



Midhurst Town Council

**A Meeting of the Planning and Infrastructure Committee took place at
7.00pm on Monday 12th December 2022
in the Town Council offices, The Old Library, Knockhundred Row, Midhurst.**

MINUTES

Present: Cllr D Coote (Chairman), Cllr G McAra, Cllr G Upjohn, Cllr C Lintott, and Cllr D Fraser

In Attendance: Sharon Hurr, Town Clerk

P/253/22 Chairman's Announcements: None

P/254/22 - Apologies for Absence: Received from Cllr R Watts, and Cllr Hensey. Cllr Merritt gave apologies following non-receipt of summons, from administrative oversight.

P/255/22 - Declarations of Interest: Cllr Lintott declared an interest in item P/261/22 as a resident of Ashfield Road.

P/256/22 - The minutes of meeting held on 28th November 2022: The minutes were proposed as an accurate record and agreed by all present.

P/257/22 - Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 28th November 2022: None

Meeting halted for Public Participation Session

P/258/22 - Public Participation Session: No members of the public present.

Meeting reconvened.

P/259/22 - Planning Applications - Midhurst

P/259/22.1 SDNP/22/03768/FUL

Proposed change of use Sui Generis to C2, including external alterations

St Margaret's Convent of Mercy, Little Ashfield, Midhurst West Sussex GU29 9JP

Decision: The Town Council has no objection to this application and wishes to withdraw its previous comments.

P/260/22 Tree Applications – Midhurst: None

P/261/22 One-Way Traffic Proposal for Ashfield Road: Following a debate it was concluded that the following comments would be submitted to West Sussex County Council (Cllr Lintott did not take part in the decision):

The Council indicated some time ago that it would generally be in favour of a one-way scheme for Ashfield Road and the Council are pleased to see that the proposed direction is from Petersfield Rd to Bepton Road.

However, given the southern end of Ashfield Road serves a busy school, Councillors are concerned that the scheme does not take into account large vehicles gaining access to the school and the concerns raised by the residents of Heathfield Gardens.

Heathfield Gardens is a private road running from Bepton Road along towards the school, while the residents of that road are generally in favour of a one way system on (part of) Ashfield Road they are rightly concerned about residents, delivery drivers and school users using their private access road to bypass the one way system, non-residents occasionally use this road already to get to the school so this is a very real concern, one which, in Councillors opinion needs to be addressed.

Consideration also needs to be given to the vehicles that service the school, drivers of large vehicles have to reverse up the spur road to the entrance to the school (as there is no turning area once they enter the spur road to the school). The largest vehicle is the daily 'Brakes' lorry who deliver school meals closely followed by the commercial refuse collection lorry. There is also a concern about emergency service vehicles, especially a fire engine, should the need arise, gaining access to the school should the southern end of Ashfield Road onto Bepton Road not remain two-way.

One solution Councillors can see is to consider making the road one way from Petersfield Road to approximately five meters before the spur road to the school (say from the house called Waverley south to the junction with Bepton Road) with the remaining part of the road two way into and out of Bepton Road, this would alleviate the concerns of the residents of Heathfield Gardens, assist large vehicles needing to reverse up the spur road to the school and realise the objective of making Ashfield Road 'one way' to decrease the amount of traffic using the road as a rat run.

Overall, WSCC need to ensure that parking restrictions around and opposite the spur road are sufficient to ensure the spur road can accommodate large and emergency vehicles who need to manoeuvre either a right turn in/reverse out, or a reverse in to the spur road to the school.

The Town Council would appreciate comments from WSCC on the points raised, before this proposal progresses.

P/262/22 Decisions - To review decisions of previous applications:

Details	MTC Decision	SDNP Decision
SDNP/22/04580/LIS SDNP/22/04585/HOUS	No Objection	Approved
SDNP/22/03122/HOUS	No Objection	Approved
SDNP/22/03895/HOUS	No Objection (but comment not submitted)	Withdrawn

P/263/22 Actions – Committee to review outstanding actions: None

P/264/22 Matters of Report - Decisions cannot be made under this item; it is for information only: None

P/265/22 Date of Next Meeting – 3rd January 2023 at 7pm

Signed: Date:
Chairman