

GODALMING TOWN COUNCIL

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107-109 High Street
Godalming
Surrey
GU7 1AQ

16 February 2024

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU to attend the **ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE** Meeting to be held in the Council Chamber, Waverley Borough Council, The Burys, Godalming on THURSDAY, 22 February 2024 at 6.30pm.

Andy Jeffery

Andy Jeffery
Town Clerk

If you wish to speak at this meeting please contact Godalming Town Council on 01483 523575 or email office@godalming-tc.gov.uk

Where possible proceedings will be live streamed via the Town Council's Facebook page. If you wish to watch the council meeting's proceedings, please go to Godalming Town Council's [Facebook](#) page.

Committee Members:	Councillor Kiehl – Chair Councillor Clayton – Vice Chair
Councillor Adam	Councillor PS Rivers
Councillor Crooks	Councillor PMA Rivers
Councillor Crowe	Councillor Steel
Councillor S Downey	Councillor C Downey
Councillor Follows	Councillor Thomson
Councillor Heagin	Councillor Weightman
Councillor Holliday	Councillor Williams
Councillor Martin	

AGENDA

1. MINUTES

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 1 February 2024, a copy of which has been circulated previously.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER REGISTERABLE INTERESTS

To receive from Members any declarations of interests in relation to any items included on the agenda for this meeting required to be disclosed by the Localism Act 2011 and the Godalming Members' Code of Conduct.

The Comments and observations from the following Waverley Borough Councillors are preliminary ones prior to consideration at Borough Council level and are based on the evidence and representations to the Town Council.

Councillor Crowe, Councillor Martin, Councillor PMA Rivers

4. PETITIONS/STATEMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The Chair to invite members of the public to make representations, ask or answer questions and give evidence in respect of the business on the agenda or other matters not on the agenda. This forum to be conducted in accordance with Standing Order 5:

- the period of time designated for public participation at a meeting for a maximum of three minutes per person or 15 minutes overall, unless otherwise directed by the Chair of the meeting;
- a question shall not require a response at the meeting nor start a debate on the question. The Chair of the meeting may direct that a written or oral response be given. If a matter raised is one for principal councils or other authorities, the person making representations will be informed of the appropriate contact details.

5. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

To consider any questions from Councillors in accordance with Standing Order 6.

6. RIGHTS OF WAY CONSULTATION – ITEM FOR DECISION

At the Environment & Planning meeting of 1 February Members noted the review of Surrey County Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) and agreed that the Town Clerk should complete the review survey on behalf of the Town Council, following receipt of any additional feedback from Members, any such feedback to be provided by 15 February 2024.

Following feedback received, the Town Clerk has filled out the consultation survey (attached for the information of Members). Members are requested to approve the responses and agree that the responses should be submitted on behalf of Godalming Town Council.

Members are requested to note that the Town Clerk has indicated 'Yes' to the question "*Would your council be interested in exercising your powers as a Parish Council under Section 43 Highways Act 1980 to maintain public rights of way, or to increase your involvement in other ways?*"

In doing so, the Town Clerk was minded the Council's ground staff already engage in reactive work on the Public Rights of Way within the parish and that of Section 2.1 of the Council's Corporate Plan: "*Protect open/green spaces for the community and to maximise community benefit*". Members may wish to consider whether by formalising arrangements with SCC this Council could better serve residents.

7. WAVERLEY PLANNING COMMITTEE – ITEM TO NOTE

Members to receive a verbal report of the proceedings at Waverley Borough Council Planning Committee of on 7 February 2024, in relation to planning application WA/2023/01714 on which Cllr Heagin represented on behalf of Godalming Town Council.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - CONSULTATION

Members to consider the following applications:

TM/2024/00157 - LAND BETWEEN ADMIRAL WAY AND ASHSTEAD LANE. GU7 1QN
APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO AND REMOVAL OF TREES SUBJECT OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 08/12

The full schedule of planning applications received from the Local Planning Authority since the last meeting is attached for the information of Members.

9. COMMUNICATIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

Members to identify which matters (if any), discussed at this meeting, are to be publicised.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environment & Planning Committee is scheduled to take place in the Council Chamber on Thursday, 21 March 2024 at 6.30pm.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brought forward by permission of the Chair. Requests to be submitted prior to commencement of the meeting.

