

WROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL



PLANNING & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

Notes of the meeting held on 15th October 2025 at 7.30pm
at The Ellendune Community Centre, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 9LW

Present:

**Wroughton
Parish
Council**

Cllr D Archer
Cllr Neil McMahon
Cllr Holly Woodward
Cathy Martyn (Deputy Clerk)

Public 1

PH/172 Apologies for absence.

In the absence of a Committee Chair, the meeting was chaired by Cllr Holly Woodward in her capacity as Vice-Chair.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs John Hewer, Lauren Coady, Will McGregor and Leo Ramsay. The meeting was declared inquorate.

PH/173 Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

There were no declarations of interest.

PH/174 Public Question Time

A resident attended and spoke about ongoing concerns regarding the speed of traffic on Church Hill. They had requested the raw data from Swindon Borough Council (SBC) to understand the top speeds as opposed to average speeds. Their preference would be for the Parish Council to install a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) on the uphill stretch as there was already a VAS on the downhill stretch.

The Chair explained that the 85th percentile speed was within acceptable boundaries which made it difficult to get improvements, and the Parish Council was constrained by what SBC was willing to do or allow. SBC had already advised they would not install additional speed signs and were unwilling to increase the amount of street furniture. The Parish Council would consider funding the cost of replacing the existing VAS sign which only worked when someone exceeded the speed limit, with one which showed whatever speed each vehicle was travelling at, together with a happy/ sad face.

PH/175 Minutes

Approval of the minutes was carried forward to the following meeting of this committee.

PH/176 Updates and information for noting only.

PH/176.1 **Speeding through Elcombe:** Members NOTED an update was expected when Swindon Borough Council had confirmed whether and when it would be able to carry out a speed survey.

PH/176.2 **Proposed streetnames for the Hills housing development site:** Members NOTED that still no response had been received from Swindon Borough Council to the Parish Council's request; Cllr Matty Courtliff was following this up.

- PH/176.3 **Planning Enforcement:** Members NOTED that when any update was received on the matter discussed at the meeting on 18th August, it would be put onto the agenda of the following meeting for consideration by this Committee.
- PH/176.4 **Moormead Road – request for a controlled pedestrian crossing outside Banks Place:** Members NOTED Cllr Gayle Cook (in her Swindon Borough Council capacity) would keep the Parish Council updated regarding this request.
- PH/176.5 **School Safe Environment Zone and impact of the change in the Ridgeway School finish time:** Members NOTED Swindon Borough Council had advised that the School Safe Environment Zone had been completed and closed in April 2025. The officer had moved into a new role and recommended that the Committee's concerns were raised with the ward councillors who could submit them via Members Hotline. Cllr Gayle Cook had raised a Members Hotline case and would keep the Deputy Clerk updated.
- PH/177 **Planning Applications Examination**
- Application no: S/25/1209
Location: 1A Moormead Road, Wroughton. SN4 9BS
Proposal: Erection of a single storey 3 bay car valet building.
Deadline: 20.10.25
Comment: **Members RECOMMENDED making NO Objections**
- Application no: S/HOU/25/1198
Location: 92 Priors Hill, Wroughton. SN4 0RW
Proposal: Demolition of existing garage & erection of garage and associated works.
Deadline: 20.10.25
Comment: **Members RECOMMENDED the following comment:**
Members supported and agreed with the Conservation Officer's comments and recommended OBJECTING on the basis this planning application was not in keeping with the Conservation Area. Members acknowledged the existing garage needed to be demolished and replaced, but requested the plans were revised so they did not involve removing any of the front wall, which was conserved, and which would therefore change the front garden. A single garage would be more appropriate - Members would be happy for the garage to be replaced on the existing footprint.
- Application no: S/HOU/25/1192
Location: 90 Priors Hill, Wroughton. SN4 0RW
Proposal: Demolition of garage and store and associated works.
Deadline: 20.10.25
Comment: **Members RECOMMENDED the following comment:**
Members acknowledged the existing garage needed to be demolished and replaced, and were happy with the principle of replacing it with a single garage. However, this planning application was inextricably linked with the neighbour's application to replace their existing single garage with a garage and store on a larger footprint (S/HOU/25/1198). Therefore Members refer the Planning Officer to their OBJECTIONS for S/HOU/25/1198.

Application no: S/HOU/25/1265
 Location: 8 Falkirk Road, Wroughton. SN4 9DU
 Proposal: Erection of single storey front, side & rear extensions, and rear dormer window.
 Deadline: 27.10.25
 Comment: **Members RECOMMENDED the following comment:**
Members would prefer to see the front extension in line with the common build line for the row of houses, but had NO OBJECTIONS in principle to the extensions on the side and rear.

Application no: S/HOU/25/1054
 Location: 49 Whittingham Drive, Wroughton. SN4 0TE
 Proposal: Conversion (part) of garage into habitable space, replace tarmac drive with block paving and drop kerbs.
 Deadline: 28.10.25
 Comment: **Members RECOMMENDED making NO OBJECTIONS.**

PH/178 **Planning Applications notified by Swindon Borough Council for information only:**
 Members NOTED none had been received.

PH/179 **Responses to Swindon Borough Council on planning applications which were agreed by email:**
 Members NOTED there were none for this meeting.

