

Planning and the Parish Council



**Hartley Parish Council
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Frequently Asked Questions:

How is the Parish Council involved in planning?

Parish Councils are consulted by the Local Planning Authority (LPA), in this case Sevenoaks District Council.

Planning applications for development within the parish, as well as major applications which are likely to have an impact on the parish, are submitted to the Parish Council for its views.

Under legislation the Parish Council is entitled to submit its views on an application, although the LPA does not have to endorse these views.

The Parish has to submit its comments within a short timescale and therefore the Parish Council's Planning Committee usually meets fortnightly, on a Wednesday morning, at 10.00a.m. at Hartley Library, Ash Road. The meetings are preceded by site visits as deemed necessary by the Chairman.

Can residents attend the meetings?

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meetings. Notice of meetings are displayed on the parish notice boards located outside Hartley Library, All Saints' Church and on Hoselands Green. Meetings are also advertised on the Parish Council's website.

Can I address the Committee?

Before the Committee considers the planning applications, the Chairman will ask whether any members of the public present at the meeting wish to speak for or against any of the applications. Any member of the public indicating that they would like to speak, will be given an opportunity at the appropriate time and permitted to speak for a maximum of 3 minutes.

What can I do if I am affected by an application?

Any person wishing to make representations about an application, should do so in writing. Representations should be sent to the Head of Development Services, P.O. Box 183, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1GN, quoting the Reference Code of the application. It is also possible to email your comments to SDC at:

planning.comments@sevenoaks.gov.uk.

It is helpful if a copy of the letter is also sent to the Parish Council by post or by email.

Where can planning applications be viewed?

Planning applications are available for inspection during normal office hours at the Sevenoaks District Council Offices, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks. Alternatively, applications may be viewed at the Swanley Contact & Information Centre, Swanley Library, London Road, Swanley during the hours of 9.30a.m. to 5.30p.m. Monday to Thursday, 9.30a.m. to 6p.m. Fridays and 9a.m. to 4p.m. Saturdays, or at the Parish Council Office, Hartley Library, Ash Road during the hours of 9.00a.m. to 5.00p.m. Monday to Friday.

Hartley is an attractive area for developers and the Parish Council remains vigilant to try to preserve the village envelope and the surrounding Green Belt. The Parish Council will sympathetically consider supporting residents who may be adversely affected by developments on adjacent land and will oppose over development of sites and back land development.