WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Planning & Transport Committee Meeting

Minutes of the Planning & Transport Committee meeting held on Monday 21st September 2026 at the Washington Village Memorial Hall (Doré Room)

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

ALSO: Ms Z Savill, Clerk to the Council and 4 members of the public

ABSENT: 0

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:00pm

PT/09/26/01 **Apologies**
None received. All present.

PT/09/26/02 **Declarations of Interest.**
No interests declared as defined under the Localism Act 2011 and the Council's Code of Conduct.

PT/09/26/03 **Minutes of the last meeting**
The Committee **RESOLVED to APPROVE** the Draft Minutes of the Planning & Transport Committee Meeting held on 21st July 2026

PT/09/26/04 **Public Forum**
A resident raised safety concerns about drivers making late northbound A24 turns into Rock Road/London Road.

The Chairman gave an update on the Parish Council's past efforts to improve the junctions and that all were welcome to take part in the WSCC's upcoming consultation and drop-in event on its own plans to improve the Worthing to Dorking A24 corridor which will include Washington roundabout and hopefully

its A24 junctions. A date for this is still pending.

Another resident raised concerns about speeding and rat-running through the village, particularly school traffic. She reported abuse from some drivers and risks to pedestrians, children and horse riders. The Chairman advised that WSCC had recently rejected the Parish Council's TRO application to reduce the speed limits on village roads and the Bostal which would have helped to address these issues. All were welcome to listen to the Parish Council's review of the decision later in the meeting and to agree next steps.

PT/09/26/05 Actions and Matters Arising

The Committee **RESOLVED** to note the Actions Report under Appendix A and the following matters arising:

- Two vans near the Council's allotment have since left following reports to WSCC and the HDC's Environmental Health team of waste being dumped in the area.

PT/09/26/06 Planning Application, Appeals and Planning Compliance

i. Planning Applications

The Committee considered the following applications and **RESOLVED** the following comments to be submitted to the Local Planning Authority:

DC/26/1299 – Little Acorns, Hampers Lane: NO OBJECTION, provided the accommodation remains ancillary and not for separate residential use; compatible with the Heath Common Design Statement.

DC/26/1291 – The Spinney, Melrose Place: NO OBJECTION; compatible with the existing development.

S106/26/0038 – Old Clayton Boarding Kennels: NEUTRAL response and no further comments on the Bungalows Marketing Plan.

DC/25/2087 – Thakeham Tiles Ltd, Rock Road: reiterate the Council's previous **STRONG OBJECTION** and reasons published on 2 February 2026.

ii. **Decisions**

DC/26/0112 - Land at Rock Road: Withdrawn 20 August 2026;
DC/23/0701, Old Clayton Boarding Kennels: Permitted 18 August 2026.

iii. **Appeals**

Appeal 6009593 (DC/26/0035, land east of Spring Gardens): Allowed;
Appeal 6011680 (DC/25/1300, High Chaparral, London Road): Pending.

iv. **Planning Compliance**

Frankland Arms: The Council expressed concern that the "unrendered"

breeze-block garden wall harmed the Grade II listed pub building which unofficially serves as the village gateway because of its prominent location. The Committee **RESOLVED** that Cllr Keech would contact the planning agent for the pub and report back, and the Council would ask SDNPA how it intended to secure compliance. Clerk to action.

Min Ref: PT/09/26/08: The Parish Council's application for a permanent Traffic Regulation Order (TRO)

The Committed expressed great disappointment and perplexity as to why WSCC has rejected the Council's proposed speed limit reductions in the village: 20mph limit, from 30mph on the village roads, and 40mph speed limit, from the national speed limit on the southern end of the Washington Bostal

An email of the assessment from a senior Officer of the Highways Authority, cited an insufficiently strong evidence base to meet the 20-point threshold requirement. The HA had suggested a single-speed limit application might increase the score, or the Parish Council could make a Community Highway Scheme application.

Members questioned how the assessment could interpret the results of the Parish Council's speed limit survey as insufficient support when more than 90% of respondents had selected the boxes supporting both speed limits. It was noted that the assessment appeared to have wrongly interpreted several requests for additional traffic calming measures, as negating support for the speed limits. It was further noted that the two speed limit applications had been assessed as one, and not two separate applications contrary to the assessor's previous advice, and that this had unfairly reduced the score.

