the service is reduced. For example, members were aware that the Kidderminster – Clee Hill bus is unreliable, arriving up to 10 minutes early, which means passengers waste time waiting for a bus that has already gone.

Better planning and information sharing is required to avoid known instances of Link bus following empty local service along the same route.

Customer Information

Councillors have experienced problems trying to get online bus timetable information. It appeared from the lack of information that there was no service between Ludlow & Shrewsbury – which is not true.

Improved availability of information is required to avoid known instances of Link bus following empty local service along the same route.

Less frequent bus services make journey planning a necessity, so current up to date information in a user-friendly format becomes even more important.

Bus Passes

There needs to be some flexibility in the application of rules governing the use of bus passes in rural areas. It may be necessary for passengers to get very early feeder to get them to the point to pick up main route services to their destination for hospital appointments or other appointments, so it is not possible to apply the same criteria to town centre services running every 10 minutes and rural services that require changing buses co-ordinating with much less frequent services.

Economic Impact

Bus services need to remain a viable alternative to car travel because of increasing price of petrol, and other related costs and the likely detrimental impact on rural communities in the future.

Environmental Impact

Bus services must offer a viable alternative to car travel in rural area

New route of 704

The new route is working very well.

Festival Park & Ride

It has been noticed that during the larger festivals such as Ludlow Festival, and the September Food Festival local bus passengers are disadvantaged because

buses often leave the Park & Ride completely full and are therefore unable to pick up local passengers who rely on the service throughout the year. The problem could be alleviated by providing larger or more frequent buses during the festivals.

(e) Re-tendering of Local bus Routes

RESOLVED (unanimous)

That Ludlow 701/2 and 703/4 bus routes are important services for Ludlow's residents and visitors

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(f) A49 Safety Campaign Group Agenda

RESOLVED (unanimous)

To note the agenda and Cllr Hunt will be attending the meeting

(g) Vehicle Activate Signs in Ludlow

RECOMMEND (unanimous)

That Ludlow Town Council nomination the following sites for a VAS speed control sign: Old Street; Henley Road – exiting the A49 roundabout up to the cemetery; either end of Bromfield Road (two sites); and Stanton Road

That the Town Council funds the infrastructure installation at up to two sites advised by Highways Agency.

That up to £1,000 be taken from the 'contingences' budget.

(h) Trees on Ludlow (East Hamlet) Hospital Site

RESOLVED (unanimous)

To note email communications between Shropshire Council Tree Warden and the developer, GVA

(i) Tree Preservation Order 2010

RESOLVED (unanimous)

To note the confirmation of the Order and the time limit for challenges

The meeting closed at **20:50pm**

Chairman

Date

NB: No confidential minutes will be issued