WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Planning & Transport Committee Meeting

Draft MINUTES of the Planning & Transport Committee Meeting held on Monday 16th March 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. No members of the public.

ABSENT: None.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

PT/03/26/01 **Apologies for absence**
None. All present.

PT/03/26/02 **Declarations of Interest.**
Cllr Keech declared an interest in item PT/03/26/07 because he is a Trustee of the Annie Bertha Lloyd Trust. Cllr Lisher declared an interest in item PT/03/26/06 because he knows the applicant. There were no requests for dispensations.

PT/03/26/03 **Minutes of the last meeting**
The Committee **RESOLVED** to approve the draft Minutes of the Planning & Transport Committee Meeting held on 19th January 2026 and these were duly signed by the Chairman. It was noted that the meeting in February had been cancelled due to insufficient business during the Clerk's annual leave.

PT/03/26/04 **Public Forum**
There were no spoken or written representations from Members of the Public.

PT/03/26/05 **Actions and Matters Arising**
To Committee noted the following report from the Clerk of actions and

matters arising since the last Committee Meeting.:

Minute reference	Action	Action by	Update
PT/10/25/5	Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) application for reduced speed limits in the village to be ratified at the next meeting	Cllr Thomas	Update: SDNPA Reports given at the FC Feb 2026 meeting. TRO application to be drafted by Cllr Thomas
PT/01/26/06	To submit the Committee's comments in support of planning application SDNP/25/04651/FUL -	Clerk	Completed

PT/03/26/06 Planning

i. Planning Applications

The Committee discussed the following planning applications in the parish:

DC/26/0332 - Little Fairseat Georges Lane Storrington West Sussex.
Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of a replacement dwelling, erection of a double bay garage, demolition of outbuildings, erection of new guest suite and associated landscaping works.

The Committed noted that the previous application DC/24/1870 which included extensions, garage and landscaping, had been permitted by HDC last October. The Parish Council had made **NO OBJECTION** to that application with condition that the annexe is tied to the main property and the proposals align with the relevant guidelines of the adopted Heath Common Design Statement

Following a discussion the Committee **RESOLVED** to restate its previous submitted comments.

DC/26/0247 - Spring Gardens Nursery Spring Gardens Washington West Sussex
Change of use of agricultural barn to gym and farm office, and change of use of gym to agricultural storage barn.

Following a discussion, the Committee **RESOLVED** to make no objection to the proposal for the change of gym to an agricultural barn. It agreed not to comment regarding the other barn for the reason that it is not within the parish.

DC/26/0112 - Land at 512000 114372 Rock Road Washington West Sussex
Construction of field access and entrance drive. Erection of post and rail fencing and planting of mixed deciduous hedging.

Following a discussion, the Committee **RESOLVED** to make **NO COMMENT.**

DC/25/1857- The Coach House The Hollow Washington West Sussex
Installation of solar panels on south facing side of existing barn building and garage building (Retrospective).

The Committee reviewed the proposals and **RESOLVED** to make **NO OBJECTION.**

DC/26/0044 - Amberley Cottage Merrywood Lane Thakeham West Sussex
Erection of detached oak framed garage and conversion of existing integral garage to study/hobby room.

Following a discussion the Committee **RESOLVED** to make **NO OBJECTION.**

ii. Appeals, Decisions and Compliance Matters

None reported in the parish.

PT/03/26/07 Washington parish: amended written motion regarding a proposal to explore single-person accommodation at Washington Cottages

The Committee considered the following amended statement of the Written Motion deferred from the last Full Council Meeting on 2nd March:

"The Council is willing, in principle, to support the Charity's [Annie Bertha Lloyd Trust) exploration of this site for the proposed development, provided that the scheme complies with the relevant policies of the Neighbourhood Plan, Horsham Local Plan and the SDNPA Local Plan,, and that the Trust can demonstrate a genuine local need for this type of accommodation.

Following a discussion it was **RESOLVED** to ratify approval of the statement. Cllr Keech had previously declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or voting..

PT/03/26/08 Road signs in Washington village

The Committee received and considered a letter from St Mary's CE School, Washington, about the poor visibility of road signage around village.

The letter appealed to the Council to help find a solution to make it safer for the children who walk to the school. The letter showed images of traffic symbols obscured by garden hedging and explained that only sign indicating a school nearby, was on a steep section of School Hill, facing in the wrong direction to be seen in the unofficial one-way system.

Members discussed the school's concerns and agreed it was a matter of highway safety which falls under the jurisdiction of West Sussex County Council. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk writes to Cllr Marshall, the parish's WSCC representative to bring this to their attention for appropriate action.

PT/03/26/09 **Urgent matters**

Washington A24 & A283 Speed Limits TRO:

The Committee discussed the recent completion of works by WSCC to reduce speed limits to the approaches of the A24/A283 at the Washington roundabout. A Committee Member queried why no anticipated changes had been made to address the traffic priority issues on the east and westbound sections of the A283 at the Washington roundabout. Members thought that this might be part of a different scheme. The Clerk agreed to seek clarity from Cllr Marshall (WSCC) before the next Council meeting.

Sandhill Lane: The Committee expressed concerns about the state of the lane, particularly near the footpath, from what appeared to be an unofficial scrap yard of cars and a disused container. It was agreed that the "unsightly" appearance is unwelcoming for walkers and may be negatively impacting residents and nearby businesses. Clerk agreed to bring it to the attention of the Ward's County and District Councillors for appropriate action.

Examination of the Horsham Local Plan 2023 -2040

It was reported that the Council had received notice of the examination (16th March) of the Local Plan and an invitation to participate in the hearings which commence 21st April. A response was required by 28th March, too late for the Parish Council to review at its next meeting on 13th April. Documents on how to take part, hearing sessions and timetable were distributed to the Parish Council prior to this meeting.

Members welcomed that the Local Plan is to be progressed. They expressed concern about the lack of infrastructure to support housing proposals and were sceptical of this being heard at the examination. It was agreed the Parish Council could not usefully contribute further in this respect.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the Clerk to confirm with HDC that the Parish Council would not be participating on any matters for the examination.

PT/03/26/10 **Date and Time of next PT Committee Meeting:**

Monday 27th April 2026 at 7:00pm if there is sufficient business

Meeting closed at 7:27pm as there was no further business to transact.

Signed..