



WROUGHTON & WICHELSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL

PLANNING & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on **Wednesday 17 June 2026**

Present

Cllr Holly Woodward (Chair)
Cllr Matthew Smith (Vice Chair)
Cllr Mark Trigg
Cllr Diane Archer
Cllr John Hewer
Cllr Stan Pajak

Emma Freemantle (Clerk)
Thomas Haworth (Deputy Clerk)

Public: 4

PH/019 **Apologies for Absence**
Cllr Matty Courtliff

PH/020 **Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**
Cllr MS alerted the committee to planning application S/AGRI/26/0686 and the fact that members of his family live in the vicinity.

PH/021 **Public Questions (Maximum of 10 minutes)**
Members of the public indicated their desire to speak on the Berkeley Farm Dairy item and withheld their comments until later in the meeting.

The Chair of the committee suspended standing orders to move the public session down the agenda.

PH/022 **Minutes**
The committee RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 3 June 2026.

PH/023 **Updates from the Committee Chair**
Cllr HW referred to an update on speed survey data that would be discussed later in the meeting.

PH/024 **Actions from the Previous Meeting**
The committee noted that the following actions from the previous meeting have been completed:

1 The Deputy Clerk has emailed Swindon Borough Council's Highways department to ask that a meeting be set up in order to discuss car parking provision across the parish.

2 The Deputy Clerk has contacted Swindon Borough Council to ask that speed surveys be carried out at Wharf Road, Marlborough Road and Brimble Hill and from the top of Brimble Hill to the Toll House at the corner of Hodson Road. SBC will confirm details such as timings in due course.

3 The Deputy Clerk has contacted Chris Hildrup from National Highways to progress the actions that were previously agreed around making changes to the current M4 bridge lay out. A response has yet to be received.

4 The Clerk/Deputy Clerk has drafted a new section of the Press, Media & Social Media Policy to help the parish council respond to planning applications, for presentation for consideration at the next F&GP Meeting.

In reference to action 4, Cllr HW asked how the new section of the Press, Media & Social Media Policy would be communicated to the public. TH said it wouldn't be proactively shared with the public as it's mainly for parish council reference.

Cllr MT raised the fact that it may have to be changed again in light of the proposed national changes to planning rules. EF agreed but said it would still be wise to update our policy in the interim period.

Cllr HW said that in determining whether or not to communicate planning applications in future, the committee should decide during the relevant meeting. Members agreed.

The Chair reinstated standing orders and moved agenda item 14 forward, the Berkeley Farm Dairy.

PH/024

Berkeley Farm Dairy: Update from the Traffic Commissioner

Cllr HW noted the date of the Traffic Commissioner's public inquiry and said she was happy to attend the inquiry on behalf of the parish council and to support the residents.

Members of the public spoke of the problems on site with the huge vehicles trying to reverse in and out of the farm. They said they have video evidence that shows HGVs causing traffic problems on Swindon Road.

The public said that the business has out-grown the size of the yard and that when there are a number of large vehicles in the yard, there's no way they can turn round.

The public also spoke of problems relating to excessive noise at night, plans to erect a 20 ft high fence and a recent incident in which double cream milk was poured down the drains.

Cllr HW wished the residents well at the public inquiry and said she would attend in order to support their cause, though the committee said that it was unlikely she would have any active involvement in the inquiry.

PH/025

Planning Applications to be Examined

Planning Ref: **S/AGRI/26/0688**

Address: Whitehouse Farm Dairy, Wharf Road, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 9QJ

Proposal: Prior Approval Application for the erection of a new agricultural building.

Deadline: Wednesday 24 June

WWPC Comments: No objections.

Planning Ref: **S/HOU/26/0726**

Address: Westleaze Stables, Mill Lane, Swindon, SN1 7HG

Proposal: Proposed internal and external alterations to existing outbuilding together with addition of Swimming Pool and Pool House.

Deadline: Monday 29 June

WWPC Comments: No objections.

Planning Ref: **S/26/0571**

Address: Land Adjacent To The Former Check Inn, 79 Woodland View, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 9AA

Proposal: Erection of 8 no. Dwellings (Class C3) and associated works.

Deadline: Monday 29 June

WWPC Comments: No objections.

Planning Ref: **S/AGRI/26/0686**

Address: Land At Chilton Farm, Chilton Farm Track, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 9LU

Proposal: Prior Notification Application for the construction of an earth-banked slurry lagoon.

Deadline: Friday 19 June

WWPC Comments: No objections, providing that appropriate steps are taken to ensure odours are controlled and contamination is avoided. The parish council also wishes to ensure that journeys to and from the lagoon do not negatively impact nearby public roads.

Planning Ref: **S/HOU/26/0735**

Address: 4 Dunbar Road, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 9DS

Proposal: Erection of a part single part two storey rear extension to the dwelling.

Deadline: Wednesday 1 July

WWPC Comments: No objections.

PH/026 Planning Decisions Made by Swindon Borough Council

None at the time of agenda dispatch.

PH/027 Tree Works Notifications

None at the time of agenda dispatch.

PH/028 Notice of Temporary Footpath Closures

None at the time of agenda dispatch.

PH/029 Temporary Event Notices

None at the time of agenda dispatch.

PH/030 Change to National Planning Rules

Members expressed regret at this proposed change and felt the parish's voice would be diluted. A copy of the documentation from Swindon Borough Council is attached as Appendix A.

Cllr MT asked if we could write to SBC to request a meeting to understand how the new arrangements will work going forward, and the committee agreed.

Cllr DA said we should still have our say on planning applications as the parish should still be considered a statutory consultee. Cllr HW said it looks as though the decision-making process is being taken away from residents and given to officers.

Cllr JH said he would raise the issue at the next meeting of the Swindon Borough Council Local Council's Forum, due to take place on Thursday 18 June.

ACTION: TH will write to SBC to request a meeting to understand how the new arrangements will work going forward.

PH/031 New Street Lighting at Woodlands View

Members examined the proposals and questioned the extent to which protections will be included to shield nearby properties from light pollution.

PH/032 Speed Data Survey: Additional Site Request

Cllr HW questioned whether speeding at the Devizes Road/Barrett Way junction is a common occurrence, and Cllr DA said it is. She said people tend to speed up to avoid stopping at the zebra crossing.

Cllr HW referred to a communication she had distributed to members that suggested the Local Highways Authority should not rely on the 85th percentile speed when determining speed interventions.

TH referenced a recent email from Swindon Borough Council's highways team that contained speed data for the Brimble Hill/Wanshot Close roundabout from November 2025, and promised to share it with members.

ACTION: TH to include Devizes Road in the speed data survey list. In particular, the section of road on the lead up to the pedestrian crossing near Barratt Way.

PH/033 Neighbourhood Plan Working Party

TH told the committee that the next meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party is booked in for Thursday 25 June at 1pm.

Members agreed to the proposal for a sub-committee to be formed to look at making alterations to the Conservation Area boundary.

PH/034 Wales and West Gas Works on Swindon Road/Moormead Road

Members noted the Wales and West Utilities roadworks on Swindon Road/Moormead Road that will run until September 2026. Members questioned why the parish council had not received advanced warning of either these works or the ones currently being carried out on Wharf Road.

Cllr TG asked if the parish could contact SBC to understand how roadworks can be more clearly communicated to us in future.

ACTION: TH to speak to SBC to ask for some more information about these works and future ones.

PH/035 P&H Committee Project Tracker

Members noted the P&H Committee Project Tracker, copy attached as Appendix B.

PH/036 Future Agenda Items

Cllr MT asked if the parish could liaise with the owners of the commercial units around the Ellendune district centre to see how they could work with us to regenerate the area.

ACTION: TH to draft a letter to send to the shop owners.

Cllr SP asked if the zebra crossing outside the Listers estate could be upgraded in order to be made safer. Cllr MS said he had explored this before and funding was a problem, though future income from Section 106 monies could be used.

Cllr HW mentioned that traffic light signage on Brimble Hill is currently on the pavement and could cause problems for pedestrians, especially for people with mobility issues. Cllr

DA said it was in order to ensure traffic isn't pushed into oncoming vehicles. EF said the parish's grounds team are working with SBC to see how some parts of the pavement could be made safer.

The meeting was closed at 8:43pm

Signed:

Chair of Planning & Highways Committee

Date: