



**Minutes & Information resulting from – Meeting 66  
1<sup>st</sup> Newport Scout Hall, Woodbine Close, Newport  
Thursday 6 June 2019**

**Present at the meeting**

<b>Forum Members:</b>	<b>Others &amp; Observers:</b>
Mark Earp - Chairman	Jennine Gardiner-IWC PROW (LAF Secretary)
Alec Lawson	James Allaway - Observer
Steve Darch	Helena Hewston – Observer / Shalfleet P/C
Cllr Paul Fuller	Diana Conyers - Ryde T/C
Joe Nash	Geoff Brodie - Observer
Tricia Merrifield	Darrel Clarke - IWC
Cllr John Hobart	Mick Lyons –Havenstreet & Ashy PC
Richard Grogan	Cllr Steve Hastings
John Heather	Dina Jung – Bus & Rail Users Group
Mike Slater	Gillian Belben – Gatcombe & Chillerton P/C
Penny Edwards	Garry Streach – IWC Highways Engineer
Iain MacIennan	

**1. Apologies Received, Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meeting, declarations of interest & introductions.**

**Apologies:** John Gurney-Champion, Stephen Cockett, Jan Brook, Richard Tyldsley

**Confirmation** – Done & minutes signed as a true copy

**Decelerations** - None

**2. Updates to tasks / matters arising from meeting 7 March 2019**

**Bus Stops** – Unfortunately Mr Richard Tyldsley who is the [Southern Vectis](#) manager could not attend the meeting due to unforeseen circumstances. He has said he will try and come to the next meeting.

Mark Earp has discussed the matter of unsafe bus stops with the [Isle of Wight Bus and Rail Users Group](#). Although it seems this group has a different set of requirements than the LAF. The LAF criteria for bus stop improvements are:

- Safety of Passengers
- Disability Access
- Access to the rights of way network
- Improvements that could lead to increased passenger numbers
- Connectivity
- Passenger numbers

Mark felt that bus stop usage in some locations was nil because they are so dangerously unsafe. For example [Mottistone Manor House and garden](#) run by the National Trust say they have approximately 32,000 visitors per year but the nearby bus stop (one identified as needing improvement) has hardly any passenger use.

Since the last meeting over 60 bus stops have been put forward from lots of different sources as needing safety improvements. Not all of these are in rural areas or linking to ROW. The LAF have put forward 6 sites they felt needed improvement:

## IW LAF: SUGGESTED BUST STOP IMPROVEMENTS.



NODES POINT



NETTLESTONE MANOR



BERRY CHUTE



COX'S CORNER



ROWLANDS LANE



FOREST CORNER

The list of 60+ will be reviewed by the IWC Highways Engineer and together with the IWC Transport Manager they will try and formulate a prioritisation system to allow them to decide which locations would offer the best in the way of improvements for the limited funding available. This is a difficult situation and any priority ranking list can't be just on passenger numbers or Southern Vectis decisions.

In some cases (such as a site identified at Nettlestone), if a planning application is approved (for a large development) then this should have conditions within its approval for developer funds to be made available for the nearby bus stop improvements.

An example was given of Shalfeet Parish Council who approached Island Roads to get an extension to an existing concrete apron (the hard surface to stand on at a bus stop) and this extension was quoted in the region of £7000. This highlights that there is scope for Town and Parish Councils to have negotiations with Island Roads for improvements in their areas and fund works to make these things happen.

Other matters arising from the bus stop debate were:

- How do Southern Vectis record passage numbers at a particular stop? Is it only fare paying (cash / debit card) customers or also the Key or concession pass customers?
- Seasonal holiday destination location stops may give higher numbers which need to be quantified with their type of use.
- Rural locations are critical for economy and are themselves an enormous tourist attraction. These rural locations need visitors to be able to access them and the bus stops need to be safe and accessible, as well as a good service for onward connectivity for both tourists and residents.
- If in the future the Island gets National Park status, in its AONB areas, then it will be extremely hard for concrete bus hard standing to get approved, as a National Park planning authority has very strict requirements towards planning applications / improvements.
- The West Wight needs to be connected to Ryde, via Brighstone.
- There has been conversation with Southern Vectis regarding the need for a later bus back to Brighstone. There is nothing running at present because of the effect on the bus company's financial / commercial viability. Brighstone Parish Council are looking to fund a later bus on Friday and Saturday nights at a cost of approximately £28,000

