Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning & Highways Committee held on Thursday 29 October 2026 at Mortimer Methodist Church Hall, West End Road, Mortimer, RG7 3TB

Present

Members

Cllrs J Allan, G Bridgman (in the Chair in the absence of Cllr Todd), S Child, S Hill and D Kilshaw.

Other Councillors

Officers of the Council

S Taylor

Public/Press

No members of the public or media attended.

Commencement

The meeting commenced at 18:45

Part I

26/103 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Dennett, Lock, Morsley and Todd.

26/104 To receive any declarations of interest

Cllr Bridgman declared he knew the applicant for future planning application 26/02095/LBC: Foudry House.

26/105 Public Questions

No members of the public were present.

26/106 Minutes of last meeting

The Minutes of the Planning and Highways Committee Meeting held on 8 October were received with no amendments and approved with one abstention for signature by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

26/107 Chairman's remarks

Cllr Bridgman: -

- Reported the illness of Cllr Lock. Regards have been given to the family
- Reported that the Parish Council office had been approached by Sovereign to suggest a street name for the new Windmill Court development. Following committee consultation, 'Windmill Close' had been proposed as the preferred name.
- Reported that, at its meeting on 13 October, West Berkshire Council had agreed to abolish the Eastern and Western Area Planning Committees and replace them with a single district-wide Planning Committee, in the face of new legislation severely restricting the planning committee system.

26/108 Items to be taken into private session

Cllr Bridgman determined that no agenda items needed to go into private session.

26/109 Steering Group Reports

1 **To receive an update from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.**

Cllr Bridgman reported that the public consultation for Regulation 14 had started on 12 October and will run until 23 November. Leaflets have been distributed to every Mortimer household with the MVP newsletter.

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

Cllr Kilshaw reported that Basingstoke & Deane Borough have restarted the Local Plan process. The scoping consultation which is the first formal stage in preparing the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan under the new planning system runs from 9 October until 20 November 2026.

26/110 Schedule of Planning Applications for consideration

1 **26/02048/HOUSE: 14 Asparagus Close Mortimer Reading RG7 3WY**

Addition of solar panels to the roof of the house (14 Asparagus Close). The solar panels will be matt black not extend above the ridge of the roof nor below the gutter line. They will protrude less than 200mm from the plane of the roof.

SMPC Comments: - Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council considered the plans for this application at its Planning & Highways Committee meeting on 29 October 2026 under agenda item 26/110.1 and had no objections as long as the installation complies with the Microgeneration Certification Scheme.

2 **26/01878/HOUSE: 36 Windmill** Road Mortimer Common Reading RG7 3RN

Demolish existing pitched roof garage, which is a very old permanent wood framed structure & replace it with a new brick build garage. Garage will be built in same location to the same dimensions.

SMPC comments: - Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council considered the plans for this application at its Planning & Highways Committee meeting on 29 October 2026 under agenda item 26/110.2 and commented that despite what is said in the application it is not built to the same dimensions. However, the committee had no objections.

26/111 Schedule of Planning Applications to note

1 **26/01963/TPW: 1 Morden Close Reading RG7 3AX**

T3 Beech The Beech tree is approximately 15m in height with a 5m spread. Reduce the northern aspect of the crown by up to 2m, pruning back to suitable growth points, to correct the structural imbalance towards No. 2. Following works, the tree will retain a minimum height of 13m with a radial spread of approximately 3m to the north and south. T4 Beech The Beech tree is approximately 15 metres in height with a 5m spread. Reduce the overextended northern lateral branch overhanging the parking area by up to 2m, pruning back to a suitable lateral branch union or branch collar, and reduce the northern upper crown by up to 2m. Following works, the tree will retain an approximate height of 13m with a radial spread of 3m to the north and south. T5 Beech The Beech tree is approximately 15m in height with a 7m spread. Reduce the northern, road-facing lateral branch by up to 3 metres, undertake an overall crown reduction of up to 2m, and remove deadwood greater than 30mm in diameter throughout the crown. Following works, the tree will retain an approximate height of 13m with a radial spread of 3m to the north and south.

2 **26/02063/CERTP: Garden House The Street Mortimer Reading RG7 3PE**

Removal of conservatory structure, leaving existing plinth wall and ground floor structure. Form new brick walls with windows over existing plinth and new roof in exact same style as existing conservatory, no enlargement to existing footprint

3 **26/02219/TPW: 45 The Avenue Mortimer Common Reading RG7 3QX**

T2 - Oak tree needs to be removed as it has appeared diseased or unable to get water throughout the summer. We have consulted two tree surgeons and both said it had unfortunately died and should be taken down.

#The committee noted the applications.

26/112 Planning Applications for Future Consideration

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

1 **26/02095/LBC: Foudry House The Street Mortimer Reading RG7 3NR**

Installation of Solar Panels into the valleys on the roof of the main house. Panels cannot be seen from any direction only from above. After consultation with the Conservation Officer the Solar Company has provided the following information: The roof is very capable to take the weight of solar panels, and the roof structure can be inspected by the Conservation officer if necessary to confirm this. The panels would be fitted to pitched roofs using a hook and rail system attached to the wooden rafters. The tiles are lifted in the places where the heavy-duty hook brackets are attached to the wooden rafters. The tiles are then replaced, and then aluminium rails are bolted to the hook brackets. The panels are then attached to the rails using metal clamps. Any cabling will run internally through the roof space and within the property. We do not expect any cabling to be visible from the exterior. The components are expected to be located within the property in an already existing plant room with ventilation.

2 **26/02224/HOUSE: 69 The Avenue Mortimer Common Reading RG7 3QU**

A house holders planning application for the removal of a garage and replacement with a single storey side extension. Additional first floor story level, including feature glazed gable end and dormer windows. Hip gable roof reconfigured to a gable end. Section 73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of Planning Permission 24/02162/HOUSE.

26/113 Items for information only

1 **Decisions received from West Berkshire Council**

1 26/01467/HOUSE: 3 Stanmore Gardens Mortimer Common Reading RG7 2JW**.**

APPROVED – 6 October 2026

SMCP Comments: - Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council considered the plans for this application at its Planning & Highways Committee meeting on 6 August 2026, under agenda item 26/059.2, and raised no objections. The Committee endorsed Highways request for a parking plan to ensure compliance with Policy DM44 of the West Berkshire Local Plan review 2023-2041.

2 26/01749/COND: Windmill Court Windmill Road Mortimer Common Reading RG7 3RL**.**

Application for approval of details reserved by condition 3 (Materials) of approved 23/01859/FULMAJ

APPROVED – 7 October 2026

26/114 Action Tracker

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

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

Cllr Bridgman and Clerk to follow up with Sovereign to ask them to confirm there will be a path up the eastern side of the Windmill Court redevelopment, between Windmill Road and Windmill Common.

26/115 Minor Matters

There were no minor matters.

26/116 Communications

Nothing to communicate.

26/117 Future Agenda Items

None.

Part II (if needed)

26/118 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 19:07.