

PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

A meeting of the **Procedures Committee** will be held on **Wednesday, 17th July, 2024** in the **Council Chamber, Forde House, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 4XX** at **10.00 am**

PHIL SHEARS
Managing Director

Membership:

Councillors Bullivant, Daws, Dawson (Chair), Keeling, MacGregor, Nutley (Substitute), Palethorpe, Peart, Purser, Sanders (Substitute), J Taylor, Thorne and Wrigley

Please Note: Filming is permitted during Committee meeting with the exception where there are confidential or exempt items, which may need to be considered in the absence of the press and public. By entering the Council Chamber you are consenting to being filmed.

AGENDA

Part I

1. **Apologies for absence**
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting** (Pages 5 - 8)
3. **Declarations of interest**
4. **Independent Remuneration Panel Report** (Pages 9 - 12)
5. **Revised Member/Officer Protocol** (Pages 13 - 20)
6. **Cllr Macgregor - Motion on Major applications, variations to conditions and TDC property based applications**

In order to provide clarity, as well as consistency and transparency in the planning process for residents of the district, in future all of the following planning applications will be put to committee.

- 1. All major planning applications - including those associated with major sites.*
- 2. All planning applications involving heritage assets (listed buildings etc).*
- 3. All variations to conditions.*
- 4. All applications relating to property and buildings owned, leased or managed by Teignbridge District Council.*

As part of point 1) 'all major planning applications' the officer reports must demonstrate where this is part of a previous 'hybrid' planning application that all the conditions are met and how these apply to the individual plot. Also, as part of point 1) where the hybrid planning application demonstrated a commitment to build schools, or care homes or community buildings, each application must explain how that is to be delivered if it is not detailed in the individualised plot application.

7. Cllr Swain - Motion on the process of calling in applications to Planning Committee

1. There has recently been a change in process for members referring a planning application to committee. The referral can be in the event that it is recommended for approval, or for refusal. The familiar third option to refer it either way has been removed from the form and members have been told they must opt for one or the other, not both. This might place ward members in a difficult position if they are also on the planning committee. By calling in and effectively picking a preferred outcome, they may risk allegations of predetermination.

2. When referring an application to committee, "a valid planning reason", based on planning policy must be given. There are cases with strong community involvement, or with potential conflicts of interest where it might be justified in the public interest to make the decision by committee in public. This might apply regardless of the policy-based merits of the application.

3. Parish and town councils work hard to fulfil their duty to comment on planning applications. They are volunteers and have little or no training and support. Planning training is routinely given to Teignbridge councillors and could be opened up to allow parish and town councillors to attend.

4. Parish councils work hard to fulfil their duty to comment on planning applications and often feel ignored. Where an officer recommendation goes against the view of the parish or town council, the officer recommendation should acknowledge that view and explain why a different outcome is recommended.

I move that we amend the constitution to:

- 1. Allow planning decisions to be referred to committee if recommended for approval, if recommended for refusal, or in either case.*
- 2. Allow planning decisions to be referred to committee giving the reason that it is in the public interest for the decision to have oversight from the planning committee.*
- 3. Allow parish and town councillors to join Teignbridge planning training where possible without compromising the primary function of training*

Teignbridge planning committee members.

4. Where an officer recommendation goes against the view of a parish or town council, the recommendation should acknowledge that view and explain why a different outcome is recommended.

8. Members Training and Briefing Programme

(Pages 21 - 26)

If you would like this information in another format, please telephone 01626 361101 or e-mail info@teignbridge.gov.uk