- Community buses, staffed with volunteers, such as FYT might be persuaded to run a late bus
- At a Gatcombe Parish Council meeting it was discovered from Southern Vectis that it is possible to hail a bus to stop when a passenger is not at a designated bus stop (but this will depend if the bus driver feels there is a safe place to pull over and stop)

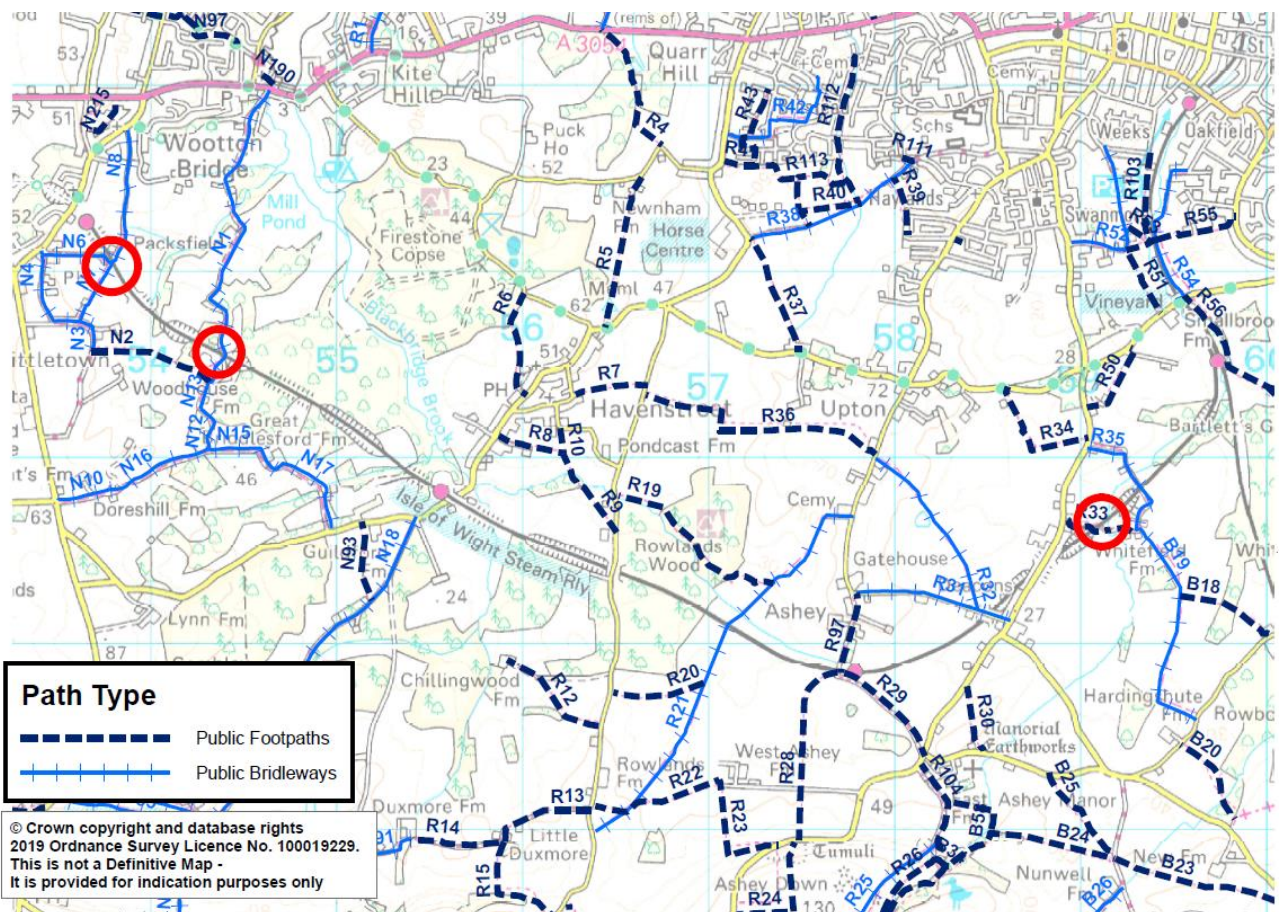
**Action** – Investigate hail and ride, await 1. Richard Tyldsley to attend a future LAF and 2. the outcome of the bus stop improvement list.

**Havenstreet Steam Railway - level crossings** – Mark met with the managers of Havenstreet heritage railway and had an excellent meeting with them. The train drivers had picked out 3 public rights of way that crossed the railway (level crossings) which they thought are dangerous. These are;

1. Whitefield Farm / Public Footpath R33,
2. Packsfield Lane / Public Footpath N6/N7/N8
3. Woodhouse Farm / Public Footpath N1.

The line of sight for the train drivers needs improvement. The steam railway is taking steps to rectify and improve this matter for both train driver and members of the public. As the steam railway has a lot of land in their control Mark had suggested to them that they should consider an environmental stewardship scheme.

The steam railway has approval to run a steam train into [Ryde St Johns](#) to share platform 2



Map of steam railway level crossing concerns = the circled points

**Quiet Lanes / Roads** – A communication had been received from a member of the public to put forward Rew Lane, Wroxall as they feel this is a very quiet road that is used for walking, cycling and horse riding and this should be considered for Quiet Road status. It was agreed we would add this to the list.

The LAF will now formally submit this list to the relevant Cabinet Member (Cllr Ian Ward who is the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Transport) of the IWC in order that it can be taken forward

Berry Lane	Chillerton
Burnt House Lane	Newport / Arreton
Clatterford Shute	Carisbrooke
Cridmore Lane	Chillerton
Doctors Lane	Gatcombe
Froglands Lane	Carisbrooke
Gatcombe Village Road / Newbarn Lane	Gatcombe
Kingates Lane	Niton
Lessland Lane	Godshill
Loverstone Lane	Chillerton
Marvel Lane	Newport
Millers Lane	Carisbrooke
Nettlecombe Lane	Whitwell
Newnham Lane	Binstead
Nunnery Lane	Carisbrooke
Palmers Lane / Skinners Hill	Newchurch
Pound Lane	Calbourne
Quay Lane	Brading
Rectory Lane	Gatcombe
Redhill Lane	Wroxall
Rew Lane	Wroxall
Rill Lane	Chillerton
Roslin Lane	Chillerton
Rowlands Lane	Ryde
Sandy Lane	Newport
Snowdrop Lane	Gatcombe
Strawberry Lane	Brighstone
Undercliff Drive	Niton / Ventnor
Wellow Top Road	Wellow / Shalfleet
Warlands Lane	Shalfleet

**Action** – LAF to formally submit the above list to the IWC

**3. Road side verges** - Cllr Steve Hastings advised that the new verge cutting regime has been processed and will be implemented by [Island Roads](#). The group was reminded that they should contact Island Roads if there are any verges, that are effected under the new regime, that should or shouldn't be cut.

Cllr Diana Conyers from Binstead advised that she was aware of two complaints already received about the current verge cutting, i.e. it is looking a mess.

Pesticides especially Roundup – The use of these has come into criticism but Island Roads insist it is safe. There had been some dog fatalities in Seaview - maybe this could have been from roadside pesticides?

**Action** – All - contact Island Roads if there are any road side verges that need attention. Island Roads email address for enquiry's = [info@islandroads.com](mailto:info@islandroads.com)

**4. The future of the Military Road** – John Brownscombe had given an excellent presentation at the last meeting on behalf of the [National Trust](#). There will be another planning application made to install a new piling bridge along Military Road, near Brook, to stabilise the road. The PROW team have been consulted by the planning department regarding this and noted its concern that there was no provision for pedestrians.

## 5. Coast Path – John Taylor (Natural England) written update

- Our submission of the final route has been moved to February 2020. We will have no further deadlines beyond this point.
- Stakeholders including LAF members will be notified of the specific date of submission nearer the time. When the report has been submitted there will be an 8-week window to submit any Representations (positive or negative) or Objections.
- We would like to have feedback from the LAF on our draft route later in the year, when we have concluded the few remaining negotiations. We hope this can be done in the Autumn.

*Mark advised that John Taylor had said that he doesn't need to have the whole map complete, so he can put forward a proposed route whilst still negotiating, and the IWC can still negotiate with landowners after the proposed route has been put forward.*

---

**Spencers Wood in Gurnard** - Cllr Fuller has had a good response, and a group of locals are making an application to formally dedicate a PROW via a modification order.