PH/180 **Planning Decisions and Applications which had been withdrawn.**
 S/25/0823 Land at Langton Park Erection of 14 dwellings (Class C3) WITHDRAWN
 and associated works

PH/181 **Decisions by SBC to allow TPO Work (Tree Preservation Orders)**
 Members NOTED none had been received, and that the Deputy Clerk had asked Swindon Borough Council for the process to request a Tree Preservation Order and was awaiting a reply.

PH/182 **Planning Updates and Information.**
 Members NOTED there were none for this meeting.

PH/183 **Local Plan Update**
 Members RECEIVED the notes of Swindon Borough Council's Regulation 18 public consultation meeting held on 6th October 2025, a copy is attached as Appendix A.

The retrospective approval of the Parish Council's response to Swindon Borough Council's Regulation 18 Consultation was deferred to the following committee meeting scheduled for 5th November 2025.

PH/184 **Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Units/ Credits**
Members RECOMMENDED:

- Supporting the proposal from Cllr Holly Woodward to meet with Wiltshire Wildlife Trust (WWT) to discuss whether and how net BNG credits are used with regard to Clouts Wood and Kings Farm Wood, whether these sites were registered as sellers of BNG credits and whether there was any plan to include Diocese Meadows going forward, on the understanding this had been rented to Wiltshire Wildlife Trust.

- Asking the Deputy Clerk to investigate whether the Parish Council could register any land which it owned or rented as sites where BNG units could be used.
- The Grounds Team deliver letters to the farmers regarding whether they would be interested in registering any of their farmland for BNG credits.
- Asking the Deputy Clerk to investigate whether it's possible to register leased land for BNG credits, and if so, the process involved – this could be raised with WWT.

PH/185

Revision of the Neighbourhood Plan

The Chair gave a verbal update following the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Working Party meeting held on 13th November 2025, the notes for which would be taken to the next committee meeting. The Working Party had discussed residents' concerns. When the current NP had been written, Swindon Borough Council (SBC) had allocated the number of homes which would need to be built in Wroughton, but not the sites; the Parish Council and the community had proposed sites which had then been agreed at referendum. This time was different as SBC had already allocated the number of homes to be built within the parish, and also proposed sites for development. It would be difficult for the Parish Council to influence the choice of sites, but it could influence infrastructure, and consider projects to be funded by the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which would be for the benefit of residents. If the number of homes proposed were built, they would generate a significant amount of CIL. The Working Party had recommended revising the NP on a policy basis (rather than a site basis) to take account of the different circumstances.

PH/186

Brimble Hill/ Marlborough Road

Members NOTED the Deputy Clerk was awaiting the traffic count data and camera information from Swindon Borough Council.

PH/187

Speeding on Church Hill

Members NOTED that Full Council had set a £5,000 budget to purchase 1 VAS (Vehicle Activated Sign) for the A4361 Church Hill north. The Committee had agreed to consider a request from residents to install a VAS on the southbound section. A resident had also asked Swindon Borough Council (SBC) to install a VAS on the uphill section. SBC had emailed the ATC results (Automatic Traffic Counts) to the Parish Council and the resident on Church Hill – copies of both documents are attached to these Notes as Appendix B.

Members also NOTED the following email by Swindon Borough Council to a resident:
The recent speed survey results (attached) confirm that the 85th percentile speed is within the prescribed restricted road status of 30mph. While this indicates that overall compliance is being achieved, we recognise that perception of speeding and driver behaviour remain important issues for residents.

As the road is defined as a restricted 30mph road by virtue of the system of street lighting, national regulations do not normally permit the use of additional 30mph repeater signs. This also applies to carriageway roundels, which are classed as repeaters and therefore only permitted at the point where a speed restriction changes. For this reason, carriageway roundels cannot be introduced at this location.

A Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) is already in place on site, which is one of the most effective measures available for reinforcing compliance. The survey results also confirm that speeds do not meet the thresholds required to support the introduction of Community Speed Watch.

Given these factors, there are no further engineering measures available that comply with current regulations. However, we will continue to keep the location under review and take account of community feedback when considering any future opportunities.

Members agreed to RECOMMEND that the Committee should request details of the actual speeds recorded so that Members could understand the fastest speeds before considering whether to request permission from Swindon Borough Council to replace the existing VAS on the downhill (northward) stretch with a SAM, and/ or a SAM on the uphill stretch.

A SAM is a Smiley Activated Message sign. It displays real time vehicle speeds and a red sad face for speeding vehicles and a green smiley face for those not speeding.

PH/188 Public Highways Notices for information
Members NOTED none had been received.

PH/189 Footpaths Working Party - Update
Members NOTED none had been received.

PH/190 Highways Updates and Information:
Members NOTED none had been received.

PH/168 Proposed Traffic Order – A4361 Wroughton – proposal by Swindon Borough Council to remove the 24 hour clearway
Members NOTED the Deputy Clerk awaited an update following the Committee's support of the removal of the 24 hour clearway, from Swindon Borough Council's Senior Traffic Engineer.

PH/169 Flood Working Party
Members NOTED the Deputy Clerk was still awaiting the information read out at the Flood Working Party meeting on Monday 29th September by Thames Water and Swindon Borough Council, following which the notes would be brought to this Committee.

PH/170 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.
- **Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS):** £5,000 budget to purchase 1 SAM for A4361 Church Hill, northwards after junction of minor road to the church. This is a standing agenda item.
- **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. This is a standing agenda item.
- **Wichelstowe Community Sports Hub:** With Full Council (excepting planning applications).

PH/171 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 20.18

Signed
Chair, Planning & Highways Committee

Date