



Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning & Highways Committee held on Thursday 25 June 2026 at Mortimer Methodist Church Hall, West End Road, Mortimer, RG7 3TB

Present

Members

Cllrs J Allan, G Bridgman, M Dennett, D Kilshaw, D Morsley and J Todd (Chairman).

Other Councillors

None

Officers of the Council

S Taylor

Public/Press

One member of the public attended and no media.

Commencement

The meeting commenced at 19:30

Part I

26/017 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs S Child, S Hill and M Lock.

26/018 To receive any declarations of interest

None were declared.

26/019 Public Questions

The member of the public was attending for agenda item 26/023.2 to discuss their email regarding various parking related matters along the Street, including a request for the introduction of a 20mph speed limit zone.

26/020 Minutes of last meeting

The Minutes of the Planning and Highways Committee Meeting held on 4 June were received with no amendments and resolved for signature by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

26/021 Chairman's remarks

Cllr Todd had no remarks.

26/022 Items to be taken into private session

None.

26/023 Highways items for consideration

1 To discuss the issue reported by a resident regarding the no entry signage at Hammonds Heath.

The deputy Clerk will write to West Berkshire and highlight the concerns raised by resident and highlight the faded road surface markings and also include the three district ward councillors.

2 To discuss an email received from a resident concerning various parking-related matters along the Street, including a request for the introduction of a 20mph speed limit zone.

The member of the public expressed concerns about speeding between the traffic lights and Pitfield Lane and asked whether SMPC would consider requesting that WBC introduce a 20mph speed limit in this area.

The Committee agreed that the majority of speeding offences occur during the early morning and evening. Speeding outside the school was not considered to be a significant issue, as parked vehicles naturally reduce traffic speeds. West End Road was identified as the location experiencing the greatest problems with speeding.

A suggestion was made to introduce a 20mph speed limit throughout the village. It was noted that this would require consultation with residents.

The Committee also discussed parking along The Street. This has been an ongoing issue; however, it was noted that WBC now appears willing to review how parking could be managed more effectively.

Cllr Todd agreed to renew discussions with the Church to explore whether its field could be made available for parents to use for parking.

Cllr Todd proposed the establishment of a Traffic Management Working Party to consider the following matters:

- Highways infrastructure and street furniture
- Speed enforcement
- Campaign to recruit volunteers
- Consultation on the introduction of a 20mph speed limit

Cllrs Dennett and Todd agreed to serve on the Traffic Management Working Party (WP). Cllr Child was absent, but it was agreed to check with him if he wanted to join the WP. The member of the public also agreed to be co-opted onto the Working Party.

3 To discuss the remedial works carried out at St John's Road.

Cllr Todd will send a letter to the St John's Road Committee to check how the remedial works are progressing.

4 To receive a speeding report and to resolve to approve any actions necessary (Document 26-023.4)

Cllr Dennett presented his speeding report. The overall conclusion from the data collected was that police enforcement is now required. West End Road, both entering and leaving the village, appears to be a particular area of concern. Cllr Todd will raise the issue with the police at the next Neighbourhood Action Group meeting on 2 July 2026.

26/024 Steering Group Reports

- 1 To receive the draft minutes from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group from 16 June 2026.**

The committee noted that the minutes from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group of 16 June had been received. Cllr Bridgman reported that the Steering Group were finalising the policies in preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment screening by West Berkshire County Council.

- 2 To receive an update from the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan Steering Group.**

Cllr Kilshaw reported that we are waiting for an update from Basingstoke and Deane expected in Summer 2026.

26/025 Schedule of Planning Applications for consideration

- 1 26/00784/CERTE: Five Oaken Cottage Reading Road Burghfield Common Reading RG7 3QD**

Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for an Existing Use or Operation or Activity: For the use of the site as a children's home.

#The Committee discussed this application and agreed to submit two comments to WBC:

1. As children use the garden within the site, the Committee asks whether the application red line should encompass the entire site rather than only part of it. If not, is the use of the garden for the Use Class sought by the application covered by the application?
2. The Committee also wishes to highlight that vehicles are parking on the WBC footway in front of the application site (outside the red line), (a) which is (i) potentially damaging to the footway, and (ii) obstructing the footway, and (b) that the footway will shortly form part of the Mortimer to Burghfield footpath and cycleway.

26/026 Schedule of Planning Applications to note

- 1 26/01246/NONMAT: 57 The Avenue Mortimer Common Reading RG7 3QU**

Application for a Non-Material Amendment Following a Grant of Planning Permission 25/02396/HOUSE. Amendments: Omit single storey rear extension and part of rear first floor roof extension. Internal layout changed with garage becoming hobby room and kitchen moved. 'Oriel' window added to ground floor SW corner.

26/027 Planning Applications for Future Consideration

To note any further new application, which will become agenda items in due course:

- 1 26/01234/HOUSE: 35 The Avenue Mortimer Common Reading RG7 3QU**

Erection of a two-storey side extension, partial two-storey rear extension, and single-storey rear extension. Installation of 3no. rooflights and alterations to the roof form including the addition of gable features to the front and rear elevations. Extension and alteration of the existing bay window roof to continue across the front elevation, with associated changes to fenestration and external appearance.

26/028 Items for information only

1 Decisions received from West Berkshire Council

1 26/00761/TPW: Land adjacent to 27 Groves Lea Mortimer Reading RG7 3SS

T1 - Oak: located on the boundary to the property next to College Piece footpath. Remove epicormic growth off the stem to 4-5m carry out lateral prune only on the house side by 1m to manage encroachment to the property remove any deadwood that poses a risk to the property. T2 - Oak: located on the same boundary slightly further back in the garden. Reduce lower scaffold limb by 1-2m to suitable growth points to again manage encroachment to the house remove any deadwood that poses a risk to the property. APPROVED – 10 June 2026.

2 26/00707/COND: Windmill Court Windmill Road Mortimer Common Reading RG7 3RL

Application for Approval of Details Reserved by Conditions 9 (Employment Skills Plan), 11 (Landscaping), 17(Sustainability measures), 19 (Road construction), 20 (Electric Charging Point), 21 (Footway/cycleway provision) and 24 (Drainage) of planning permission 23/01859/FULMAJ. SPLIT DECISION - 19 June 2026.

26/029 Action Tracker

To review the Action Tracker, receive an update outlining actions taken since the last meeting.

The Action Tracker was reviewed, with outstanding items discussed and the following actions identified: -

- Chase enforcement in relation to Birch Lane
- Chase enforcement in relation to the Windows at Lime Cottage
- Chase enforcement in relation to having a TRX frame for more than 28 days.

26/030 Minor Matters

- Cllr Bridgman reported that the WBC commissioned report upon the viability statement from TA Fisher for the reserved land (25/02941) demonstrated that a requirement for affordable housing was not economically viable.
- Cllr Bridgman also noted that there had been a strongly worded SUDS objection in relation to the same application.

26/031 Communications

Traffic Management Working Party will reach out to residents about a possible 20mph zone in the village.

26/032 Future Agenda Items

None.

Part II (if needed)

26/033 Exclusion of Public and Press

To pass a resolution under s.1(2), Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude members of the press and public from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the item to be discussed.

Not needed.

Close

The meeting closed at 20:55.