Cllr Hobart advised the group that this (Spencers Wood) is a site of an old rubbish tip and you would not want to have a path across this as there is plenty of surface glass, asbestos etc. Darrel confirmed the application has been received and he has been speaking to the ECP team and the applicant of the modification order to try and get a compromise regarding the route of the path (so it doesn't have to go across the site of the old tip). But if the modification is not withdrawn by the applicant then the application still must go through process.

## 6. Chairman's Update – Mark Earp

**Review of the treasure act** – A major review of the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice is being undertaken. A public consultation ran between 1 February 2019 to 30 April 2019 and was called [Revising the definition of treasure in the Treasure Act 1996 and revising the related codes of practice](#). This may affect any metal detectors hordes found on a PROW rather than private land. Two or more coins counts as a horde.

### Local news

**Sea Street bridge** now open.



Sea Street bridge photos; closed and the new reopened structure

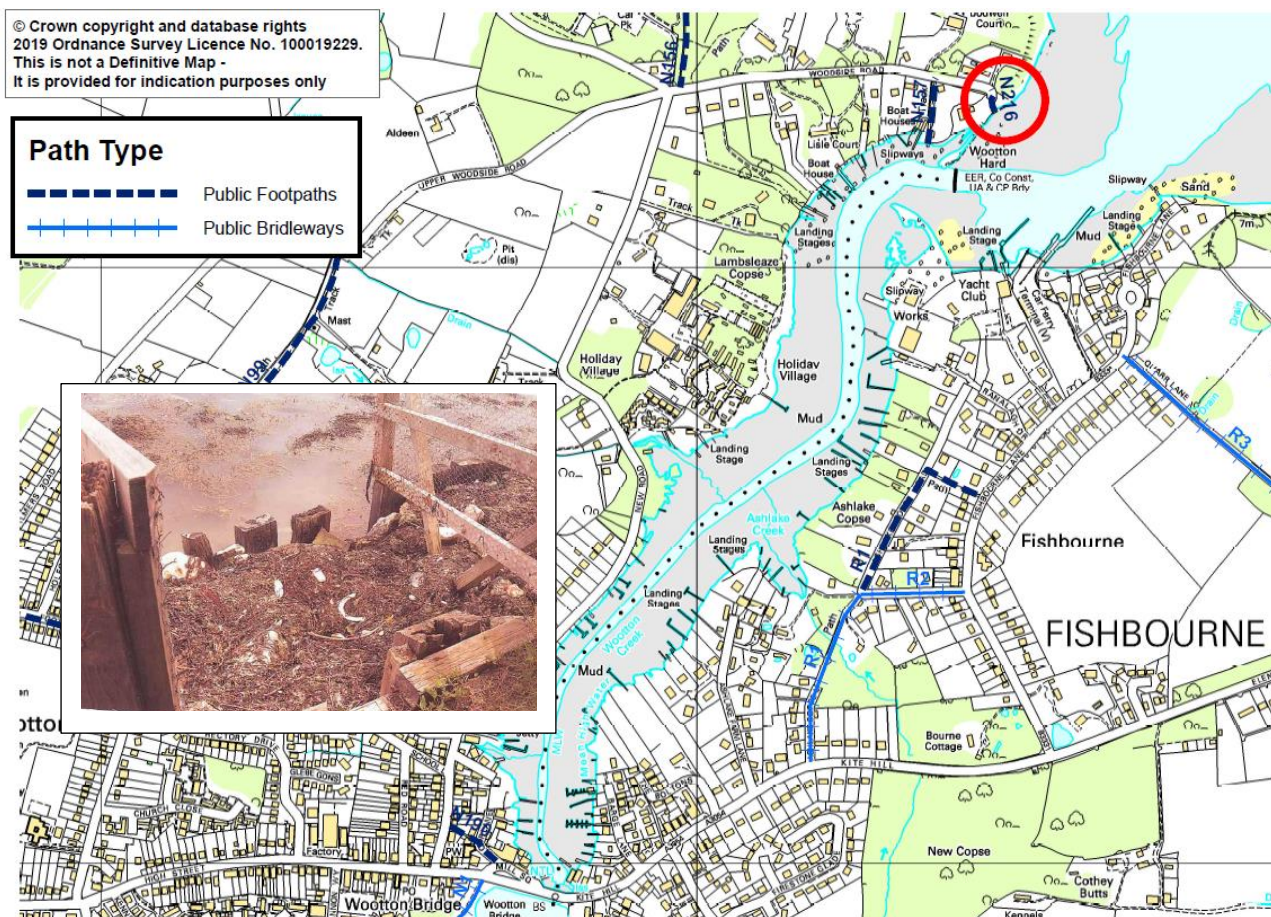
Visit Isle of Wight has withdrawn a leaflet called an **IW beach guide for dog owners**, as it is confusing, and they wish the IW to be dog friendly. The LAF won't make any official comment yet to Visit IW or IWC Beaches Officer as they will await the outcome of the forthcoming PSPO but members feel better on street signage would help.

**Leakline** Southern Water are asking for help to identify water leaks. Walkers, cyclists and equestrians can assist when using the PROW network should they spot a water leak from a water trough or suchlike. Farmers do have to pay for the water, but leaking cattle troughs may go unnoticed if they are in a very rural location, so people using the PROW network can help spot potential problems. Leak Line **0800 820 999**. Or if you do not know the postcode to give to the Southern Water call taker you can use the SW report a leak website – photos can be attached to this <https://www.southernwater.co.uk/report-a-leak>

**Crown Land** the crown seeks to encourage responsible use of the foreshore and estuaries that they own, this includes metal detector use and drone flying They have produced a guide called [Metal Detecting and Drone Flying](https://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/) which can be found on their website <https://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/>

**Newport pedestrian environment audit report** this is an excellent report commissioned by Newport Parish Council. The Parish Council wants to make Newport more attractive and make cycling safer and a better experience. An additional document called the cycling permeability study can be found on the [Cycle Wight](https://www.cyclewight.co.uk/) webpage

**Public Footpath N216** at Wootton Creek allows public access to the creek and beach at low tide but there are no access steps. The Fairway Association (Portsmouth Harbour) manage the private pontoons along here, but the [Wootton Creek Fairway Association](https://www.woottoncreekfairwayassociation.co.uk/) would never stop anyone from using the pontoons if they were in distress.



- **IWC Rights of Way**

**PSPO** Lee Matthews, the IWC Recreation & Open Spaces Manager, has advised that the public consultation regarding the PSPO will be in late Autumn with an anticipated May 2020 implementation.

- **IW Bridleway Group**

Thanks to the PROW maintenance team for the works at the Bridleway called SW17a - a problem was reported near Bucks Farm and an amazing repair job undertaken, more than what was expected.

Concerns for badgers digging up and making setts alongside, on or under bridleways, as there are active setts occurring at points around the island. The highway authority is not exempt from [badger protection legislation](#) and must proceed within the law.

- **Cycle Wight** [www.cyclewight.org.uk](http://www.cyclewight.org.uk) the next Cyclewight meeting is 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019.  
**More Paths for All project** – Cyclewight along with [People Powered Community Interest Company](#) secured an Innovation Grant to work with the IWC PROW to upgrade paths for multi-use status, by means of legal upgrades or by securing funds to improve the quality of the path.  
**IW Wheels for All project** - [Isle of Access](#) working with [Island Riding Centre](#) and Adventure activities, have secured a grant from Island Roads for purchasing of adapted bikes which will give people with disabilities the opportunity to enjoy cycle riding.  
**Randonnee** – participation of 3,500 cyclists in Wayfareres Round the Island Randonnee was a success.  
**Cowes to Newport cycletrack closure** – there was 9000 recorded movements in May 2018, the detour is 3.5km on an increasingly busy main road. The extended closure during visitor season is a major insult by a private utility.

- **IW 4X4**

None

- **Landowner**

Nothing

- **[IW Ramblers](#)**

The monthly **working party** is up and running. Works have included boardwalk improvements and installed 41 steps.

**Donate a Gate** scheme has had a set of gates installed in Shorwell. And another set of gates will be improved at Kings Manor Farm, Public Footpath F1. Currently the ramblers identify a location that could be improved and then offer out the location for gate donors. Previously, for about 8 years, volunteers worked hard to get sites where people wanted them but now they are doing it on route basis (206 gates so far).

**BBC is very interested in ECP** and will be interviewing people. Cllr Hobart will be meeting with David Bailey from Osbourne House next Tuesday.

## 6. Any Other Business

**Clay Lane** – Shalfleet Parish Council are very concerned about an ongoing safety issue along Clay Lane as wooden railings adjacent to a 3-5 m drop to a stream below had rotted. This was first reported to Island Roads in February 2019. Clay Lane is well used as a connection for walkers, equestrians and cyclists but at the point of the perished railings the road narrows and someone must move over to let another pass. It was felt the railings would no longer stop someone / thing falling into the stream below. There is also ongoing concerns about erosion and the possible loss of the road.

**Action** – Garry Stretch had today visited the site and will be proposing a strategy

<p>2019 Meetings 4pm Thursdays @ <b>The Wendes Hall (Newport Scout Hall), Woodbine Close, Newport, PO30 1AN</b> 5<sup>th</sup> September 5<sup>th</sup> December</p>
--



**LAF list of regularly used abbreviations and words:**

**AONB** = Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. IW AONB team can be contacted at Seaclose Offices, Fairlee Road, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 2QS Telephone 01983 823855 or Email [AONB@IOW.GOV.UK](mailto:AONB@IOW.GOV.UK) Website [www.wightaonb.org.uk](http://www.wightaonb.org.uk)

**Capital** = the money which is allocated for network improvements over and above general maintenance and repairs.

**CIL** = Community Infrastructure Levy - this is a planning charge to enable Local Authorities to deliver infrastructure to support development in their areas (also see S106).

**CMT** = Contract Management Team. CMT's are teams within the IW Council who deal with a particular contractor i.e. the Highways CMT deal with Island Roads and the Waste CMT deal with Amey.

**Definitive** = a definitive right of way is one that is recorded in the legal record of such ways i.e. the Definitive Map. The Definitive Map records Public Footpaths, Public Bridleways and Byways Open to All Traffic (no Restricted Byways are currently recorded on the Isle of Wight).

**EWLP** = East Wight Landscape Partnership [www.downtothecoast.co.uk](http://www.downtothecoast.co.uk)

**IR** = Island Roads is the name for the IWC Highway's Contractor. They can be contacted at: St. Christopher House, 42 Daish Way, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5XJ or Telephone 01983 822440 or email [info@islandroads.com](mailto:info@islandroads.com) Website: [www.islandroads.com](http://www.islandroads.com)

**IWC** = Isle of Wight Council. Address: County Hall, High Street, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 1UD or Telephone 01983 821000 + add the extension when prompted if you know it or Email [customer.services@iow.gov.uk](mailto:customer.services@iow.gov.uk) or the specific service's email if you know it. Website [www.iwight.com](http://www.iwight.com)

**Permissive** = a permissive path is one that a landowner allows the public to use in a certain way (i.e. walking, cycling, horse-riding) but the route is dedicated to the public. It is not therefore recorded on the Definitive Map. The landowner can withdraw their permission for the public to use it at any time.

**PROW** = Public Rights of Way recorded on the Definitive Map. The IWC Rights of Way team can be contacted at County Hall or Telephone 01983 821000 X 8745 or email [Rightsofway@iow.gov.uk](mailto:Rightsofway@iow.gov.uk) Website [www.iwight.com/Residents/Rights-of-Way/Public-Rights-of-Way/About](http://www.iwight.com/Residents/Rights-of-Way/Public-Rights-of-Way/About)

**Revenue** = the money which is allocated for general repair and maintenance, staff costs and normal reoccurring bills and running costs.

**ROWIP** = Rights of Way Improvement Plan. Every local authority must have a ROWIP. This document is reviewed every 10 years and it will explain how improvements will be made to the PROW network to provide a better experience for walkers, cyclists, horse riders, horse and carriage drivers, people with mobility problems and people using motorised vehicles. The original IWC ROWIP can be viewed on the Council website: [www.iwight.com/azservices/documents/2782-D6-Rights-of-Way-Improvement-Plan.pdf](http://www.iwight.com/azservices/documents/2782-D6-Rights-of-Way-Improvement-Plan.pdf)



**S106** = Section 106 is an agreement between a Local Authority and a developer in connection with a planning permission and generally provides for works to be undertaken or payments to be made to the Local Authority for specific purposes. S106 must be directly relevant to the proposed development.