



Ross-on-Wye Town Council

Planning Obligations Policy

Context:

The Town Council notes that Planning Obligations can be used to enhance the infrastructure of the Town but that clear priorities need to be in place to ensure that income streams are used effectively. It notes the current legal requirement that POs should be both necessary, and fairly and reasonably related to the relevant development. It also notes that current arrangements are under review nationally and may be subject to change.

Aim:

To promote the effective use of Planning Obligations to enhance the built environment and community of the Town

Objectives:

- To establish a process by which the Council decides its priorities when recommending projects for PO support
- As appropriate, to use POs to support the implementation of the Town Plan process, including the production, implementation and review stages of the Plan
- As appropriate, to publicise its priorities via the website, newsletter, and press
- To review the implementation of this policy annually

Process

1. The Amenities Committee produce a list of projects which are not part of the council's current budgeted expenditure but which could be potentially funded by Planning Obligations. In doing this, they should bear in mind the Town Plan priorities.
The list should indicate the priority attached to each project, the organisations responsible, the area(s) of the town most likely to benefit, and estimated costs.
2. The list should be presented at Full Council, which will either note the contents or refer it back to Amenities.
3. Once noted by Full council, the list will be communicated to the Planning Committee and to the Planning Obligations Officer at Herefordshire Council.
4. The list will be reviewed and updated by the Amenities Committee every six months, followed by reference to Full Council as per 2. above.
5. Planning Committee to scrutinise planning applications and heads of agreement documentation to ensure that Town Council priorities are being recognised as Planning Obligations are negotiated.

Agreed by Full Council on 13 December 2010