

WROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL



PLANNING & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 18th June 2025 at 7:30pm at The Ellendune Community Centre, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 9LW

Present

Cllr D Archer
Cllr L Coady
Cllr J Hewer
Cllr B Keetch (Chair of the Planning & Highways Committee)
Cllr W McGregor
Cllr N McMahon
Cllr E Shaw
Cllr G Cook (a parish councillor but not a member of this committee, also attending in her capacity as a Swindon Borough Ward Councillor)

Cathy Martyn (Deputy Clerk)

Public

3

PH/22

Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs L Ramsay and Cllr H Woodward.

PH/23

Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

None.

PH/24

Public Question Time

2 members of the public attended to represent 8 households from Church Hill and the top of the High Street, all of whom had serious safety concerns about speed on the upper stretch of Church Hill including: the speed of traffic which rapidly accelerates up the hill as it leaves the village, drivers possibly not realising that they are still driving through a residential area, pedestrian safety concerns due to a very narrow pavement and therefore close proximity to fast-moving vehicles, obstruction of drivers' views by vehicles parked on-road, vehicles parked on the pavement, lack of any 30mph speed signs on this uphill stretch, the lack of parking restrictions, lack of any traffic calming, the risk to pedestrians especially children trying to cross the road to walk to school, and concerns that someone will be injured or killed. The requests were for some 30mph repeater signs and a vehicle activated speed sign on the uphill stretch.

Councillor Gayle Cook advised that there had been a speed survey down towards the Carters Rest, but she had requested that Swindon Borough Council carry out a further speed survey further up nearer the Fox & Hounds. She would ask Wiltshire and Swindon Road Safety Partnership if they would do a report into road safety on this road. The resident had already contacted Danny Kruger MP who had asked her to let him know the Parish Council's response. Cllr Cook suggested the resident(s) could also contact Councillor Chris Watts, Cabinet Member for Transport and the Environment at Swindon Borough Council.

- PH/25** **Minutes**
Members RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21st May 2025. The Chair signed the minutes.
- PH/26** **Updates for noting.**
Members NOTED there were none for this meeting.
- PH/7** **Request from a resident of Church Hill for a Vehicle Activated (VAS) speed sign on the uphill section of Church Hill, above the White Hart pub.**
Members NOTED the confidential email exchange received from the resident which they had received with their agendas.
- Members RESOLVED:**
- a) **Before deciding whether to purchase a VAS speed sign on either the uphill or downhill sections of Church Hill, to wait for the speed survey results from Swindon Borough Council, the request for the speed surveys to be made by the Deputy Clerk via Councillor Gayle Cook.**
 - b) **To recommend to the Finance and General Purposes Committee to budget £5,000 for the 2026/27 financial year for a VAS speed sign for the uphill section of Church Hill.**
 - c) **To request that Swindon Borough Council install 30mph repeater signs for the uphill section of Church Hill above the White Hart Pub.**
- PH/27** **Planning Applications Examination**
- PH27.1** Application no: S/HOU/25/0584
Location: 20 Maskeleyne Way, Wroughton. SN4 9HR
Proposal: Erection of single storey side annex
Comments: **Members RESOLVED to OBJECT for the following reasons:**
- **Insufficient parking and no mention of where the parking space would be for the second dwelling**
 - **Lack of amenity space**
- PH/27.2** Application no: S/25/0692
Location: Land west of Priors Hill, Science Park, Hangar D2 Orbital Road, Wroughton.
Proposal: Erection of a temporary renewable Natural Gas Facility, solar array and associated infrastructure – variation of condition 2 from previous application S/24/1348 regarding changes to solar array model.
Comments: **Members RESOLVED to make NO OBJECTIONS**
- Members RESOLVED the Deputy Clerk should email Swindon Borough Council to request the details of the CIL funds. (Community Infrastructure Levy).**
- PH/8** **Planning Applications notified by Swindon Borough Council for information only:**
Members NOTED there were NONE for this meeting.

