

Planning – The Role of Parish Council

The area of the PC's activities that attracts most attention is that of Planning. We often have parishioners attend our Parish Council Planning Meetings to give their views on the latest development in their area. It can get quite lively at times. Below I have given some guidance on various aspect of Planning.

What can Purley on Thames Parish Council do?

The Parish Council is consulted by West Berkshire Council (WBC) on all planning applications submitted for Purley on Thames and has 10 days to respond with a recommendation to the WBC Planners.

The recommendation to WBC can be to "Support" or "Object" to the application or have "No Objections".

Our recommendation is not binding on WBC, who has the final say, but can influence the way the application is handled. Significant and controversial decisions are often referred to the full Eastern Area Planning Committee.

This WBC Eastern Area Planning Committee is made up of elected district councillors who will consider the advice from the planners (including the Purley on Thames Parish Council statement) and also representations from our district councillor, Purley on Thames Parish Council, the applicant and any objectors. Supporters and objectors to planning applications may attend the Eastern Area Planning meetings and may be allowed a short period to address the committee.

How do I know about planning applications that affect me?

An orange planning notice will also be posted adjacent to the application site. The Parish Council will list in the agenda for its Planning Committee meetings the planning applications to be considered at each meeting.

Plans can be viewed online on the WBC website at www.westberks.gov.uk/planning-application-search.

How do I get my views across to Purley on Thames Parish Council and WBC?

Our planning committee meetings are held in public in the Parish Offices, usually at 18:00 on the first and third Monday of each month, and members of the public are invited to address the committee on any items on the agenda at the start of the meeting.

This includes any applicants who wish to support their own applications or just want to hear what the Parish Council decides. Objectors, supporters and applicants cannot take part in the discussion but their views will be considered carefully and it is important that we hear directly from you.

Also, you will be able to see comments made by the Parish Council or any other letters of objection or support under each specific planning application on the WBC website. See link above.

Purley on Thames Parish Council

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