A resident at the meeting highlighted the continued risks to all village road users particularly for roads like School Lane which lacked a pathway and made them very busy shared highway spaces with vulnerable users. The Committee also noted the comments made from another resident during the public session.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to challenge WSCC's interpretation of the survey, seek clarification if its decision and propose a meeting to discuss what would be an acceptable application which would meet the strong support from the community to make the roads safe. The Chairman, Cllr Keech and Cllr Thomas would attend; Cllr Marshall and Cllr Beard would be invited. Clerk to action.

PT/09/26/07 **Notice of WSCC's application for a permanent Traffic Regulation Order (TRO)**

The Committee discussed WSCC 's proposed TRO to extend the 40mph limit Eastwards on the A283 to 238m west of the A24. Details:

www.westsussex.gov.uk/tro.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to welcome the proposed speed limits in principle, but to request further reductions at the Hampers Lane/Milford Grange

junctions; to express disappointment that the proposed crossing would not be 'controlled', making no provision for equestrians accessing the South Downs via the Hampers Lane bridleway; and reiterate the Parish Council's its previous requests for a safer right-hand turn into Hampers Lane. Clerk to action.

PT/09/26/08 **Road and pedestrian safety**

The Committee considered a resident's correspondence circulated with the agenda, which raised safety concerns about a broken drain cover in The Holt, and a non-functioning light on a path linking The Holt and School Lane to The Street. Ownership and maintenance responsibilities of these were unclear.

The same resident spoke at the meeting, reporting that the Parish Council had grant-funded the small bollard-style light possibly in 2006 or earlier. He commented that the Parish Council had a duty of care for the safety of its residents who use the pathway, and appealed for the lighting to be repaired.

Another resident spoke at the meeting, reporting that she had seen people tripping over broken paving in The Holt and that the lack of lighting made it even more dangerous in the darker hours. She commented that ownership of the paving was unclear and that there had been no response to an enquiry to the three people named on the Title Deeds for the land.

Following a review and legal advice, the Committee **RESOLVED** to investigate the option of fixing the light, without obligation of risk of future liability. To first write to HDC and the three people from Somerset, all of whom are named parties on various land in The Holt, to establish ownership and responsibility for repairs. Clerk to action. The Committee would review findings at the next appropriate meeting.

The Committee further **RESOLVED** to share a separate report from a resident, with WSCC requesting appropriate action on the reinstatement of a disused gulley in London Road, to help mitigate flooding.

PT/09/26/09 **Highway Verges**

The Vice-Chairman proposed and it was **RESOLVED** that as the verges had been cut on the Washington Road/A283 since the last meeting, to take no further action.

PT/09/26/10 **Chairman's Announcements**

The Committee noted that the examination hearing of the Horsham District Local Plan commences

PT/09/26/11 **Next Meeting Date and Time**

Monday 16th November 2026 at 7:00pm
There were no other items proposed for the next PT meeting agenda.

There being on further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 7:50pm.

Signed.....[redacted] Date....16/11/25.....

Appendix A

Actions Report – Planning & Transport Committee Meeting 21st September 2026

Appendix A– Actions and matters arising from decisions at the last meeting on 20 July 2026)

Minute Ref	Resolution/Decision	Action Required	Responsible	Target Date	
PT/07/26/06	Reiterate the Parish Council's objection to Appeal DC/25/1300 and support HDC's reasons for refusal.	Submit objection response to the Planning Inspectorate.	Clerk	Before appeal consultation deadline 31st July 2026	Completed
PT/07/26/07	Submit representations on Horsham District Local Plan Main Modifications.	Review documents and prepare draft Parish Council response for Full Council ratification and submission.	Chairman & Cllr Keech	Full Council 3 Aug 2026; submit by 24 Aug 2026	Completed
PT/07/26/08	Respond to Horsham District 2045 Scoping Consultation.	Review documents and submit consultation response reflecting parish priorities.	Chairman & Cllr Keech	Submit by 28 Jul 2026; ratify 3 Aug 2026	Completed
PT/07/26/08	Note Call for Sites consultation.	Monitor future consultation on any sites identified by HDC and comment as appropriate.	Planning & Transport Committee	Ongoing	
PT/07/26/09	Report camping vehicles on London Road.	Report concerns to West Sussex County Council.	Clerk	Before next meeting	Completed

PT/07/26/09	Concerns regarding refreshments van opposite Washington Cottages.	Raise matter with Horsham District Council.	Cllr Beard	Before next m meeting	Completed
PT/07/26/05	Pursue response regarding naming of new care home.	Contact relevant HDC officers to resolve.	Cllr Beard	Urgent	