Overview

Surrey County Council is responsible for around 2164 miles (3482 km) of public rights of way. These paths are both in the countryside and urban areas. They are important for enjoying and exploring, for travelling to work or school and for health and wellbeing. They are part of what makes Surrey a special place to live, work and enjoy.

A public right of way is a path that anyone, by law, has the right to use. There are four types:

- Footpaths for walking, mobility scooters or powered wheelchairs
- Bridleways for walking, horse riding, cycling, mobility scooters or powered wheelchairs
- Restricted byways for walking, horse riding, cycling, mobility scooters or powered wheelchairs and horse-drawn carriages
- Byways for all modes including motorised vehicles

Every council that is responsible for public rights of way must have a Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP). This sets out how public rights of way meet the needs of the public, now and in the future. Our current Rights of Way Improvement Plan dates from 2014 and needs to be reviewed.

Why your views matter

Your council's views will help us to make sure that our new Rights of Way Improvement Plan meets the needs of everyone in Surrey.

Your feedback will help to develop the priorities and actions of the new Rights of Way Improvement Plan, which will be produced in 2024. Once the new Rights of Way Improvement Plan has been finalised and approved by the council it will be published on Surrey County Council's website.

Please complete our survey by 10 March 2024.

Please only submit one official response for your council.

If you wish to respond as an individual, please visit <https://www.surreysays.co.uk/environment-and-infrastructure/rowip-public> for our public survey. This also closes on 10 March 2024.

The process of producing the new ROWIP is being supported by an external consultant. If you need to discuss the process of preparing the new ROWIP please contact sccrowip@blackwoodbayne.co.uk. Alternatively, please contact Surrey County Council at sccrowip@surreycc.gov.uk or on 0300 200 1003.

This survey is to support the Improvement Plan only. If you want to report an issue on a public right of way please click on this link: Contact us or report an issue on a Right of Way - Surrey County Council (surreycc.gov.uk) <https://rightsofway.surreycc.gov.uk/> or call 0300 200 1003.

Section 1

Please enter the name of the town or parish council you are replying on behalf of:
(Required)

Godalming Town Council

Please provide your name
(Required)

Andrew Jeffery

Please provide your contact details in case we need to get in touch with you. This could be an email address or a phone number

townclerk@godalming-tc.gov.uk

In what capacity are you representing the parish or town council (choose all that apply). Note – this should be the official response of the council
(Required)

Please select only one item

Town clerk

If other selected, please specify below:

Does your parish have a public rights of way officer, warden or other representative?

(Required)

Please select only one item

No

If yes, please provide further details on the role of your public rights of way officer, warden or other parish council representative.

Do you pay for any maintenance work on public rights of way in your parish?

(Required)

Please select only one item

No

If yes, please provide further details. On average, how much do you pay annually? Do you have an annual budget? What works do you pay for?

Do you have volunteers who help with the maintenance and improvement of public rights of way in your area?

(Required)

Please select only one item

No

If yes, please provide further details on what work your volunteers carry out. Please provide an estimate of how many work days volunteers contribute to works on public rights of way

Does your council promote any routes?

(Required)

Please select only one item

Yes

If yes, please provide further details or a link to your promoted routes.

Throughout the year we promote various walks via the Council's social media linking to either our own or third party websites, as a stakeholder of the Hills To Harbour Community Rail Partnership we also promote walking & cycling trails via the Hills to Harbour website.. Godalming Museum also provides themed trail walking maps in hard copy.

<https://hillstoharbourcrp.co.uk/how-to-enjoy-our-area/walks/>

<https://godalming-tc.gov.uk/town-centre-walk-and-tree-trail/>

https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/98583/Explore-Surrey-Godalming-and-Eashing.pdf

<https://www.komoot.com/guide/749363/hiking-around-godalming>

Section 2

How satisfied are you with the following aspects of public rights of way in your parish?

	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied
Vegetation clearance (paths are not overgrown) <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reinstatement and clearance of paths through crops <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Waymarking of routes – the directional signing along routes <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fingerposts at the end of public rights of way where the route leaves the road <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The condition of stiles and gates <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Surface condition <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Accessibility for less mobile users <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paths being free from obstructions (not including crops) <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Would your council be interested in exercising your powers as a Parish Council under Section 43 Highways Act 1980 to maintain public rights of way, or to increase your involvement in other ways?

