**Washington Parish Council**

**Planning & Transport (PT) Committee**

**Draft MINUTES** of the Planning & Transport Committee Meeting held on Monday 19th May 2025 at Washington Village Hall (Doré Room)

 **PRESENT**:. Cllr A. Dillaway, Cllr B. Hanvey, Cllr T. Keech, Cllr A. Lisher (Presiding Chair) and Cllr J. Thomas.

 **ALSO**: Clerk to the Council

 **PUBLIC:** Cllr Jupp.

The meeting was opened at 7:01pm

**O/5/25/1 Election of Chair**

 The Committee **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Lisher as the Chair of the Committee

 for 2025/26. There being no other nominations, Cllr Lisher was duly elected.

**O/5/25/2 Apologies**

 None. All present

**O/5/25/3 Declarations of Interest.**

 None declared under the Localism Act 2011 and the Council’s Code of Conduct.

**O/5/25/4 Minutes of the last meeting**

The Committee **RESOLVED** to approve theminutes of the last Planning & Transport (PT) Committee Meeting held on 17th March 2025 as a true and accurate record.

 It was noted that the meeting scheduled on 28th April last was replaced by an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council which included priority business of the PT committee.

**PT/5/25/5 Public Forum**

 None.

**PT/5/25/6 Actions and Matters Arising**

 The Committee noted the report of Actions and matters arising (Appendix A)

 and that Cllr Hanvey would try to attend the site meeting being planned by

 Cllr Marshall with the Hampers Lane quarry operator, to discuss the mud and

 debris on the A283.

**PT/5/25/7 Planning Applications.**

 None reported for the parish to be considered in time for this meeting.

**PT/5/25/8 Planning Decisions**

 None reported for the parish to be considered in time for this meeting.

 **PT/5/25/9 Appeals**

 None reported for the parish in time for this meeting.

 The Chair brought forward agenda item PT/5/25/12 for consideration as the

 next item:

**PT/5/25/10 Road Closures**

Members discussed the Public Notice Road Closure of the Storrington Road

 The Street, Washington on 27th May 2025 at:

 [https://api-gb.one.network/downloads/tm/1139/14-2-public- notice\_142930482\_3899325\_85a6ef54d7.pdf](https://api-gb.one.network/downloads/tm/1139/14-2-public-%20%20notice_142930482_3899325_85a6ef54d7.pdf)

 It was noted that the works are required to repair a water leak at the bridge,

 at the far end of The Street. Members agreed it was unlikely to affect the few

 properties nearby as there is very little traffic, and an alternative access

 is available via the Rowdell public right of way.

 The Committee **RESOLVED** to make no comment on the closure notice to the

 Highway Management Team.

 **PT/5/25/11 Planning Compliance**

None reported in the parish in time for the agenda of this meeting.

 **PT/5/25/12 Traffic Calming: Proposed TRO applications for speed reductions in the**

 **village.**

 Members noted the Highways Authority’s recently decision to reject the

 Council’s TRO application for speed reductions in the village and

 along the London Road/Washington Bostal.

 It was reported that the decision appeared to be based on an assumption

 that the Council was applying for a 20mph speed reduction from the national

 speed limit along the Washington Bostal road, and not the 40mph being

 proposed in the TRO application. Cllr Thomas, who drafted the application,

 commented that the first proposal to reduce the 30mph on the other roads

 in the village to 20mph appeared to have been ignored.

 A copy of the TRO application and the HA’s decision was previously

 circulated. Members noted the following comment in the email from a

 senior HA Engineering officer (25.3.2025):

 *‘I have now had the chance to assess the application and gather speed data.*

 *The speed data has come back with the 85th percentile of 34.8mph as an all*

 *day average. Because of this, the application has been rejected, the application*

 *falls outside of the remit for a realistic speed limit reduction. A reduction to*

 *20mph—representing a decrease of nearly 55%—would be too significant for*

 *consideration. As part of the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) process, we would*

 *need to gather support from our Road Safety Group and Sussex* Police. Given

the  *current speed data, it is highly likely that they would object to the proposal.*

 Cllr Thomas proposed and the Committee **RESOLVED** to agreed that he

 resubmits the proposals as two separate TRO applications to

 distinguish the two different speed limits for different roads in the village.

 It was noted that the County Ward member Cllr Marshall and many local

 residents had confirmed their support of both speed restrictions. Cllr Thomas

 agreed he would be adding further supporting evidence, including reference

 to the WSCC’s own policy which recognises the change in the Highway Code

 in prioritising pedestrian safety over the motorist, and the number of

 20mph limits being approved in other villages across the county.

 Clerk agreed to seek reconfirmation of Cllr Marshall’s support before

 submitting the new applications once drafted by Cllr Thomas.

 The Committee also discussed the response from the same Traffic

 Engineering Lead Officer(2nd April 2025) to the Council’s earlier request for

 CCTV at the A24/Washington Bostal road junction in order to deter motorists

 from illegally crossing the bus gate to short cut through the village.

 The Committee **RESOLVED** to follow the Officer’s advice and to write to the

 WSCC Road Safety Group with the request.

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**PT/5/25/13 Urgent matters**

 The Chair reported on a meeting to urgently address road safety concerns,

 following reports of a child being involved in a collision whilst crossing the

 the busy A283 near the village.

 It was noted that the online meeting on 15th May had been called by the

 District Ward Member Cllr Emma Beard, and attended by the Head Teacher

 of St Mary’s CE Primary School in the village, the Parish Council Chair,

 Cllr Thomas and the Clerk.

 An email from Cllr Marshall, was previously circulated. It was noted that

 He had engaged with the Highways on this matter, pending a police report,

 and that he will be meeting with the school and Highways about

 *‘maintenance and options to improve the area.* ‘

 The Committee **RESOLVED** to support the recent meeting’s proposals

 including the following:

* A controlled pedestrian crossing on the A283 in place of the Dragons Teeth. This is the main goal. Members agreed that the road markings were a poor substitute for a crossing, barely noticeable and cannot be enforced;
* Re-painting of the Dragons Teeth and reinstatement of red marking as soon as possible in the interim;
* A controlled crossing on the A283 outside Millford Grange, scene of at least three accidents involving children and an elderly pedestrian in recent years.
* A283 pathway from Sandhill Lane to be cleared and made safe for pedestrians as soon as possible
* Safer access for children walking to the village school, and school signage from the Washington roundabout to promote safety and walking to school throughout the village.
* Cllr Beard and Fisher to continue to work with KIA garage about car parking
* Discuss a TRO for the A283 from the roundabout to beyond the village. The Committee agreed that a 30mph would be appropriate for this stretch instead of the existing 40mph.

 It was noted that Cllr Beard has requested to meet with Cllr Marshall and the

 Highways Authority to discuss the above measures.

 Clerk to notify Cllr Beard of the Committee’s support of the proposals, on

 behalf of the Parish Council.

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**O/04/25/14 Date and Time of next OSRA Meeting**:

Monday 16th June 2025 at 7:00pm

 There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7:43pm.

 Signed………………………………

 Dated……………………………….