



## Dereham Town Plan Working Group


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



### Notes of meeting held 25 January 2023

**Present:** Mike Webb, Chairman of aboutDereham; Cllr Phillip Duigan; Cllr Philip Morton; Rev Paul Cubitt, St Nicholas' Church; Cllr Stuart Green; Peter Wade-Martins, Dereham Heritage Trust; Carolyn Coleman, aboutDereham;

1	<b>Apologies / absence</b> Cllr Hugh King, Mayor, Dereham Town Council.	
2	<b>Housekeeping</b> The minutes of the October 26 meeting were agreed. <u>Matters Arising:</u> Carolyn reported that since the October meeting, aboutDereham had submitted a response to the Future Breckland Consultation. Mike has requested an update from Caroline Bidewell.	Mike
3	<b>Dereham's Town Delivery Plan and Dereham Town Council</b> At the full council meeting of 10 January 2023, the scope of the Future Breckland project was presented by Caroline Bidewell and Emma Crampton. The project and the Dereham Town Delivery Plan were endorsed by the full council. Since that meeting, Breckland Council have reported that they were not awarded any Levelling Up Phase 2 funding. This would have been helpful to fund a traffic study as a first step towards the Market Place project. It was said that the Government does not "get" market towns. However there are other market towns that have been awarded funding. In the case of Dereham, the key will be to get NCC Highways Dept. to partner with Breckland and Dereham Town Council in a study. It was suggested to start a project on Dereham traffic and put a group together. It was asked if the initiative needs to come from Breckland Council. But it was also suggested that Dereham Town Council can campaign for a traffic study. This could be by means of a letter from the DTC full council. Traffic has been an issue in Dereham as far back as 2007. The topic of a traffic study needs to be discussed at the DTC full council meeting. Philip and Phillip agreed to take this forward to full council.	PD / PM
4	<b>Brown signs on A47 meeting on 18 January - report</b> Mike reported on this meeting which was also attended by Cllr Morton as well as a representative from National Highways. Several points had been put to Mark Lambert, from NH and he had agreed several points. It had been agreed: Mark will ask internally if the word Dereham can be added on the green direction signs at the Norwich Road exits from A47 Mark advised us to approach NCC Highways for the design of brown signs for the same exit as their designers are 'Silverline Approved'. Brown tourist signs would probably have only 5-6 items of information, any	

	<p>more is too much to read while driving a vehicle;  We will ask for a brown sign to say, "Dereham, Historic Market Town".  Mike is also in discussions with the library about them acting as a TiC so the brown sign can also have the tourist info logo,  Indicative costs - we were originally told c£10k per brown sign, but NH suggested it would be much more than that if we have to use them and they have to appoint contractors. We were advised to go via NCC.  Mike will contact NCC Highways and ask for a meeting to follow this up.</p>	  Mike
5	<p><b>King's Coronation, 6 May 2023 - update</b>  Stuart Green is chairman of the working group set up to co-ordinate planning for the Coronation. He reported on arrangements to date which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• large screen in Fleece Meadow to show the London ceremony</li> <li>• Picnic on the meadow - food and drink stalls</li> <li>• Children's entertainment</li> <li>• Family show in the Memorial Hall</li> <li>• Possible local performers/ bands after the show, TBC</li> <li>• Afternoon tea or hog roast in the Queen Mother's Garden</li> <li>• Dereham Band to play in the Queen Mother's Garden</li> <li>• Bunting around key areas of town; funfair on the Rec</li> <li>• Coronation display by Dereham Heritage Trust</li> <li>• St Nicholas' Church - special service on Sunday 7th, plus full peal of bells, time TBA</li> </ul> <p>Town Council is co-ordinating events. They await timings to be announced from London in order to finalise times and produce publicity. Helen Evans had said that aboutDereham will help with publicity.</p>	Mike  Stuart
6	<p><b>Update on other projects</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Breckland Street Art project</b> - There has been no further update. Carolyn asked if the designs for the murals will be shown to the public before the work starts.</li> <li>• <b>Queen Mother's Garden</b> - We are told there will be a sculpture as a centrepiece. The official launch ceremony will be on 17 March.</li> <li>• <b>Town centre seating</b> - No update. Also no update regarding community toilet scheme. Recently DTC Councillors were asked to rank their priorities. It was expected that the new priorities list will be shared at the next full council meeting.</li> <li>• <b>HODs</b> - Paul Cubitt plans to convene a meeting to co-ordinate HODs activities shortly. The churches normally participate in the annual bike ride on either the 1st or 2nd Saturday of September. Carolyn to send list of emails to Paul.</li> </ul>	Cllrs  Paul Carolyn
7	<p><b>Future role of the group</b>  It was agreed this group is important to keep going to maintain and build on consensus. Some of the councillor members may change after local elections - review the role of the group at that point, it was suggested.</p>	Mike
	<p><b>Next meeting</b> -22 February 2023 (4th Weds).</p>	All