

WESTON LONGVILLE PARISH COUNCIL

PLANNING APPLICATION RESPONSE POLICY

1. Introduction

This policy sets out how Weston Longville Parish Council (WLPC) will consider and respond to planning matters on which it is consulted by a Planning Authority.

It takes into account that:

- the consultation period for planning applications is 21 days, which means that not all planning applications can be considered by Council at its scheduled meetings;
- we believe parishioners are best served by the Parish Council responding to applications in a timely fashion;
- if an application appears to be large or contentious, an extension will, on those occasions, be sought from the relevant planning department.
- to ensure all consultations on planning applications are dealt with in time, Council has appointed the Clerk and / or Chairman to facilitate the responses of the Council to planning matters on the outcome of an email consultation with Parish Councillors, on occasions where a meeting will not be held before a planning deadline

2. Protocol

One of the following options shall apply when notice of a planning application on which the Parish Council is invited to comment is received:

The clerk will distribute the notice received from the District Council to councillors as soon as possible.

Option 1

If there is a scheduled Council meeting before the end of the consultation period then the Clerk will place the matter on the agenda for that meeting, and any decision will be taken at that meeting and published in the minutes.

Option 2

1 - If there is no scheduled Council meeting before the end of the consultation period, the Clerk will alert all members of the Parish Council to the application via email.

2 – Councillors will be requested to respond to the email within the deadline given. The deadline will be no less than five clear days from when the email is sent. Councillors can respond ‘no objection’, request an extraordinary meeting, or make comments for the Clerk and / or Chairman to collate in to a response.

The Clerk will submit all responses by the online portal or directly to the planning department – as determined within the consultee response.

The Clerk and / or Chair will contact District and County Councillors should they wish to have an application called into committee level determination.

3 – If at least two members of Council request an extraordinary meeting, then an extraordinary meeting will be arranged within the consultation period and any decision will be taken at that meeting.

4 – If an extraordinary meeting is not duly requested before the Clerk’s nominated deadline, then any response by the Council shall be deemed to have been delegated to the Clerk, who will respond in line with the majority vote.

5 – This response will be duly noted at the next scheduled Council meeting.

3. Procedure at Meetings

- In those cases where a planning application comes before Council, then any residents will be able to speak at the meeting during public participation (in line with standing orders).
- If a request is received from the applicant to speak to Council then this will normally be permitted, unless the Parish Council (by a majority decision) determines otherwise.
- Any councillor with a material interest in an application to be considered will take no part in the debate, unless invited to speak by the Chairman, and will not be entitled to vote on any relevant motion.
- The Council shall consider the application in public session and will decide on what response, if any, shall be provided.
- Planning applications will not be considered from residents until they have been formally submitted to the relevant Planning Authority.