PH/9 **Responses to Swindon Borough Council on planning applications which were agreed by email:**
Members NOTED the responses to the following planning consultations which had been agreed by email:

PH/9.1	Application no: S/HOU/25/0491 (Revised Application) Location: 12 Kerrs Way, Wroughton. Proposal: Erection of single storey rear & side extension, garage conversion and front porch. Comments: No Objection.
PH9.2	Application no: S/HOU/25/0592 Location: 71 Coronation Road, Wroughton. SN4 9AT Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension. Comments: No objections. Members requested that the Planning Officer checks that the proposal complies with the 45 degree rule with the windows at no.73 and that it complies with the requirement for a 75mm gap at the boundary.

PH/10 **Planning Decisions.**
Members NOTED the following decisions which had been made by Swindon Borough Council:

PH/10.1	S/HOU/25/0491	12 Kerrs Way Wroughton	Erection of single storey rear & side extension, garage conversion & front porch.	GRANT
PH/10.2	S/HOU/25/0487	31 Berkeley Road Wroughton	Erection of a 2 storey side/rear extension and single storey rear/ front extension	GRANT
PH/10.3	S/HOU/25/0385	33 Kellsboro Avenue Wroughton	Erection of a single storey rear extension	GRANT

PH/11 **Decisions by SBC to allow TPO Work**
Members NOTED none had been received.

PH/12 **Applications to the Traffic Commissioner**
Members NOTED:

- Swindon Borough Council (SBC) advised they *would need to decide in the next few days whether to maintain or withdraw the objection – and their grounds for maintaining it, in view of the assurances given by the applicant – as the criteria for objection in the legislation was quite restrictive. Swindon Borough Council would welcome input from Borough Councillors.*
- Councillor Gayle Cook and the residents had met with the Police to discuss it but had been advised that there was nothing they could do. The residents had lodged their objections direct with the Traffic Commissioner and also with Swindon Borough Council.
- Councillor Gayle Cook would contact the officer at Swindon Borough Council.

PH/13 **Planning Updates and Information.**
Members NOTED there were none for this meeting.

PH/14 Local Plan Update

Members NOTED there was no update to report for this meeting.

PH/15 Neighbourhood Plan Updates

The Deputy Clerk advised verbally that information from the National Association of Local Councils indicated that due to the Spending Review, the Government could not proceed with commissioning new neighbourhood planning support services for 2025 onwards.

PH/16 Public Highways Notices for information

Members NOTED the following public notice:

STR001106: Notice of Temporary Footpath Closure PROW WR20 & WR21, Wroughton located in Clouts Wood, effective from 20th July 2025 for 6 months.

PH/17 School Safe Environment Zone: Ridgeway School and Wroughton Junior School

Members NOTED the information received from Swindon Borough Council (in purple) in response to the Committee's comments on the proposed changes to the School Safe Environment Zone:

Thank you for the sharing the comments from the Parish Council. I have looked through each points and have provided some responses for you to feedback to the Parish Council.

Wroughton Parish Council acknowledges that the SSEZ has been implemented to try to keep everyone, particularly children/ school pupils, as safe as possible in the vicinity of the schools where there are always a lot of traffic and pedestrian movements at the start and finish of the school day.

Wroughton Parish Council supports the additional proposals, but requests the following to be carried out in order that the proposals are effective in improving safety around the schools:

1. Regular enforcement of the proposals by both SBC and the Police. *These comments will be shared with both Parking enforcement and the Local PCSOs for the area.*
2. Proactive engagement with both the local schools – we understand that Ashley Barrington-Wilding (the Head at Wroughton Juniors) is happy to engage. We've not had any communication with The Ridgeway School. *We have had limited engagement from both schools throughout the SSEZ programme. Please note that neither schools have been participating in the Mode Shift Stars on line travel plan. Both schools are to participate with the modeshift stars travel plan, this allows SBC to monitor what behavioural change initiatives the schools have been implementing and identify what support a school would require from SBC. Whilst the Road Safety Officer post is vacant and the SSEZ programme is now concluded support from SBC road safety team will be prioritised to those schools that are engaging via the modeshift stars online travel plan.*
3. School staff and students must understand that they also need to comply with the restrictions.. *It is the responsibility of both schools to regular communicate to their staff and students to park within their car parks this is not for SBC to manage. Vehicles can park in the local streets as long as they are parked legally safely and appropriately.*
4. Wroughton Parish Council understands that under the terms of their license, the Ice Cream vendor should not park within 400m of a school entrance. If this is correct, and parking of the van continues to be an issue, consideration should be given to informing the Licensing Authority so they can send a warning notice that the licensee must comply with the terms of their license. *This information has been provided to the licencing team, it is advised that should the Van still continue to park that Cllrs and the Parish Council are to raise it through the Members reporting process directly to Licencing to address.*

