

Minutes of the Planning Committee

2 March 2026

-: Present :-

Councillor Fox (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Billings, Mandy Darling, Pentney, Strang, Tolchard and Virdee

26. Apologies for absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Brook.

Councillor Fox, Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee chaired the meeting in the absence of the Chair, Councillor Brook

27. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 12 January 2026 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Vice-Chair.

28. Disclosure of Interests

No declarations of interest were made.

29. Urgent Items

The Committee considered the item in Minute 30, and not included on the agenda, the Vice-Chair being of the opinion that it was urgent by reason of special circumstances i.e. the matter having arisen since the agenda was prepared and it was unreasonable to delay a decision until the next meeting.

30. Within Highway Verge Forming Boundary to Brixham Road to SW of 3 Steed Close, Paignton (AT/2026/0037)

The Committee considered an application for targeted crown reduction to a protected Horse Chestnut tree growing within the adopted highway.

Resolved:

Approved, subject to:

- 1) the conditions as outlined in the submitted report with the final drafting of conditions delegated to the Divisional Director of Place Strategy; and

- 2) the resolution of any new material considerations that may come to light following Planning Committee to be delegated to the Divisional Director of Place Strategy, including the addition of any necessary further planning conditions.

31. Singleton Gardens, Meadfoot Sea Road, Torquay (P/2025/0612)

The Committee considered an application for the construction of 7 residential apartments, plus landscaping, parking, access and associated works.

Prior to the meeting, Members of the Planning Committee undertook a site visit and written representations were available on the Council's website.

At the meeting, the Planning Officer advised, that since the committee report and update report had been published, four additional letters of representation had been received but these raised no new material issues that had not already been covered in the submitted committee report and update report. A consultation response had been received from the Council's Waste Officer with no objection to the application due to the location of a bin storage being identified. The Waste Officer had requested waste management contributions however the Planning Officer advised that as the proposal is Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) liable, waste management contributions could not be requested.

Following the Planning Officer's presentation, David Redman and Lorna Hosler-Barnes both addressed the Committee against the application. Dr Rodney Horder addressed the Committee on behalf of the Torquay Neighbourhood Forum against the application. In accordance with Standing Order B4.1 Councillor Foster addressed the Committee against the application. Daniel Metcalfe and Daniel Sharp both addressed the Committee in support of the application.

Resolved:

Minded to approve, subject to:

- 1) the conditions as outlined in the submitted report with the final drafting of conditions delegated to the Divisional Director of Place Strategy;
- 2) the resolution of any new material considerations that may come to light following Planning Committee to be delegated to the Divisional Director of Place Strategy, including the addition of any necessary further planning conditions or obligations; and
- 3) confirmation from The Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government that the application can be approved by the Council, if the Council has not, in the interim, having considered the merits of the application, decided to refuse the application and that the application will not be called in for determination by the Secretary of State.

Chair
