

Folkestone Town Council

Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Thursday 24 September 2026 at the Town Council Offices, The Town Hall, 1-2 Guildhall Street, Folkestone.

PRESENT: Councillors Charles Bain Smith, Jane Darling, Christine Dickinson and John Renshaw.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Bridget Chapman and Liz McShane.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Liz Timmins (Communities & Grants Officer)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies from Cllrs Bridget Chapman and Liz McShane.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Committee was asked to receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 10 September 2026 and to authorise the Chair of the meeting to sign them as a correct record.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 10 September 2026 be received and that the Chair of the meeting be authorised to sign them as a correct record.

Proposed: Councillor John Renshaw

Seconded: Councillor Christine Dickinson

Voting: F: 4 , Ag: 0 ; Ab: 0

4. LOCAL PLAN SCOPING CONSULTATION (Regulation 20)

Folkestone & Hythe District Council (F&HDC) are preparing a new Local Plan, which will help shape how the district develops in the years ahead. As part of the early stages of this process, they are inviting local people, organisations and stakeholders to take part in the scoping consultation.

Members were asked if they wish to submit a joint comment as a Planning consultee for the area.

RESOLVED: Councillors have noted the Local Plan Scoping Consultation, Councillor Bain Smith to contact all Councillors for comment and will bring them together to be agreed at the next meeting.

Proposed: Councillor Jane Darling

Seconded: Councillor John Renshaw

Voting: F: 4, Ag: 0; Ab: 0

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application no	26/1358/FH
Location	Stoneleigh House, The Tram Road
Proposal	Demolition of Stoneleigh House, erection of an apartment building of 14 No. residential units with associated car parking, cycle parking, bin storage, landscaping and alterations to existing vehicle access and parking provision for George Stone House.
Closing date	01/10/2026
Comment	No objection
Application no	25/1741/FH
Location	The Lifeboat, 42 North Street
Proposal	Listed building consent for replacing multiple sash windows in a like for like manner and re-painting the building white.
Closing date	01/10/2026
Comment	No objection
Application no	26/1486/FH/TCA
Location	59 Earls Avenue
Proposal	Works to trees in a conservation area comprising of T1 Cherry overall crown reduction of maximum 2 metres. T2 & T3 Sweetgum crown lift by 3 metres from ground level, T5 Silver Birch crown lift by 4 metres from ground level. T4 & T6 Norway Maple crown lift by 3 metres from ground level.
Closing date	05/10/2026
Comment	No objection
Application no	26/1384/FH
Location	100, Bouverie Road West

Proposal	Partial demolition of rear chimney stack and demolition of garden wall.
Closing date	15/10/2026
Comment	No objection

Application no	26/1460/FH
Location	4 Cambridge Gardens
Proposal	Change of use and conversion of existing single dwellinghouse to 2 self-contained residential flats, including internal alterations.
Closing date	07/10/2026
Comment	Object – there is insufficient space at the bottom of the staircase to the maisonette on the 1 st and 2 nd floor to form a lobby and the door arrangements between the ground floor flat and the maisonette clash and we note that this would be a fire escape route. The description of the number of bedrooms is inconsistent with the plans.

Application no	26/1483/FH
Location	First Floor Offices, Aspen House, West Terrace
Proposal	Change of use & conversion of first floor office suite into 8no.self-contained apartments, including removing defective glazing & inserting matching walling, including new balconies, windows & doors, external cycle & bin storage & associated external alterations.
Closing date	08/10/2026
Comment	Object – on amenity grounds, there appears to be insufficient daylighting to the back of the deep rooms proposed and given the level of noise is unacceptable without closing the windows at night, the Committee concluded that the outdoor amenity of the balconies and windows facing to the front of the block would further compromise the amenities of future residents.

6. LATE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application no	26/1498/FH
Location	14 Connaught Road
Proposal	Conversion of two storey maisonette into two self-contained flats, amendments to windows, erection of

external side staircase, access and door to lower ground floor.
Closing date 12/10/2026
Comment No objection

Application no 26/1418/FH/TCA
Location 2 Park Mews, Jointon Road
Proposal Works to trees in a conservation area comprising of T1 Fir crown lift to a height of 3 metres.
Closing date 16/10/2026
Comment No objection

Application no 26/1502/FH
Location Flats 11, 12 & 12A The Metropole Court, The Leas
Proposal Listed Building Consent for a lead sheet replacement dormer roof cover.
Closing date 12/10/2026
Comment No objection

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 15 October 2026 at 7pm.

The meeting concluded at 7.50 pm.

..... Chair