

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



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Planning & Transport Committee Meeting

MINUTES of the Planning & Transport Committee Meeting held on Monday 19th February 2024 at Washington Village Hall (Doré Room)

PRESENT: Cllr B Harvey, Cllr P. Heeley, Cllr T Keech, Cllr A Lisher (Chairman), Cllr J Luckin and Cllr J Thomas.

ALSO: Clerk to the Council Ms Z Savill and 2 members of the public.

PT/2/24/1 **To Receive and Approve apologies for absence.**
None. All present.

PT/2/24/2 **To Receive Declarations of Interest and requests for Dispensation.**
Cllr Keech declared a non-pecuniary interest as a trustee of the Annie Bertha Lloyd Trust and did not take part in the charity's presentation during the public session. There were no requests for dispensations on any agenda item.

PT/2/24/3 **To Approve the Minutes of the last meeting on 20th November 2023**
The Committee **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the Planning & Transport Committee meeting on 20th November 2023 which were duly signed by the Chairman. There were no meetings in January 2024.

PT/2/24/4 **Public Speaking**
The Chairman of the Annie Bertha Lloyd Trust gave a brief presentation and responded to members questions on proposals for an access track and car parking to serve Washington Cottages alms houses on the A283 Storrington Road. The Chairman thanked him and that the Council looked forward to being formally consulted on the planning application.

The Trust's Chairman thanked members and left the meeting

PT/2/24/5 **To Report Actions and Matters Arising from the last meeting**
It was NOTED that there was nothing further to report.

PT/2/24/6 **To Consider and Approve the Planning & Transport Committee's delegated response to the Horsham District Local Plan Regulation 19 consultation**
Consultation comments kindly drafted by Cllr Heeley, Cllr Lisher and Cllr Luckin on the soundness of the Regulation 19 Local Plan, were previously circulated and discussed. Following a discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to submit the Council's comments on the Local Plan with the following additional point: "*we express our concerns on the inadequacy of the existing infrastructure, particular relating to traffic, sewerage, education and medical facilities*"

for the present needs of the parish."

Clerk to action and to contact Storrington & Sullington Parish Council again about election of members of the SSWNP Steering Group so that it can meet to discuss the joint neighbourhood plan going forward.

PT/2/24/7

To Report on Planning Compliance updates from Horsham District Council

The Committee discussed concerns expressed by some residents that the 'new breeze block' wall in the village pub garden looked unsightly and was harmful to the integrity and appearance of the building which was a significant heritage asset in the village. There were also concerns that the balustrading had not been installed or evidence of the landscaping scheme which formed part of an application SDNP/21/05690/FUL approved by the SDNPA in January 2022.

To **RESOLVED** to write to the Planning Compliance team to express the Council's concerns.
Clerk to action.

PT/2/24/8

To Receive and Report on decisions of significant planning applications in the parish

None reported

PT/2/24/9

To Receive and Report on planning appeals in the parish

None reported

PT/2/24/10

To Review the frequency of inspections and the location of the Council's Speed Indicator Devices in Rock Road and London Road.

The Committee considered reports from residents that the new SIDs in the parish were ineffective. The device in Rock Road was reportedly not visible from a distance through the dense vegetation, and the battery was expiring before the 4-weekly changeovers.

Members expressed disappointment that significant costs had been invested by the Parish Council in the current location in Rock Road, based on the advice of the West Sussex Highways Authority. The issue was raised with them recently and images of two other more suitable locations along Rock Road were circulated before the meeting, provided by the Assistant Area Highways Manager (Central Area). He had advised that the Council would not be required to go through the full licencing process again as it had already gone through the notice period. A quotation of £312.50 for additional battery charging by Wilbars which installed and manages the SID, was also circulated. The traffic management contractor confirmed that the cost of moving an existing post to a new location in the road would be inclusive in the maintenance fee, to be confirmed at a later date. The Chairman reported that Elan City had quoted £420 to supply solar panels to power the device like the one in London Road, instead of batteries.

A majority of members favoured moving the SID to location 1, just south of Gorse Bank Close, which was relatively clear of vegetation, to be solar powered. It was anticipated that costs could be recovered in the savings made from the reduced management as there would be no need to change batteries.

