Minutes of a meeting of Steep Parish Council Planning Committee
Held on Monday 6 July 2026 at 7pm
At Steep War Memorial Village Hall

Present: Councillors: Alison Driver (Chair), Charlotte Duthie, Shannon Askew, Andrew Inkley, Barry Haywood and Paul Nayton.
Sam Marchant (Clerk).
Public: One member of the public

Minute Ref	Item
26/37	**Apologies for absence** Apologies were received from Councillors Terry Cook and Robin Hollinngton.
26/38	**Declarations of Interest** No declarations of interest were made.
26/39	**Approval of Minutes** The Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 1 June 2026 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.
26/40	**Public Comment** **Discussion points:** No comments were made.
26/41	**Planning Applications** The Committee considered the Planning Applications: SDNP/26/02513/OHL – Land opposite Soal Farm Cottages, Ridge Common Lane – Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989-The erection of a pole for the purposes of distributing electricity. **Discussion points:** Councillors reviewed the application documents and discussed the proposal in detail. The Committee noted uncertainty regarding the extent to which comments could be made on an application relating to electricity infrastructure. Councillors also observed that they were not aware of any site notice being displayed in the vicinity of the proposed development. The location of the proposed pole was discussed in the context of previous applications associated with the site, including applications relating to the barn opposite in the Moonraker Field. Councillors noted that aspects of the barn development had previously generated local concern and discussion.

Questions were raised regarding:

- The purpose of the proposed electricity connection.
- The identity of the initial applicant and intended beneficiary of the supply.
- Whether the proposed electricity infrastructure is intended to serve a single property or a wider area.
- The relationship between the proposed pole and the existing barn development.
- Whether the nature of the building, understood to be a hay barn, would justify the need for a new electricity supply if intended for this once complete.
- The process by which the location of the electricity pole had been selected.

Members agreed that further clarification was required before the proposal could be fully assessed by the planning authority.

Resolution:
It was resolved that the Parish Council should submit comments seeking further information and clarification regarding the proposal.

The Committee agreed that the following questions should be raised:

1. What is the intended purpose of the proposed electricity supply?
2. Is the electricity supply intended to serve a single property or multiple properties?
3. Which landowner or development will benefit from the proposed connection?
4. How does the proposal relate to the existing barn development on the site?
5. If the building is intended solely as a hay barn, why is a new electricity supply required?
6. Was a site notice displayed in accordance with the relevant consultation requirements?

Agreed comments for submission:

The Committee reviewed the submitted documents and requests further clarification before it is able to form a fully informed view on the proposal.

The Parish Council reviewed the submitted documents and request further clarification.

Please could the planning authority provide further information on the following matters.

1. The purpose of the proposed electricity supply and the development it is intended to serve.
2. Whether the supply is intended for a single property or for multiple properties.
3. The identity of the landowner or development that will benefit from the proposed connection.
4. The relationship between the proposed electricity pole and the existing barn development opposite in Moonraker Field.
5. The justification for a new electricity supply if the building is intended solely for agricultural storage, such as a hay barn.
6. Confirmation that the required site notices have been displayed and consultation requirements met, as members were not aware of any notice being present in the locality.

Until the above information is provided, the Parish Council considers that it does not have sufficient information to fully assess the necessity and implications of the proposal.

The Parish Council therefore requests that the above matters be clarified and taken into account as part of the determination of the application.

26/42 Date of the next Planning Committee meeting

To be arranged as required.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 7:10pm.

Signed: Dated: