



WROUGHTON & WICHELSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL

PLANNING & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on **Wednesday 29 July 2026**

Present

Cllr Holly Woodward (Chair)
Cllr Matthew Smith (Vice Chair)
Cllr John Hower
Cllr Mark Trigg
Cllr Martin Barrett

Thomas Haworth (Deputy Clerk)

Ryan Dowling (Swindon Borough Council)
Sean Smith (Swindon Borough Council)
Mick Gallavin (Wales & West Utilities)

Public: 27

PH/067

Apologies

Cllr Diane Archer
Cllr Stan Pajak

PH/068

Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

None.

PH/069

Public Questions (Maximum of 10 minutes)

All members of the public had attended to hear updates on the Marlborough Road closure and to put questions to SBC and Wales & West.

MG started by explaining why W&W needed to undertake the work and gave a brief overview of how the wider scheme had progressed to date. He said that extra signage would be put in place on Monday 3 August to alert motorists to the road closure but that **there's nothing that can be done about drivers choosing to ignore the signs**. MG said he will send an updated plan that contains the new signage locations to the parish council later in the week.

Cllr MT asked if lorries coming off the A419 or the M4 would be alerted to the road closure soon enough to allow them to take alternative routes. RD said that signs will be in place that say there is no through road to Wroughton and that lorry drivers should know what alternative routes are available to them.

SS said the diversion routes will be properly mapped on Google Maps and on sat nav systems, and explained that modern sat nav systems are much better than in previous years. RD agreed that the sat nav technology has advanced a lot recently and was confident that the diversion routes would be available to drivers in real time.

One resident warned that if the M4 was to close at any point during the works, it would result in the traffic in Wroughton being intolerable. He said the Marlborough Road closure should take this into account.

Another resident said that W&W should ensure a member of staff is on site at all times to warn any approaching vehicles that access is restricted. He suggested that that might be a cheaper option in the long run. Cllr JH agreed and said it's something W&W should consider. MG responded to say that it's not a sensible use of resources, but that he would go away and ask his colleagues if it's doable.

Another resident asked for clarity around access to properties on the closed section. MG said access would be maintained for people who live within the closure, with access until 9 August being from the Chiseldon end and from the Swindon end from 10 August.

Cllr HW said it will be chaos if lorries try to drive up Bakers Road when they get to the road closure, as they will get stuck. RD said SBC will monitor the closure and can respond to specific problems if they emerge, but said it's difficult to predict what drivers will do.

One resident asked about a broken manhole cover on the corner of The Pitches and if it was going to be fixed. RD understood that it did need fixing but there are no plans to fix it as part of these roadworks.

A representative from Chiseldon Parish Council cautioned about large vehicles coming through the village and said there is no obvious place for lorries to turn around. He suggested putting illuminated signs up, similar to the ones seen on motorways, to ensure the signs are seen. SS responded to say the roads in Wroughton are not part of a high speed road network and illuminated signs would not be necessary.

Cllr JH asked if the bus companies had been notified and SS said they had.

Another resident asked if waste and recycling services to properties inside the road closure will be affected. MG said they will ensure the waste and recycling trucks are able to get through. SS confirmed that the collection service will not be affected.

A resident asked how secured the physical signs will be and was concerned that they may fall over. MG said they'd be weighted down with sandbags and will be checked daily.

Another resident asked if SBC had any plans to fix the crumbling wall on Brimble Hill while the road closure was in place. RD and SS said the issue of the wall is currently with SBC's legal department and that the highways team can't do anything about it. RD said a survey had recently been undertaken on the wall and Cllr HW asked if the parish council could see the results of the survey. RD said they couldn't.

Cllr MB told the committee that he had emailed Cllr Nic Gardiner about the Brimble Hill wall but hadn't received a reply. A resident said the wall has visibly deteriorated in a short space of time.

Another resident asked if any procedures are in place to report problems as and when they emerge. MG pointed her towards a letter that residents will receive that will contain the necessary information. She said it shouldn't be left to the residents to report issues, and RD said things will be monitored by SBC on a daily basis.

ACTION: The committee asked TH to publish a post on the parish council's Facebook page to thank the residents for attending the meeting. The parish council will collate and forward complaints and issues to SBC as they arrive.

PH/070

Minutes

The committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 16 July 2026 (copy attached).

PH/071

Updates from the Committee Chair

None noted.

PH/072

Actions from the Previous Meeting

The committee noted the following action from the previous meeting:

The Deputy Clerk sent residents' questions about the Marlborough Road closure to Swindon Borough Council and Wales & West and invited representatives from both organisations to attend tonight's meeting.

This was addressed during the public questions section of the meeting.

