



Dereham Town Plan Working Group

a joint working group of
Dereham Town Council and the aboutDereham Partnership



Notes of meeting held 25 July 2022

Present: Cllr Hugh King, Mayor, Mike Webb, Chairman of aboutDereham, Cllr Stuart Green, Carolyn Coleman, Cllr Phillip Duigan, Cllr Philip Morton, Peter Wade-Martins,

1	Apologies / absence Apologies were received from the Rev Paul Cubitt and Helen Evans.	
2	Reporting of DTPWG meetings, minutes and recommendations to DTC At each full council meeting, the Mayor gives a verbal report on his activities during the month. Prior to the last full council meeting, he had circulated the summary of the DTPWG and our discussions. He referred to this in his verbal report. It was not recorded in the draft minutes of the full council meeting. One suggestion was that the (draft) minutes of the DTPWG could be attached to the full council agenda (or minutes). But it was also said that the Mayor's report was not technically part of the full council meeting. It was suggested that it could be an agenda item on future full council meetings as this would then give everyone the opportunity to comment.	Mayor Cllrs
3	Town Delivery Plan Mike has met Caroline Bidewell, the Breckland officer who will take over responsibility for town delivery plans. The town delivery plans are not yet published and not expected until September. They have to wait until all five are in place. Mike will ask Caroline to attend a future meeting of the DTPWG to update us. Carolyn asked about the Street Art project as she had been unable to get an update from the consultants. There is a steering group. The Dereham Town Council representative is Linda Monument. It seems the consultants may be negotiating with freeholders for permission to work on their building wall. Carolyn will request an update from Linda.	Mike Carolyn
4	Town Centre Seating Dereham Town Council has discussed proposals for additional benches in the town, re-using some of the benches from the QMG, once these have been refurbished. So far, the council has nominated two locations, one being the junction of School Lane and Westfield Road and the second on Shipdham Road. The QMG seats will be collected this Wednesday, 27 July and, for the moment at least, the plan is to redistribute these rather than buy new ones. Suggestions for locations drawn up by this group have been discussed and taken on board at the full council. It may be possible to apply for funding for additional new benches at a later date, if needed.	

	<p>Cllr Duigan reported that there used to be a bench outside the Guildhall and that the footings may still be there. Currently the full council has oversight of this project but it may be delegated to the Heritage & Open Spaces committee.</p>	DTC Cllrs
5	<p>Community Toilet Scheme</p> <p>This is still on the Council's priority list but there have been other items on the list which have needed to take precedence.</p>	Mayor
6	<p>Wayfinding Phase 2</p> <p>Carolyn reported that, following the full council meeting of 20 July, she believed that she is required to bring specific proposals to the Heritage & Open Spaces committee on 23 August. Carolyn also reported that the decrepit wooden poster case outside the Post Office has been removed and thanked Cllr Morton for acting to have this taken down. This does not prevent a future replacement in this location.</p> <p>Cllr King said that the aboutDereham Partnership needs to take ownership of and responsibility for noticeboards, not the Dereham Society and not the town council. Carolyn said that her cost estimates had not accounted for replacing the Dereham Society noticeboard, but only to repaint and re-surface it. Cllr Duigan suggested that there is a need for more noticeboards in the town.</p> <p>Carolyn asked if the question of ownership can be discussed at the meeting of the Heritage & Open Spaces committee with a view to finding a mutually acceptable solution.</p>	<p>Carolyn</p> <p>H&OS Carolyn</p>
7	<p>Brown Tourist Signs</p> <p>Mike is trying to arrange a meeting of all the attractions/venues that have expressed an interest in brown signs. So far this has proved impossible. The Leisure Centre who were previously very keen are now facing a cost-cutting drive, due to rising energy costs. Because of this, it was suggested, it could be a bad time to try to elicit funding.</p> <p>Mike will continue to try to arrange and hold the meeting.</p>	Mike
8	<p>Minutes</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of 27 June were agreed. Carolyn referred to the minute stating that Mike's meeting with Rob Walker had been postponed: the meeting had taken place subsequently and Mike had circulated a note of what was discussed to this group.</p>	
9	<p>AOB</p> <p>none</p>	
67	<p>Next meeting</p> <p>The date for the next meeting will be 24 August 2022 (4th Wednesday).</p>	All