

Sway Parish Council Planning and Transport Committee (PaTC)

An introduction for Sway Residents *(V21 linked: updated and checked 20 Nov 2015)*

Sway Parish Council Planning and Transport Committee (PaTC) usually meets on the second Thursday of the month to deliberate on matters of planning and transport within Sway Civil Parish (the clue is in the name). We comprise 6 Parish Councillors (with a quorum of 3), plus 2 further co-opted members: covering transport and community speedwatch. We do **NOT** decide planning matters in Sway – the Local Planning Authority is the New Forest National Park; but we are invited to make recommendations to them. We also cover Tree Preservation Orders and local public transport matters – particularly the Cango bus service and Sway Railway Station, and the Community SpeedWatch.

We seek to make planning in Sway as open and transparent as possible, so we always welcome the public and press – particularly residents of Sway Civil Parish. Normally we meet at 7:30pm in the Jubilee Field Pavilion, and if you pop along from about 7:15pm you will usually get an opportunity to view the plans and applications (and to discuss any matters informally with members of the committee).

Our recommendations to NFNPA Planning concerning planning applications generally fall into one of five categories, and you may hear us using the numbers below as a shorthand:

1. We recommend PERMISSION, for the reasons listed below, but would accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority's Officers under their delegated powers.
2. We recommend REFUSAL, for the reasons listed below, but would accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority's Officers under their delegated powers.
3. We recommend PERMISSION for the reasons listed below.
4. We recommend REFUSAL for the reasons listed below.
5. We are happy to accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority's Officers under their delegated powers.

Planning can be an emotive issue: one person's dream extension can be their neighbour's planning blight; and one business's vital expansion can be another's financial threat. On the PaTC we give our time freely and receive no allowances or expenses, and we try to do our honest best. We do get criticism (that goes with the territory), and we rarely get praise. We ask you to be respectful and understanding, and in return we will listen carefully, and hope to consider wisely, and act on behalf of the balanced best interests of Sway residents.

If you are coming along as an applicant, as a supporter, as an objector, or to comment, we will endeavour to give you an opportunity to speak. If you do wish to speak then please let us know at the start of the meeting. We try to keep proceedings informal, and we usually invite questions or input from the public at some stage in the meeting. If things become heated or too many people wish to speak we will enforce the proper formal rules, but we hope that will not be necessary.

We are governed by rules and guidance – starting with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG), see <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/> In planning matters we usually rely only on "material considerations" – see the pdf <http://tinyurl.com/oskf5qq>

The most significant guidance for us is the New Forest National Park Authority (NFNPA) Planning Core Strategy <http://tinyurl.com/coekfrl> from which we sometimes quote various Development Policies such as DP1 (General Development Principles) or DP11 (Extensions to Dwellings), or Core Policies such as CP8 (Local Distinctiveness). There are also NFNPA Supplementary Planning Documents, of which the most significant is the Sway Village Design Statement, which can be found on www.sway-pc.gov.uk and which contributes to the formal

guidance on planning design within Sway. And the NFNPA Design Guide also provides significant help – see <http://bit.ly/16b9H2g>

We have Terms of Reference (ToR) set by Sway Parish Council - see the MS-Word document: <http://bit.ly/HPaM7t> and those include that we must declare any possible personal interest. Our ToR also state that details of the planning applications and tree protection matters to be dealt with should be posted on the Parish notice board and on the internet at least 72 hours before our meetings. Forthcoming planning matters not dealt with in the PaTC are usually considered at the full Parish Council meeting - usually held on the last Thursday of the month. All Sway parish councillors must also abide by the New Forest District Council's Code of Conduct http://www.newforest.gov.uk/media/adobe/3/6/chapter_32.pdf

Useful contacts if you want to get things done

We also get asked about planning and transport matters which are outside of our remit, so in case it helps; below please find a list of useful contacts. These can also be found on the Sway Parish Council website <http://www.sway-pc.gov.uk/>:

Planning matters including planning permission, enforcement enquiries and tree protection orders: New Forest National Park Authority Planning, all fully detailed on the web, see <http://tinyurl.com/c3b9owa> To view applications see <http://tinyurl.com/9q9jmgg> or phone 01590 646615 (08.45-13.00 Mon-Fri); for trees <http://tinyurl.com/9lcfkrd> or 01590 646620; and for enforcement <http://tinyurl.com/9p54osm> or 01590 646626.

If you want to see any planning applications and do **not** have access to the internet then go to the NFNPA offices at Lymington Town Hall; or for recent Sway applications do check at Sway Parish Office, Jubilee Field Pavilion (usually open Mondays to Thursdays 09:30 - 13:00)

Potholes, Traffic lights & signs, Road problems, Trees & hedges, Drains & flooding, Pavements, Salt bins: Hampshire County Council: the web page <http://tinyurl.com/c582def> links to reporting for all such areas. Phone 0845 603 5638 or 01329 225398

Faulty streetlights: <http://tinyurl.com/br77ieq> or phone 0845 603 5633

For all street issues many recommend www.fixmystreet.com

Rights of Way: access and other issues on footpaths and bridleways (**not** roads, pavements or alleyways) <http://tinyurl.com/cdu9xzi> or phone 0845 6035636

Cango Bus Service: <http://tinyurl.com/cwxhsqz> or the Chair of the Cango Users' Forum, John Warden phone: 01590 682223

Flytipping: <http://tinyurl.com/cbdw5hb>

Abandoned vehicles: <http://tinyurl.com/d6dqpcq>

Dead animals on roads or in RTAs: <http://tinyurl.com/d3wnegx>

Recycling, rubbish and waste see: <http://tinyurl.com/bumkyvz>

or for all the New Forest District Council items in the above paragraph: phone 023 8028 5000

Trains from Sway: <http://tinyurl.com/cwoznyn> or 0845 6000 650 (option 4); or 01590 682338 Mon-Fri 06:35-10:00 for Sway Station ticket office.

Forest Animals: www.verderers.org.uk/ Sick, injured or dead pony, cow, donkey, pig or sheep (other than one involved in a RTA), call the Verderers on 02380 282052 during normal office hours. At other times, and for sick or injured deer, ring the Forestry Commission on 02380 283141 www.forestry.gov.uk/newforest

Local Police <http://tinyurl.com/cn4ljtp> phone 101; **Beat officer:** Leon Simon 07554 775436 leon.simon@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

Sway Parish Council www.sway-pc.gov.uk/ deals with Allotments, the Jubilee Field and similar (and little **direct** planning or transport matters); contact via the Clerk at the office Mon, Wed or Thu 09:00-12noon or on 01590 718116 or E-mail clerk@sway-pc.gov.uk