Members also considered reports that the direction of the device in London Road was not being changed at monthly intervals, as was agreed, so that it captured northbound as well southbound traffic. There had been a lot of concern from residents about the amount of speeding by traffic through the village which was using the A24 bus lane to avoid congestion at Washington roundabout.

Following a discussion, the Committee **RESOLVED** for the Clerk to action the following:

- To write to WSCC Highways Authority requesting that the Rock Road SID and post is moved to 'location 1' and that they fund the re-location costs. A decision on the battery changes in the



interim period for the existing post to be deferred until WSCC's response has been considered at a future committee meeting.

- To request that Wilbars changes the direction of the SID in London Road each month as per the original management schedule, subject to there being no additional cost.
- To arrange a site meeting with the police to find out what is being done about the unlawful use of the bus lane to cut through the village and at high speeds, and what are the options to resolve this. Cllr Luckin and Cllr Thomas expressed a willingness to attend.

PT/2/24/11 To Consider an invitation to comment on a proposed access for residents' parking behind Washington Cottages, from the A283 Storrington Road.

This item was deferred pending a planning application for the proposed access.

PT/2/24/12 To Consider supporting a resident's TRO application for a 30mph speed restriction between The Hollow and The Pike on the A283 at Washington.

A completed TRO application from a resident was previously circulated seeking the Parish Council's support for a 30mph speed restriction along the A283 between The Hollow and the Pike. It was noted that the applicant was prepared to amend the proposal to a 40mph limit on the advice of the Highways Authority because the lower limit does not meet policy criteria.

Following a discussion it was **RESOLVED** to support a proposed 40mph limit which would be assessed by the Highways Authority for progression. It was noted that the application was supported by West Sussex County Cllr Paul Marshal. Clerk to notify the applicant.

PT/2/24/13 To Discuss parking and speeding issues reported on various roads in the parish and agree recommended action.

Members discussed the following concerns alleged by residents:

- Parking in the bus stop and along London Road and environs, turning it into a single lane pinch point. Members noted that it was suspected that some of the cars are from the Kia dealership nearby as well as residents.
- Reports of Kia sales cars still parking on protected Notable Verge, contrary to the original planning consent for the garage.
- Reports of delivery lorries for Kia sales cars are obstructing the A283
- Images were shared with members which showed that vehicles are now routinely parking on the new yellow box painted on the road which was painted last year to stop obstruction of the allotment access. It is suspected that some are from the Kia/motorcycles dealership nearby.
- Drivers on the school run were ignoring advice to use the village's narrow road network as a one-way system, and causing traffic chaos. Residents had reported verbal abuse from drivers.
- Speeding in The Hollow: request from a resident for 30mph speed signs to remind drivers that it is not a national speed limit, and to add 'deer crossing' warning signage

Following a discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** the following recommendations for the Clerk to action:

- A letter to the police outlining the speeding and parking issues and to invite them to suggest solutions as they have statutory enforcement powers. Ask if they would consider installing a camera on the Bostal to catch motorists who cross the A24 bus lane.
- Invite residents in the village to set up and volunteer for a Community Speed Watch campaign – Sussex Police provides the training and support.

- Ask Cllr Marshall to push for yellow-backed speed signage, as previously requested.
- Write to the Kia dealership, pointing out the issues and request a meeting with representatives from the council and district councillors to resolve this. At a site meeting with them in 2017, they confirmed intentions to relocate the motorbike business to another site in the district before the covid pandemic in order to free up onsite parking for sales and staff parking.
- Write to the School asking them to raise awareness about the traffic issue and request that parents use the village's narrow lane network as a one-way system.
- Advise the resident in The Hollow to make a TRO application for the suggested signage and to seek Cllr Marshall's approval. To confirm that the proposal would be supported by the Parish Council.

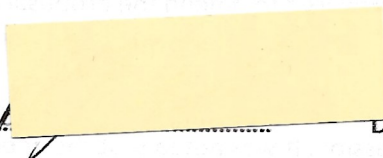
PT/2/24/14 To Receive Items for the next Planning and Transport Meeting Agenda

None reported.

PT/2/24/15 Date and Time of next meetings: Monday 15th April 2024, 7:00pm

There being no further business to transact, the meeting was closed at 8:33pm.

Signed/



Dated.....

4/01/24