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**Washington Parish Council**

**Planning and Transport Committee Meeting**

**MINUTES** of the Planning & Transport Committee Meeting held on Monday 26th April, 2021 at 7:45pm via the Zoom Online Meeting Platform

**PRESENT:** : Cllr C Began (CB), Cllr P Heeley (PH), Cllr J Henderson (JH), Cllr A Lisher (Chairman) and Cllr K Woods (KW).

**ALSO:** Clerk to the Council

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**: 0

**ABSENT**: 0

The Meeting was opened by the Chairman at 7:45pm.

1. **Apologies for absence**

None.

1. **Declarations of Interest from members in any item to be discussed and agree Dispensations.**

None

1. **To approve the Minutes of the last Planning & Transport Committee meeting**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting on 15th March 2021 were approved as a correct record

1. **Public Speaking**

None

1. **To consider new planning applications on the current weekly lists from Horsham**

**District Council and West Sussex County Council** (the running order of this item may

change at the discretion of the Chairman in order to accommodate any members of the

public in attendance).

**DC/21/0619 – Little Acorns Hampers Lane Storrington West Sussex**

*Erection of a single storey side and rear extension*

Members discussed this application and noted that the proposal is for a small proportion of the floor

area and would have no neighbours on any elevation. **RESOLVED** unanimously to make **NO**

**OBJECTION**

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1. **Planning Compliance**

JH reported that a resident has complained to WSCC of continued operations by Dudman’s at Rock Quarry without planning consent. Members noted that WSCC is looking into the matter.

1. **To Receive and Report planning department decisions**

The Chairman reported on the following:

**DC/21/0362 – The Orchard London Road Washington RH20 3BP**

*Conversion of existing garage to living accommodation with addition of dormers to rear elevation.*

**Decision:** Application permitted 13/4/2021

The Chairman reported that the parish council had objected to the application but noted that its

request for a condition to tie the garage to the main property has been included in the approval.

**SDNP/20/04362/FUL – 1 Rockwood Mews Old London Road Washington RH20 3BN**

*New acoustic fence, planting and bund to south of unit one approved DC/19/0281 and change of use of*

*Land to residential use in conjunction with dwelling*

**Decision:** Approved 9th April 2021

1. **Appeals**

None lodged or decided at the time of the meeting.

1. **To Discuss Transport and Planning Issues.**

**To Consider a request for traffic calming measures in Old London Road, Washington**

Members discussed whether to support an application for a Traffic Regulation Order for speed humps in Old London Road. A letter from a resident expressing concerns about traffic speeds in the road following the death of their young cat in a traffic collision, was previously circulated. Members also discussed highways regulations for speed humps. They noted the pre-existing requirement for a 30mph speed limit and street lighting. The latter would be in conflict with the area’s Dark Skies policies and result in the unacceptable urbanisation of the area. They were sympathetic to the resident’s loss, noting this may be in part due to the increase in deliveries to the nearby industrial estate during lockdown as well as the risk to young animals living near a busy road. However, it was agreed that it would be difficult to exceed the no through road’s 40mph limit and that there was no history of serious injury accidents to people. In the absence of this evidence, the Members agreed it would be difficult to support traffic calming measures and the expense of traffic survey for a TRO application. The Clerk reported that she had advised the resident of their rights to make an application with the support of the WSCC local ward member for the Storrington Division, Cllr Paul Marshall.

**RESOLVED** unanimously not to support any further action at this time. Clerk to write to the resident and to express the committee’s sympathies to the family’s loss.

**To Consider concerns about air and noise pollution in the Old London Road area from A24 traffic.**

Members discussed written concerns of a resident about the loss of natural sound mitigation to

properties in the Old London Road area following the recent felling of mature trees and vegetation

on a land alongside the A24. It was noted that the local ward member for Storrington Division,

Cllr Paul Marshall has arranged a site meeting with the resident and the Highways Authority’s

Assistant Area Manager, Mr Steve Douglas, on Thursday 29th April to discuss these concerns and the

provision of an acoustic fence or similar noise barrier.

Cllr Marshall has also written to HDC to enquire if a planning application has been received or

pre-application advice sought by the landowner to develop the site. It has been observed that sound

recording equipment was seen on the site in recent weeks, suggesting this possibility. However, there

have been reports that the trees were felled for safety reasons because of serious decay and were not

part of the WSCC’s Ash-Die Back tree felling schedule. Members agreed it was difficult for the

the committee to comment at this time until they know what is planned by WSCC as a result of the

forthcoming site meeting. **RESOLVED** unanimously to await feedback and what is the appropriate

course of action for the council.

**To Report WSCC’s schedule of felling trees affected by Ash Die-Back along the A24 in the parish**

Members noted the WSCC schedule of works to fell affected Ash trees in the parish on the

Following dates:

19-21 April: A24 Southbound from Washington Roundabout

22 to 23 April@ A24 Northbound, Glaseby Lane to Washington Roundabout.

**RESOLVED** unanimously to note the schedule and to enquire if WSCC will be replanting within the year

to replace the lost trees.

**To Report concerns about sales parking at the Kia garage dealership, London Road, Washington**

Members noted correspondence from a resident alleging the continued planning breaches by

the car dealership of sales cars encroaching on the grassed area in front of the garage. Responses

from local ward members were circulated before the meeting. It was noted that the garage is

in the process of drafting proposals for an access which would address concerns raised by the planning

compliance team at HDC earlier in the year**.** The Clerk added that the garage management is still in

negotiations on these with the National Trust which owns the land up to the Washington Roundabout**.**

**RESOLVED** unanimously to write again to Horsham District Council’s Planning Compliance to re-state

the council’s concerns and to enquire on the time line before action is taken.

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**To Report correspondence about a local wildlife survey.**

Members noted reports from a local resident and the Chairman that the owner of the Longbury Hill

Wood site has commissioned a wildlife survey of local ponds to see if they are suitable for various

amphibians. A copy of a letter from the survey team from CSA Environmental was shared before the

meeting. It coincides with correspondence from Horsham District Council’s Senior Planning

Compliance Officer, Jennifer Baxter, to the parish council that the landowner plans to submit a pre

-application enquiry for the woodland by 30 June. This is the deadline for meeting the Forestry

Commission’s extended restocking conditions. Ms Baxter confirmed that HDC is ‘*pushing for*

*compliance in respect of the breach of condition’* regarding the temporary access and hardstanding, and

will ‘*know more’* once the pre-application is submitted. Following a discussion, it was **RESOLVED**

unanimously that the matter of the access and restocking the woodland is on the next Full Council for

discussion but to enquire in the meantime on the pre-application advice being given. Clerk to action.

***To Report roadworks in the area***

None to report in the parish.

1. **To Receive Items for the next Planning and Transport Agenda**

There were no items put forward.

1. **Date of next meetings (via Zoom)**

**Meetings via Zoom**

Annual Parish Council Meeting: Tuesday 4th May, 7:00pm

Parish Council Meeting: Tuesday 4th May, 7:30pm

**Meetings in the Dore Room, Washington Village Hall**:

Full Council Meeting Monday 21st June, 7:30pm

Full Council Meeting Monday 5th July, 7:30pm

OSRA Committee Meeting: Monday 19th July, 7:00pm (cancelled in May and June)

Planning & Transport Meeting: Monday 19th July, 7.45pm (cancelled in May and June

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8:24pm.

**Signed………………………………………………..**

**Dated…………………………………………………**

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**Signed……………………………………………..**

**Dated………………………………………………**