5. Engagement with any football teams which use the Ridgeway School field so they understand the importance of complying with restrictions. **We currently do not have any contact details to contact the clubs that are using the area at the weekend. If these details can be shared with us we will be more than happy to contact them and advise them of the restrictions and safety implications.**
6. Notices advising motorists of any new parking restrictions, the need to ensure driveways are not blocked to ensure that residents and the schools are able to access their properties safely at all times. **The only notices that SBC will place out on site are public notices which notify the community of advertised traffic orders. Should a modification be made to the current experimental traffic order (ETRO) then public notices will be sited with the areas that changes are proposed.**
7. A further consultation period for any new restrictions before they become permanent. **If the current ETRO is modified to include new restrictions the order will be advertised and a further consultation will commence.**

Councillor Cook agreed to contact Swindon Borough Council to ask if they had had any engagement from Ridgeway School.

PH/18

Footpaths

Members NOTED that Cllr Woodward would provide an update for the next Committee meeting on 2nd July.

Members RESOLVED to agree the request from the Footpaths Working Party for a £50 budget to provide bacon rolls (or equivalent) for the 2025 Annual Walk the Footpaths Day (date to be advised) if sponsorship was not forthcoming.

PH/19

Street Names: The Hills development site at Woodland View

Members NOTED:

That in July 1942, when Kenneth Foyle was just 14 years old, he was awarded the Royal Humane Certificate for his bravery in rescuing Raymond Covey (age 11) from drowning in the Brickyard Pond, North Wroughton (part of the current Hills housing site) on 12th February 1942.

Members RESOLVED unanimously to agree the proposal by Cllr Diane Archer that the Deputy Clerk request Hills to support a request to Swindon Borough Council that a road on the Hills site be named after Kenneth Foyle.

PH/20

B4005 Brimble Hill/ Marlborough Road: Road Safety Report by Wiltshire and Swindon Road Safety Partnership

Members RECEIVED the notes from the Public Meeting held on Friday 23rd May 2025 and NOTED that in accordance with the outcomes of that meeting:

Cllr John Hewer had invited Sean Donovan of the DVSA to meet to discuss the report and walk the road.

A meeting had been arranged in August with Danny Kruger MP to discuss the report and walk the road.

In accordance with parliamentary protocol, Heidi Alexander MP would be invited in her capacity as Secretary of Transport by Danny Kruger MP.

Meeting invites had been sent to the 3 Borough Councillors representing Wroughton & Wichelstowe Ward.

Members RESOLVED that due to the safety implications of the extremely narrow pavement, rather than invite a group of residents to join this meeting, the Deputy Clerk should invite Councillor Chris Watts (Swindon Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Transport and the Environment) to join this meeting, Wroughton Parish Council would then hold a second public meeting to update residents.

PH/21 Highways Updates and Information

Members NOTED that none had been received.

PH/22 Flood Working Party

Members NOTED there were no updates.

PH/23 Strategic Priorities agreed for 2025/26.

Members NOTED that the following projects had been agreed at the Full Council meeting held on 17th March 2025, as projects to be progressed during 2025/26:

- **Revision of the Neighbourhood Plan:** £15,000 budget, to be considered after the consultation by SBC on their draft Local Plan. Swindon Borough Council's Local Plan s18 consultation scheduled for July 2025.
- **Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS):** £5,000 budget to purchase 1 VAS (happy/ sad face + showing actual speed) for A4361 Church Hill, on north side (downhill) just after junction of minor road to the church.
- **Public meeting regarding report by Wiltshire & Swindon Road Safety Partnership into residents' concerns on B4005 Brimble Hill/ Marlborough Road:** To progress the outcomes from the public meeting held on 23rd May 2025.
- **Wichelstowe Community Sports Hub:** planning applications will come to this committee for consideration. Updates on all other aspects will go to Full Council for consideration.

PH/24 Strategic Priorities to consider for 2026/27

- To consider naming roads on any future development after, and in connection with, Wroughton's famous race horses.

The meeting closed at 19.56.

Signed

Date

Chair, Planning & Highways Committee