



SPEEN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT SPEEN PAVILION SPEEN RECREATION GROUND ON WEDNESDAY 9th OCTOBER 2024
STARTING AT 7PM

Parish Councillors present	Alan Booth (Chair), Antony Amirtharaj, Shalini Philip, Sasikumar Sadagopan & Alex Taylor
In Attendance	0 members of the public.
Clerk & RFO	Becki Hannington

Resolution	Item	Action
	<p>1. Apologies – Cllr Winton</p> <p>2. Proposal: To co-opt Cllr Taylor to the Planning & Highways Committee.</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Amirtharaj Seconder: Cllr Philip All in favour.</p> <p>Cllr Taylor was duly co-opted to the Planning & Highways Committee for the remainder of the 2024/25 term.</p> <p>3. Declaration of Interests - to declare any financial, personal and/or prejudicial interests and their nature in relation to items on the agenda.</p> <p>None declared.</p> <p>4. Open Session - to receive any questions from Members of the Public in attendance.</p> <p>No members of public in attendance.</p> <p>5. Proposal: to approve the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee meeting held on 09-09-24 (draft).</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Booth Seconder: Cllr Sadagopan In favour: 4 Abstention:1</p> <p>6. Planning Application(s) – to consider the following applications and agree comments to be submitted to West Berkshire Council:</p> <p>6.1 24/01912/HOUSE – Barbary End, Speen Lane, Newbury, RG14 1RW</p> <p>Proposal: To submit comments of support to WBC as it is in keeping with the properties in the area and is in proportion with the other properties in the lane.</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Booth Seconder: Cllr Taylor All in favour.</p> <p>6.2 24/01932/AGRIC – Bradfords Farm, Bath Road, Halfway, Newbury</p> <p>Proposal: To make no comment due to nature of the application being for prior approval and not a planning application at this stage. This remains a decision for</p>	

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	<p>the Case Officer. SPC will consult if and when a formal planning application is submitted for consultation.</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Booth Seconder: Cllr Philip All in favour.</p> <p>6.3 24/01835/HOUSE – 96 Benham Park, Marsh Benham, Newbury, RG20 8LX</p> <p>Proposal: To submit comments of no objections to WBC.</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Booth Seconder: Cllr Amirtharaj All in favour.</p> <p>6.4 24/01832/LBC – Watermill Theatre, Bagnor, Newbury, RG20 8AE</p> <p>Proposal: To submit comments of support to WBC as this application is for essential works being carried out for public safety.</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Booth Seconder: Cllr Philip All in favour.</p> <p>6.5 24/02002/HOUSE – 14 Bagnor, Newbury, RG20 8AQ</p> <p>Proposal: To submit comments of no objection to WBC.</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Booth Seconder: Cllr Amirtharaj All in favour.</p> <p>6.6 24/01988/HOUSE – Riverside Cottage, Lambourn Road, Woodspeen, RG20 8BU</p> <p>Proposal: To submit comments of no objections to WBC.</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Booth Seconder: Cllr Sadagopan All in favour.</p> <p>7. Planning Decision(s) – for information only. All planning decisions received from WBC were duly noted by all members of the committee.</p> <p>8. Highways Matters</p> <p>8.1 Community Speed Watch Update, B4000 Stockcross – Update from Clerk The Clerk advised that they have been in touch with WBC to see if there is any further support that they can give to calm the traffic through the B4000. WBC advised that there is not at this time due to shortages in the dept.</p> <p>The Clerk advised that they have requested them to make representations to Highways England to change the mapping to stop satnavs diverting traffic down the B4000. WBC advised there is not much they can do but they have contacted the relevant parties to ask if this is something which can be done. National Highways advised that the B4000 was not part of their official diversion route during the works and had it been raised to them earlier they could have co-ordinated with WBC to place signage indicating that the road was not suitable for a diversion and they will look into working more closely with mapping services like Google and SatNav providers for future projects to make local road less appealing as alternative routes to motorway closures.</p>	
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Clerk advised they have also written to TVP with the latest data from the CSW to see if they can offer any traffic calming measures. Clerk awaiting response and will update committee once received.

Clerk requested the residents keep them up to date with the latest CSW data and they will continue pushing on with TVP and WBC to try and get further support and traffic calming measures implemented where possible. Clerk will keep committee updated on this issue.

8. Matters for information only arising after preparation of this Agenda which the Chair agrees to take as urgent.

The Clerk advised that residents from The Sydings have been in touch to advise on Monday at the Bath Road development field, they witnessed part of the hedgerow being cut down to make way for drainage pipework to the drain on The Sydings. The residents were under the impression that this was under a preservation order. Residents are concerned that cutting out the hedgerow will kill off other parts of the hedge line leaving the boundary bare and unsecure.

Planning Manager at DWH replied to the resident and SPC advising that the works were necessary to investigate what is required for the implementation of the foul drainage and the trees in question are not subject to a preservation order but they have identified a section of trees that will need to be removed to make the connection. DWH confirmed they would be in touch with the residents of The Sydings and SPC once dates have been confirmed and would be planting replacement trees/hedgerow once the foul water drainage has been connected. DWH also confirmed that the site is securely fenced off, restricting all boundaries and this will remain in place throughout construction

Residents were happy with DWH's reply and requested for additional foliage to be planted as a buffer between the tree line and border of the development and have requested DWH add this to the green belt consideration plans. Clerk has requested that the Planning Manager discusses this with the internal teams at DWH to try and have this accommodated and requested to be kept up to date with further tree works onsite.

Grove Road & Station Road Crossing – Cllr Taylor raised the need for a pedestrian crossings at Grove Road and Station Road as these areas are often busy with parents and children and it is extremely difficult to cross the road. The committee felt that this would also help with slowing down traffic in both roads where frequent speeding occurs. Clerk to plot locations for possible crossings on a map for review at the next committee meeting and to reach out to the residents in these areas to gain support for the proposal. Once public support has been gathered and potential locations decided clerk and Cllr Amirtharaj will contact WBC with the proposal.

Grove Road Diversion – Cllr Taylor felt that making representations to Highways England for working with mapping and SatNav companies to avoid diverting traffic along Grove Road would be worthwhile as the issue with speeding is still ongoing there. Cllr Taylor to email details of routes to Clerk so Clerk can contact National Highways to request this.

9. Date of the next meeting – Wednesday 11th December 2024.

Cllr Booth closed the meeting closed at 19:43



Signed:	Name (print): Position:	Date:
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