Please select only one item

Yes

Please provide reasons for your answer below:

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? The public rights of way network in our parish is:

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
An important asset for residents in our parish <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Important to support the health and well-being of residents in our parish <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Important for travelling to work and school <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Important for enjoying and exploring nature <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Important for tourism and the visitor economy <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Do you feel that over the last 10 years the general condition of public rights of way in your parish has:

Please select only one item

- Improved
- Stayed the same
- Declined**
- Not sure / don't know

Please provide reasons for your answer below.

The standard and frequency of maintenance including vegetation clearance and surface maintenance has declined which increases the difficulty for residents to use footpaths. Residents are encouraged by GTC staff to report issues to SCC

Section 3

Have you reported a public rights of way issue to Surrey County Council in the past 12 months?

(Required)

Please select only one item

- Yes (go to Section 4)
-

Section 4

How would you rate the service of Surrey County Council when you reported an issue?

	Very poor	Poor	Neutral	Good	Very good	Not applicable
Ease of reporting the issue <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ease of tracking the progress of your report online <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Overall service you received <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

How could we have improved your experience of reporting a problem on a public right of way?

The need to create an online account to report a fault has the potential to make people disinclined to report an issue as they do not wish to share personal data in making a report, there should be an option to register for those who wish to remain engaged in tracking the progress of the issue they have reported and an option for other just to report without having to create an account.

Section 5

We aim to provide a public rights of way network that serves the needs of Surrey County residents. To do this, we may need to prioritise where we spend our available budget while delivering on our responsibilities under (within) the law. In your opinion how important are each of the following:

	Not at all important	Of little importance	Neither important or unimportant	Important	Very important
Maintaining the current public rights of way network <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Protecting and improving the public rights of way network through changes due to development and major infrastructure projects <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Improving access for those living with disabilities <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Improving access for people to improve their health and well-being <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Improving public rights of way for commuting, to work, school or other facilities <i>Please select only one item</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Are there other areas which you think should be a priority?

Improvements to public rights of way should be considered as part of the wider requirement to support active travel and should be linked to/part of Local Cycling, Walking

Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP) to ensure the greatest benefit achievable utilising available resources.

Do you have any additional comments which will help us to draft the Rights of Way Improvement Plan?

It is important that footpaths and bridleways are maintained in a safe and useable condition and that motorised vehicles, including quads, and prohibited from utilising these routes.

Please tell us of any specific public right of way issues or improvements in your parish. Please provide route numbers (if possible) and/or a precise description of the location of the route.

Continue separately if necessary and email to sccrowip@blackwoodbayne.co.uk or sccrowip@surreycc.gov.uk

The wooden footbridge, located at Footpath 9 in Godalming parish, **RoW Reference:** UL012/9/20 Grid 496,321 / 144359 is in a poor and potentially unsafe condition.

GODALMING TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING - SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS – 23 JANUARY TO 12 FEBRUARY 2024

<u>Ref</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>Proposal</u>	<u>Site Address</u>	<u>GTC Observations</u>
WBC Weekly List 24/03				
WA/2024/00113	Godalming Binscombe & Charterhouse	Erection of single storey extension and entrance gates, alterations to roof including raising roof and construction of dormer windows to provide habitable accommodation; demolition of garage.	Timberscombe Priorsfield Road Godalming GU7 2RG	
WA/2024/00112	Godalming Central & Ockford	Listed building consent for installation of a public address system.	Godalming Railway Station Station Approach Godalming GU7 1EU	
WA/2024/00126	Godalming Holloway	Certificate of Lawfulness under Section 191 to establish lawful use of existing building and land as open Class E.	Ockford Mill Ockford Road Godalming GU7 1RH	
WBC Weekly List 24/04				
WA/2024/00150	Godalming Holloway	Erection of single storey extensions and alterations following demolition of existing extension and attached garage (revision of WA/2023/02480).	36 Park Road Godalming GU7 1SH	
PRA/2024/00152	Godalming Farncombe & Catteshall	Demolition notification: G.P.D.O. Schedule 2, Part 11, Class B: Demolition of Farncombe Signal Box.	Signal Box Farncombe West Farncombe Street Godalming	
WA/2024/00165	Godalming Binscombe & Charterhouse	Certificate of lawfulness under Section 192 for erection of a single storey extension and alteration to elevation with part alteration to attached garage to provide habitable accommodation.	Greensleeves Priorsfield Road Godalming GU7 2RG	
TM/2024/00137	Godalming Holloway	APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE SUBJECT OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 07/03	14 Busbridge Lane Godalming GU7 1PU	
TM/2024/00157	Godalming Holloway	APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO AND REMOVAL OF TREES SUBJECT OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 08/12	Land Between Admiral Way & Ashstead Lane GU7 1QN	

