

# WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



Washington Parish Council  
PO Box 2286  
PULBOROUGH RH20 9BT  
Tel: 0777 6771921  
Email: [clerk@washingtonparish.org.uk](mailto:clerk@washingtonparish.org.uk)  
Website: [www.washingtonparish.org.uk](http://www.washingtonparish.org.uk)

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## Planning & Transport Committee Meeting

**MINUTES** of the Planning & Transport Committee Meeting held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at Washington Village Hall (Doré Room)

**PRESENT:** Cllr B Hanvey, Cllr P Heeley, Cllr T Keech, Cllr A Lisher (Chairman), Cllr R Scovell

**ALSO:** Members of the public: 1

The Clerk was on planned medical leave and the minutes were compiled by Cllr Heeley.

The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 7:00pm.

**PT/9/24/1 To Receive Apologies for absence**

No apologies received. Cllr Luckin and Cllr Thomas were absent.

**PT/9/24/2 To Receive Declarations of Interest.**

None received.

**PT/9/24/3 Minutes of the last meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the [minutes of the last Planning & Transport Committee Meeting](#) held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

**PT/9/24/4 Public Speaking**

None.

**PT/9/24/5 To Report Actions and Matters Arising from the last meeting**

None received

**PT/9/24/6 To Consider commenting on planning applications in the parish:**

None received. A member raised a question regarding the ratification process for delegated planning applications. The planning committee had recently agreed responses to several time sensitive applications prior to this meeting. Should these now be ratified by the committee, to avoid the need for agenda inclusion and ratification at a full council meeting, wherein other members would be required to study the details in order to agree ratification? Another member pointed out that the reduction in frequency of planning meetings, and the amount of delegation required, was depriving the public of access to the discussions. **AGREED** to request procedural clarification from the clerk, and to request that a review of the frequency of committee meetings be added to the Full Council agenda in October.

**PT/9/24/7 Speed Indicator Device (SID) in Rock Road**

The Chairman reported that he had met twice with George Fort, Assistant Area Highway Manager WSCC, to discuss relocation of the device which was not clearly visible in the position that WSCC had originally chosen. Mr Fort had now written to say that "after looking over the pictures with senior management, they have decided to re-site the SID with no cost to yourselves".

The only cost to the parish council will now be to add solar panels and a mounting kit, quoted by Elan City at £420.93. This will reduce operating costs going forward. Members unanimously **AGREED** and **RESOLVED** to proceed with the solar panels once the new post is in position, and to recommend approval of Elan City's quotation, to be paid from the highways improvement budget.

**PT/9/24/8 To Consider Commenting on Reforms to the National Planning Policy framework**

Members considered the draft notes from Horsham District Council, WSALC, and the Countryside Charity CPRE Sussex. It was noted that green belt decisions would not directly affect the HDC area, as our countryside areas are not categorised as green belt. National Park protections would be retained, as would the Neighbourhood Plan 5-year window of increased protection against speculative development. However, Horsham District Council was being expected to increase its housing supply by an unrealistic 41.1%, and concern was expressed that councils and communities will have less control over development, based on the "top down" methodology, and allocation of targets by a questionable algorithm. It was decided that the council make a short response rather than complete the 160-point government questionnaire. Cllr Hanvey proposed that the council endorse the CPRE response to government, and this was **AGREED** (four in favour, one abstention)

**PT/9/24/9 Date and Time of next committee meeting**  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 7:00pm

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7:40 pm.

Signed...  ...ted..... 18/11/24 .....