PH/073

Marlborough Road Closure – Updates from Wales & West and Swindon Borough Council

This item was addressed during the public questions section of the meeting.

PH/074

Planning Applications to be Examined

Planning Ref: **S/PHOU/26/0897**

Address: 119 Perrys Lane, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 9BA

Proposal: Prior Approval Notification for the erection of a flat roof single storey rear extension with external render to match existing. Measuring 4.82m (from original rear wall), 2.84m (maximum height) and 2.84m (height to eaves).

Deadline: Wednesday 5 August

WWPC Comments: We do not think this application conforms to the 45 degree rule. We ask the Local Planning Authority to consider this before making a determination.

Planning Ref: **S/HOU/26/0910**

Address: The Garden Cottage, Church Hill, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 9JS

Proposal: Erection of a single-storey rear extension.

Deadline: Tuesday 11 August

WWPC Comments: No objections.

PH/075

Planning Decisions Made by Swindon Borough Council

Planning Ref: **S/LBC/26/0582 (copy attached)**

Address: Woodham House West, Bakers Road, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 0RP

Proposal: Replacement of existing conservatory roof with lightweight insulated modern roofing material, retaining two glazed roof lights for natural light (retrospective application)

Decision: Granted Permission/Delegated Decision

Planning Ref: **S/HOU/26/0678**

Address: 24 Summerhouse Road, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 9HZ

Proposal: Variation of Condition 3 (Materials) from Planning Application S/HOU/26/0378.

Decision: Granted Permission/Delegated Decision

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

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

Proposal: Erection of a part single-storey, part two-storey rear extension to the dwelling and a porch to the side elevation.

Decision: Permission Refused/Delegated Decision

Cllr HW drew the committee's attention to a reference in the officer's report to the possible effects of the application on biodiversity, and noted that it's very rare for that to be a consideration in a planning application of this nature.

ACTION: TH to speak to the case officer to obtain some more information about how biodiversity considerations are brought into planning applications of this nature.

PH/076 Tree Works Notifications

None at the time of agenda dispatch.

PH/077 Notice of Temporary Footpath Closures

None at the time of agenda dispatch.

PH/078 Temporary Event Notices

None at the time of agenda dispatch.

PH/079 Update on Wiltshire and Swindon Road Safety Partnership

Cllr HW and TH gave a brief verbal update of the Wiltshire and Swindon Road Safety Partnership event that took place in Trowbridge on Friday 17 July.

They thought the event had been useful in understanding how to approach the issue of HGVs traveling through village roads.

Members said that residents can send their dash cam or ring doorbell footage to the authorities if they see drivers flouting the rules.

ACTION: The committee asked TH to publish a post on the parish council's Facebook page advising residents on where they can [send their dashcam footage](#) to if they capture any poor driving during the Marlborough Road closure.

PH/080 Wichelstowe Street Naming Invitation

The committee discussed options for street names and considered the two suggested by developers (Dunnington and Ardington) but didn't think there was a connection to the parish.

Cllr MB suggested looking at commemorating people from the parish who died in the First World War. Cllr HW suggested looking at names on Wroughton's war memorial and TH wondered if it was worth contacting Wroughton History Group.

ACTION: TH to contact SBC to suggest the names previously submitted – Brown Jack and William Gosling, and to explore future options based on the history of the parish.

PH/081 Barrett Way Resurfacing Work

The committee noted that Barrett Way will be closed for resurfacing on Monday 3 August.

PH/082 Future Assistance from Planning Consultant

Cllr JH alerted the committee to a message from a local resident who questioned the need for a planning consultant to be used.

The committee felt that its comments on large planning applications would have more weight if they were based on detailed planning law. Cllr HW suggested that if the parish council is going to effectively oppose unsuitable large scale developments, it needs to be able to respond with the same level of knowledge that the developers have access to.

At present, the committee does not have that understanding and is therefore at a significant disadvantage. The intention would be to only call in planning consultant help for large applications, and that costs would be kept to a minimum.

Members RESOLVED to support the proposal and proceed with the current planning consultant.

PH/083

P&H Committee Project Tracker

Members noted the P&H Committee Project Tracker (copy attached).

Cllr MS suggested setting the trackers out differently to mark an obvious split between projects that had been completed and ones still ongoing.

ACTION: TH to change the layout of the tracker to reflect Cllr MS's comments.

PH/084

Future Agenda Items

No future items were identified but Cllr MB said that in his role as a borough councillor, he had called in to committee the planning application for Overtown Farm. He touched on concerns around fire safety and vehicular access.

The meeting was closed at 8.52pm.

Signed: Amy A. Woodward

Chair of Planning & Highways Committee

Date: 21/9/26