

Lindfield Parish Council

Minutes of the **PLANNING, TRANSPORT, and TRAFFIC COMMITTEE (PTTC)** meeting held on Tuesday 4th February 2025 in the King Edward Hall, Lindfield.

PTTC Members:

Parish Councillors:

Mrs V Upton (Chair)	Mrs I Burns
Mr T Webster (Vice-Chair)	Mr S Nisbett
Mrs A Matthews	Mr I Wilson
Mrs A Beecroft	Mr D Woolley
Mr W Blunden*	

* Denotes absence from the meeting

In attendance: Mr D Parsons (Deputy Parish Clerk)

The Meeting commenced at **20:00**.

322. Apologies

322.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Blunden, and the reason accepted.

323. Declarations of Interest

323.1 None.

324. Approval of Minutes

324.1 The Chair noted that the draft Minutes of the Planning and Traffic Committee meeting held on 14th January 2025 had previously been circulated and sought any members comments. Committee **agreed** that the Chair should sign the Minutes as a true record of the meeting.

325. Questions/comments from members of the public

325.1 None.

326. Planning Applications and other matters referred to the Parish Council by Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC), West Sussex County Council (WSCC) for consideration

Appendix One shows the application details and agreed responses. For each application, the observations of the members who had specifically studied the plans were read out and any public comments received, before discussion by the Committee, as summarised below (where applicable).

327. To receive reports on any significant planning decisions or issues made by MSDC, WSCC or other authority for consideration and to agree any further action which may need to be taken before the next scheduled meeting.

327.1 None

328. Report on any issues addressed under the councils Scheme of Delegation and to consider further action required, if any.

328.1 None

329. Budget Report

329.1 Committee **noted** the report previously circulated.

330. Outstanding Action Points

330.1 Committee **noted** the report previously circulated.

331. Consultations:

331.1 **Transport for the South East** –closes 7th March 2025

Cllr Woolley observed that the document was a high-level paper, which did not go far into how its aspirations might be achieved. He commended its approach in terms of green issues and equality of approach for all residents but that the funding of such was not clear. Further, that the provision of kerbside EV charging must be at similar prices to home charging, as current schemes are up to 7/8 times more expensive, thereby disadvantaging residents who have no

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access to off-street parking and counterproductive to the strategy's stated goal of having 100% of cars decarbonised. Committee **agreed** that a response should be drafted by the Deputy Parish Clerk for agreement at the 25th February PTTC meeting.

331.2 **MSDC Village Parking - Stakeholder Engagement** - closes 21st February 2025

Members were concerned that MSDC's document appeared to be a precursor to introducing parking charges in the village, with no evident assessment as to why such was required or the likely impact on residents and businesses. Comments included:-

- any proposals to charge for parking are likely to be cost negative for MSDC if not effectively enforced, as there would insufficient income to cover the costs of implementation
- MSDC's Parking Enforcement appears to have had resourcing issues for many years
- businesses as well as residents relied on the current parking arrangements, and that implementing a charging scheme would be likely to have a negative effect on trading and be counterproductive to countrywide efforts to support High Street businesses
- parking pressures at school pick up and drop off times are likely to be exacerbated by any scheme which restricts access to car parks or street parking
- residents without off-street parking would be likely to apply for residents parking schemes, to reduce the likely knock on impact of displaced vehicles under any charging regime
- charging residents with no access to off street parking did not seem to be appropriate
- such schemes just move any parking problems elsewhere
- the 'consultation' did not contain any plans and it was not clear from the document provided what exactly is the problem that MSDC are trying to solve
- some visitors may choose to park in the Common or Hickmans Lane car parks if charging is introduced but pressures on surrounding roads is also likely to increase. It was noted that when the 4 hour parking restriction was introduced in the High Street some years ago, it pushed the parking problems into neighbouring roads, with Chaloner Road being significantly affected.
- if, despite all the elements identified above, MSDC do proceed to implement parking charges there should be an initial free period of at least 30 minutes (preferably longer) to provide flexibility for users and, hopefully, at least partially offset some of the negative impacts identified

Committee **agreed** that a response should be submitted by the Deputy Parish Clerk under the Delegated Authority, recognising the closing date of MSDC's stakeholder engagement, taking account of the above comments and any further observations received from members by 14th February.

332. **Matters Arising** (for noting or deferral to a future meeting only)

332.1 None.

The meeting closed at 20:20.

The Committee next meets on Tuesday 25th February 2025

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Appendix One – Responses to Planning Applications received from Mid Sussex District Council

Item	Year	Ref	Property	Street	Proposal
1	2025	0029	Willow Tree / 21	High Street	Yew tree in back garden - lift canopy edge 2-3 metres from ground level and reduce crown centre by 2-3 metres to return to original domed shape.
Response: Lindfield Parish Council has no objection to this application.					
2	2024	2966	35	Blackthorns	Proposed rear flat roof extension and cladding to front first floor elevation (amended description 15/1/25)
Response: Lindfield Parish Council has no objection to this application.					
3	2025	0106	21 - 22	Fieldway	Horse Chestnut - To reduce crown by 2m back to previous growth points
Response: None – application made invalid by MSDC					
4	2025	0093	The Old Bakery/ 65 /65A	High Street	Replacement of front door.
Response: Lindfield Parish Council has no objection to this application.					
5	2025	0131	The Old Bakery/ 65 /65A	High Street	Replacement of front door.
Response: Lindfield Parish Council has no objection to this application.					
6	2025	0041	The Old Bakery/ 65 /65A	High Street	Retrospective consent for the removal of paint finish from the brick plinth to front bay. Proposed external finish to brick plinth to front bay.
Response: Lindfield Parish Council has no objection to this application.					
7	2025	0042	The Old Bakery/ 65 /65A	High Street	Retrospective consent for the removal of paint finish from the brick plinth to front bay. Proposed external finish to brick plinth to front bay.
Response: Lindfield Parish Council has no objection to this application.					
8	2025	0130	The Old Bakery/ 65 /65A	High Street	Conversion and refurbishment of outbuilding for ancillary use.
Response: Lindfield Parish Council has no objection to this application.					
9	2025	0129	The Old Bakery/ 65 /65A	High Street	Conversion and refurbishment of outbuilding for ancillary use.
Response: Lindfield Parish Council has no objection to this application.					

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Item	Year	Ref	Property	Street	Proposal
10	2025	0098	71	Fieldway	Demolition of existing porch and erection of new porch.
Response: Lindfield Parish Council has no objection to this application.					
11	2025	0122	1	Eastern Cottages	Trees in a Conservation Area
Response: Lindfield Parish Council has no objection to this application.					
12	2024	2997	The Slatch / 50	Hickmans Lane	Upgrade and improve the windows and kitchen door.
Response: Lindfield Parish Council has no objection to this application.					
13	2025	0143	33	Dukes Road	Proposed two storey side extension and alterations.
Response: Lindfield Parish Council has no objection to this application.					
14	2025	0104	4	Fieldway	Proposed two storey side extension and alteration to the existing garage (Amended Description 24.01.2025)
Response: Lindfield Parish Council has no objection to this application, subject to the satisfaction of the Flood and Drainage Team, Environment Agency and Southern Water.					
Notes:					
1. Lawful Development Certificate (LDC) applications (“...an application to establish whether the development is lawful...”) - no response will normally be provided.					
2. Where application addresses are listed more than once with different reference numbers but the same description, this indicates that more than one type of planning application is required for the work (e.g., both a Householder or Full application and Listed Building Consent)					