WROUGHTON & WICHELSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL

PLANNING & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on **Wednesday 11 November 2026**

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

Thomas Haworth

Public: 7

PH/176 **Apologies**
Cllr Diane Archer
Cllr Martin Barrett

PH/177 **Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**
None

PH/178 **Public Questions (Maximum of 10 minutes)**
A resident asked if the parish council has objected to Swindon Borough Council's new Local Plan. Cllr HW briefly explained the parish's strategy in relation to the Local Plan, highlighting the fact that comments must now go directly to the Planning Inspector and must be based on how legally sound the Plan appears to be.

The resident was concerned that a site off Priors Hill was still being considered for development by SBC due to its appearance in the SHELAA (Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment). The committee assured the resident that the site does not feature in the updated Local Plan, but that that doesn't mean that a planning application will not be brought forward for the site in future.

Another resident asked the committee to put pressure on SBC to ask the owner of Comet Way to address the following issues: fly tipping, the poor state of the road and dangerous driving. The resident said the road is in a terrible state of repair and something needs to be done. TH said he would speak to SBC to remind them of the ongoing issues.

ACTION: TH to speak to SBC to see if action can be taken to address the issues with Comet Way.

PH/179 **Minutes**
The committee **APPROVED** the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 28 October 2026.

PH/180 **Updates from the Committee Chair**

None.

PH/181 **Actions from the Previous Meeting**

The committed noted that the following actions from the previous meeting had been completed:

6.1 To send the letter to the SBC Cabinet Member for Highways to highlight traffic problems over the summer and to ask for future improvements.

6.2 To ask SBC for an update on the planning application approval for the former Co-op building.

PH/182 **Planning Applications to be Examined**

Planning Ref: **S/HOU/26/1317**
Address: 15 Boness Road, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 9DX
Proposal: Extension of the existing front and rear dormers windows.
Deadline: Thursday 19 November
Committee comments: No objections.

Planning Ref: **S/LBC/26/1319**
Address: Parsloes Farmhouse, Overtown Lane, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 0SJ
Proposal: Replacement of ground floor front window frame and casement.
Deadline: Monday 23 November
Committee comments: No objections.

Planning Ref: **S/HOU/26/1304**
Address: 55 Langton Park, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 0QW
Proposal: Erection of an outbuilding comprising home office and garden store (Retrospective).
Deadline: Thursday 12 November
Committee comments: No objections.

PH/183 **Planning Decisions Made by Swindon Borough Council**

Planning Ref: **S/26/1074**
Address: 6 Conigre Close, Wichelstowe, Swindon, SN1 7FQ
Proposal: Change of Use from C3(a) Dwellinghouses for single household/family to C2 Residential Institutions, specifically for use as a Children's Home.
Decision: Permission Granted

Planning Ref: **S/HOU/26/0923**
Address: 4 Thorney Park, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 0QR
Proposal: Erection of Conservatory to the Former Front of the Property 5m wide and 3m in Projection.
Decision: Permission Granted

PH/184 **Tree Works Notifications**

Planning Ref: **S/TPO/26/1054**
Address: 6 Parsloes Close, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 0TP
Proposal: Works to trees within Tree Preservation Order (No. 6) 2002: *To fell the Silver Birch and Cherry Tree.*
Decision: Permission Granted

PH/185 **Notice of Temporary Footpath Closures**

None at the time of agenda dispatch.

PH/186 **Temporary Event Notices**

None at the time of agenda dispatch.

PH/187 **Wichel Way Opening**

The committee noted the recent opening of Wichel Way. Cllr MT said SBC had thought about speeding issues as a number of chicanes had been put in place. He pointed out that this process should be followed on other roads in which speeding is a concern, such as Wharf Road.

PH/188 **Swindon Local Plan 2026-2046**

The committee noted the updated draft responses to the Local Plan and members **APPROVED** their submission.

PH/189 **Updates from Flood Working Party**

Cllr HW said the recent Flood Working Party meeting was positive, with partner organisations working well together. She said that Thames Water had recently cleared out the drains in The Pitchens area.

A resident who lives in The Pitchens gave his perspective on the flooding issues and explained the drainage mechanics of the area. He was concerned that nothing is being done to properly address the flooding and drainage issues in that part of the village and said SBC has known what the solution is for years but has so far done nothing.

The resident said he was unable to formally take part in the Flood Working Party due to a conflict of interest but Cllr HW asked if he could send them written reports to assist the discussion.

The resident also disagreed that Thames Water had recently cleared a culvert in The Pitchens. He said he had put a camera into the culvert and found evidence that it had not been cleared.

Cllr HW talked about work SBC recently carried out on Bakers Road, which involved a mapping exercise to see if they can clear culvert under the road. She said SBC told her that it was 80% blocked and needed to be sorted quickly.

Cllr HW said the working party was building a good relationship with Thames Water and SBC's flood officers at the moment and was hopeful that it will lead to positive results, with a flood strategy for Wroughton soon to be issued.

Cllr HW asked if a site visit to The Pitchens can be arranged with the resident, who was happy to take part.

The resident then reminded the committee that landowners who live next to streams have riparian responsibilities. He said that, based on that, SBC is responsible for clearing the stream at Willow-Brook Gardens but if the parish leases the land from SBC, then the parish is probably responsible.

The resident said he was disappointed that SBC won't issue sandbags until after a property has been flooded. Cllr JH said the parish is looking at obtaining sandbags or aqua packs and the resident said these things wouldn't be needed if SBC just got on and addressed the problem properly.

ACTION: TH to organise site visit with councillors and a local resident and to investigate landownership arrangements for Willow-Brook stream.

PH/190 **Updates from Wiltshire and Swindon Road Safety Partnership**

Cllr HW said the recent road safety meeting with Perry Payne was productive, although concrete solutions were not easily identified.

In terms of addressing speeding and general road safety concerns, Cllr HW said that Perry Payne suggested undertaking a communications campaign to help keep residents safe, especially during the darker winter months.

Cllr JH said they spoke about getting police officers to undertake speed measuring exercises to help the parish gather further evidence and Cllr MT stressed the importance of the parish continuing to engage with the key decision makers.

Cllr SP referred to a road-by-road review that SBC undertakes but doesn't make public. He said we should ask the ward councillors to see if they can obtain it and share it with us.

ACTION: TH to put ideas together for a road safety communications campaign.

PH/191 **Water Disconnection Works on Wharf Road**

The committee noted that Thames Water will be carrying out disconnection works to the water supply at the Wharf Road toilets on 18 and 19 November.

PH/192 **P&H Committee Project Tracker**

The committee noted the P&H Committee Project Tracker.

PH/193 **Future Agenda Items**

Cllr HW drew attention to a recent planning application for Burderop Park, which is in Chiseldon ward, and TH said he will investigate and add it top a future agenda if need be.

The meeting closed at **8.42pm**.

Signed: ……

Chair of Planning & Highways Committee

Date: ……..