

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee held at the Billingshurst Centre on Tuesday 7 October 2025 at 7.00 p.m.

Present

Councillors Doug Waller (Chairman), Fay Algar, Jeremy Harris, David Hingamp, Anna Rhodes and Kate Rowbottom.

In attendance

Richard Plant, Assistant Clerk 12 Members of the Public

126/25 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman reminded members that -

- i. The meeting was being streamed to the internet.
- ii. Councillors wishing to speak should raise their hand and, when invited to do so, speak loudly and clearly.
- iii. Mobile phones should either be switched off or silenced.

127/25 Apologies for Absence

None.

128/25 Declarations of interest and notification of change to members' interests

Cllr David Hingamp confirmed that he was the architect in relation to application DC/25/1505.

129/25 Approval of the minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 2 September 2025, previously circulated

On the proposal of Cllr Doug Waller, seconded by Cllr Fay Algar **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted and signed as a correct record accordingly.

130/25 Clerk's Report

Correspondence had been received from Horsham DC regarding compliance issues at 33 High Street which, following a successful outcome would be closed. The Council had been notified of an additional appeal since the issuing of the agenda which will feature in a following agenda.

131/25 Public Session

There were twelve members of the public present. Deepak Mahal spoke in favour of the PROW diversion under item 11. Caroline Sutherland spoke in opposition of application DC/25/1395, citing issues with the workspace, meeting room, café aspect of the listed building and lack of plans. Also how it would sit on a 60mph road and emergency access concerns for the site as a whole. Glyn Phillips spoke in opposition of the same application. Ralph De Freitas spoke in opposition of application DC/25/1395, citing the poor location of the site if it is to be affordable housing, that there's no footpath or bus route and a mile walk to the nearest amenities. There are compliance issues also with the stripping of hedgerow and trees already being undertaken. Deepak Mahal added that the 4-6 movements in and out of the site looks very low and no data has been submitted to support this figure.

132/25 Planning Applications

Due to the members of the public present mostly having interest in one application, the meeting agreed to bring this application forward to be discussed first.

DC/25/1395	Siting of 24No. single-storey static homes for permanent year-round residential use (Use Class C3) Limeburners Caravan Site Lordings Road Newbridge West Sussex RH14 9JA	RESOLVED: Object* Proposed by Cllr D Waller Seconded by Cllr F Algar
	*The Committee resolved to object to this application on the basis that the site is unsuitable as a year-round affordable housing development. There are additionally issues with how this application affects the listed building on site, no details of which had been provided. There were concerns regarding the site sewerage and ground drainage also the way this would affect the traffic along Lordings Road.	

Eleven of the twelve members of the public left the meeting.

CA/25/0108	Surgery to 1x Juniper (Works to Trees in a	RESOLVED:
	Conservation Area)	Neutral
	Chime Cottage 14 East Street Billingshurst	Proposed by
	West Sussex RH14 9PY	Cllr D Waller
		Seconded by
		Cllr F Algar
DC/25/1174	Surgery to 1x Oak	RESOLVED:
	Land to the Rear of 7 Rosier Way	Neutral
	Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 9TE	Proposed by
		Cllr D Waller
		Seconded by
		Cllr K Rowbottom
DC/25/1387	Surgery to 4x Oak	RESOLVED:
	82 Broomfield Drive Billingshurst West	Neutral
	Sussex RH14 9TW	Proposed by
		Cllr D Waller
		Seconded by
		Cllr J Harris

Cllr Hingamp left the meeting.

DC/25/1505	Erection of a single storey rear extension and first floor side extension	RESOLVED: Neutral
	10 Pine Close Billingshurst West Sussex RH14	Proposed by
	9NL	Cllr F Algar
		Seconded by
		Cllr A Rhodes

Cllr Hingamp returned to the meeting.

DC/25/1430	Change of Use from domestic gym (Class C3) to	RESOLVED:
	a Private small group personal training gym	Neutral
	(Class E)	Proposed by
	Lee Place, Blackgate Lane, Pulborough RH20	Cllr D Waller
	1DF	Seconded by
		Cllr F Algar
DC/25/1560	Enlargement of existing window and installation	RESOLVED:
	1No. new window to the first-floor north	Neutral
	elevation. Replacement of 3No. windows on the	Proposed by
	ground floor north elevation	Cllr J Harris
	68 High Street, Billingshurst RH14 9QS	Seconded by
		Cllr K Rowbottom
DC/25/1563	Conversion of loft with 2 x Velux Windows to	RESOLVED:
	front and rear elevations.	Neutral
	6 Myrtle Close, Billingshurst RH14 9XF	Proposed by
		Cllr D Waller
		Seconded by
		Cllr D Hingamp
DC/25/1573	Prior Notification for change of use from a single	RESOLVED
	open plan office space, to form one two-bedroom	Neutral
	flat.	Proposed by
	Unit 11 Laura House, Jengers Mead,	Cllr D Waller
	Billingshurst RH14 9NZ	Seconded by
		Cllr A Rhodes
DC/25/1574	Variation of condition 1 of previously approved	RESOLVED:
	application reference DC/22/0303 (Conversion of	Neutral
	loft to form habitable living space incorporating	Proposed by
	raising of ridge height and creation of 3no front	Cllr K Rowbottom
	dormers with associated alterations) re	Seconded by
	installation of roof lights to rear elevation	Cllr A Rhodes
	14 Saville Gardens, Billingshurst RH14 9RR	

133/25 Licencing Applications

No new applications received.

134/25 Nominations for Street Naming

No new names suggested to be added to the approved list.

135/25 Horsham District Council Decisions and Updates

The committee NOTED the reports from the Planning Authority

- a) Planning Application Decisions Appendix A
- b) Appeals and Appeal Decisions Appendix B
- c) Planning Compliance Update Appendix C

136/25 Pre-Application for the Diversion of Public Footpath 1476

The committee discussed the consultation that had been previously circulated. It was agreed that there was no issue in diverting the footpath and that being able to widen the path whilst moving it was a benefit to all users. The diversion would allow for

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more safety for walkers, equestrians and residents with the public not walking through the residents' farmyard. It was **RESOLVED** that the Committee supported the idea and would respond to the consultation accordingly. The Chair thanked the applicant for attending.

The remaining member of the public left the meeting.

137/25 <u>Date of Next Meeting</u>: Tuesday 4 November 2025 at 7.00pm (unless there is a need for a plans-only meeting).

The meeting closed at 7:56pm.

Chairman Date