

MEETING:	COUNCIL
DATE:	25 MAY 2012
TITLE OF REPORT:	ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE 2011 - 2012
MEMBERSHIP:	PGH Cutter (Chairman), BA Durkin (Vice-Chairman), PA Andrews, AN Bridges PJ Edwards, DW Greenow, KS Guthrie, J Hardwick, AJ Hempton-Smith, JW Hope MBE, RC Hunt, Brig P Jones CBE, JG Lester, MD Lloyd-Hayes, G Lucas, RI Matthews, FM Norman, GR Swinford and PJ Watts.

CLASSIFICATION: This is an open report.

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

To inform the Council of the activities of the Committee during the previous year.

INTRODUCTION

1. Following the elections in May 2011, Councillor PGH Cutter was elected as Chairman of the committee with Councillor BA Durkin being appointed as Vice-Chairman.
2. The Committee has continued to operate on a three week cycle throughout the year with sixteen meetings being held between 15 June 2011 and 25 April 2012.
4. The Committee has been consulted in respect of the single enforcement policy. The Committee's support for the policy was noted when the policy was adopted by Cabinet in April 2012.
5. During the year the Committee has dealt with a number of major applications including the former livestock market site in Hereford; the Tanhouse Farm site in Bromyard and the Galebreaker's site in Ledbury. All meetings have taken place in the Council Chamber, Brockington except for the Galebreaker's site application which was successfully relocated to the Main Hall at Shirehall due to the public interest in the application which resulted in over 250 Members of the public attending the meeting.
6. The Committee also undertook a successful webcast trial in February 2012 with

approximately 500 live views and 1100 archived views being recorded in the week following the meeting.

7. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published by the Government on the 27 March 2012. The NPPF is a key part of the Government's reforms to make the planning system less complex and more accessible, to protect the environment and to promote sustainable growth. It replaces national planning policy and guidance, which was previously delivered in the form of Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) and Planning Policy Guidance (PPGs). Members were updated on the NPPF at the meeting of 4 April 2012 and were invited to attend a training seminar on 24 April 2012.
8. The Committee was dealt with the applications referred to it as follows:
 - approved as recommended - 33
 - approved contrary to recommendation - 6
 - refused as recommended - 1
 - refused contrary to recommendation - 12
 - Deferred for site inspection - 8
 - Deferred for a further information report - 2

**PGH CUTTER
CHAIRMAN
PLANNING COMMITTEE**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Agendas for the meetings of the Planning Committee held between June 2011 & April 2012.