<u>Ref</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>Proposal</u>	<u>Site Address</u>	<u>GTC Observations</u>
WBC Weekly List 24/05				
WA/2024/00181	Godalming Central and Ockford	Application under Section 106 of the Town & Country Planning Act to modify the legal agreement relating to WA/2020/2123 to allow Part 8 - Managed Land 1.1 to be modified as the green wall has been omitted from the scheme under NMA/2023/02631.	Mole Country Stores, Brighton Road, Godalming GU7 1NS	
PRA/2024/00188	Godalming Central & Ockford	General Permitted Development Order 2015, Schedule 2 Part 3 Class MA - Prior Notification application for change of use from commercial, business and service (Use Class E) to 3 dwellings.	First Floor 110 & First Floor & Second Floor 106/108 High Street Godalming GU7 1DW	
WA/2024/00194	Godalming Central & Ockford	Erection of extensions and alterations with associated works.	54 Aarons Hill Godalming GU7 2LH	
WA/2024/00217	Godalming Central & Ockford	Erection of a building to provide 3 residential units with associated under croft parking, including 20 parking spaces for Magna Riverside; associated works including bin/bike store and landscaping.	Car Park (N.E. of Magna Riverside) Riverside Flambard Way Godalming	
TM/2024/00174	Godalming Binscombe & Charterhouse	Godalming Binscombe & Charterhouse	Tramontana 22a Hurtmore Chase Godalming GU7 2RT	
TM/2024/00206	Godalming Binscombe & Charterhouse	APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREES SUBJECT OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 41/99	Frith Hill Open Space Godalming	
WBC Weekly List 24/06				
WA/2024/00235	Godalming Binscombe & Charterhouse	Erection of an extension.	43 Long Gore Farncombe Godalming GU7 3TF	
WA/2024/00228	Godalming Binscombe & Charterhouse	Erection of extensions and alterations following demolition of existing conservatory.	5 Furze Lane Farncombe Godalming GU7 3NW	

<u>Ref</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>Proposal</u>	<u>Site Address</u>	<u>GTC Observations</u>
TM/2024/00245	Godalming Binscombe & Charterhouse	APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO AND REMOVAL OF TREES SUBJECT OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 07/07	Thackery Mark Way Godalming GU7 2BE	
WA/2024/00262	Godalming Central & Ockford	Erection of extensions following demolition of existing garage.	47 Miltons Crescent Godalming GU7 2NT	

GODALMING TOWN COUNCIL

Disclosure by a Member¹ of a disclosable pecuniary interest or other registerable interest (non-pecuniary interest) in a matter under consideration at a meeting (S.31 (4) Localism Act 2011 and the adopted Godalming Members' Code of Conduct).

As required by the Localism Act 2011 and the adopted Godalming Members' Code of Conduct, **I HEREBY DISCLOSE**, for the information of the authority that I have [a disclosable pecuniary interest]² [a registerable interest (non-pecuniary interest)]³ in the following matter:-

COMMITTEE: _____

DATE: _____

NAME OF COUNCILLOR: _____

Please use the form below to state in which agenda items you have an interest.

Agenda No.	Subject	Disclosable Pecuniary Interests	Other Registerable Interests (Non-Pecuniary Interests)	Reason

Signed _____

Dated _____

¹ "Member" includes co-opted member, member of a committee, joint committee or sub-committee

² A disclosable pecuniary interest is defined by the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) regulations 2012/1464 and relate to employment, office, trade, profession or vocation, sponsorship, contracts, beneficial interests in land, licences to occupy land, corporate tenancies and securities

³ A registerable interest (non-pecuniary interest) is defined by Section 9 of the Godalming Members' Code of Conduct.