



Town Hall | 61 Newland Street | Witham | CM8 2FE
01376 520627
witham.gov.uk

AGENDA

Meeting of: **Planning & Transport Committee**

Date: **Monday, 29th April 2024** Time: **6.30 p.m.**

Place: **Town Hall, 61 Newland Street, Witham, Essex**

Members are hereby summoned to attend the above Meeting to transact the following business. Members are respectfully reminded that each item on the Agenda should be carefully examined. If you have any interest, it must be duly declared.

To be present: Councillors -

P.	Barlow	(Chairman)	T.	Hewitt
J.C.	Coleman	(Vice Chairman)	J.	Martin
E.	Adelaja		R.	Ramage
J.M.	Coleman		A.	Sloma
L.	Headley		E.	Williams

Nikki Smith
Town Clerk
GK/24.4.2024

1. APOLOGIES

To receive and approve apologies for absence.

2. MINUTES

To receive the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning & Transport Committee held 15th April 2024 (previously circulated).

3. INTERESTS

To receive any declarations of interests that Members may wish to give notice of on matters pertaining to any item on this Agenda.

4. QUESTIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Members of the press and public will be invited to address the Meeting.

Order Note: A maximum of 30 minutes is designated for public participation time with no individual speaker exceeding three minutes unless otherwise granted an extension by the Chairman under Standing Order 3(F) & 3(G)

5. PLANNING OFFICER'S REPORT

To receive a verbal report from the Planning Officer on any matters arising from previous Meeting.

6. PART 1 APPLICATIONS

To approve officer 'no objection' recommendations for applications listed under [Part 1](#) without debate. *Applications may be moved to Part 2 where Members are in disagreement with recommendations by giving 24 hours' notice to the Planning Officer.*

7. PART 2 APPLICATIONS

To consider applications in [Part 2](#).

8. REVISED PLANS

24/00045/FUL - The Grove Garage, Newland Street, Witham

9. DECISIONS

To receive and note decisions on planning applications pertaining to Witham which have been received from Braintree District Council ([attached](#) at page 10).

10. REVIEW OF ADOPTED LOCAL PLAN

To receive a letter from Braintree District Council concerning the review of its adopted Local Plan and a 'call for sites' ([attached](#) at page 11).

11. STATUTORY CONSULTATION – NORWICH TO TILBURY – THE GREAT GRID UPGRADE

To receive details of the statutory consultation which runs from 10th April 2024 to 18th June 2024 ([attached](#) at page 13).

12. TACKLING SPEEDING IN WITHAM

To receive details of the procedure to install Speed Indicator Devices ([attached](#) at page 16).

13. 20'S PLENTY

To receive details about the next meeting and Newsletter ([attached](#) at page 21).

PART 1
APPLICATIONS WITH OFFICER ‘NO OBJECTION’
RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED “EN BLOC” WITHOUT
DEBATE.

Applications Received:

The following applications have been made to the District Council for planning permission under the Town & Country Planning Acts and referred to the Town Council as a statutory consultee. Copies of the applications and accompanying plans may be seen at the Planning Department Causeway House, Bocking End, Braintree or online at www.braintree.gov.uk

PLEASE NOTE: Under the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, representations cannot be treated in confidence. Witham Town Council is not responsible for issuing planning decisions.

24/00774/HH	16 Saxon Drive, Witham, Essex	West	Proposed front porch extension and change of roof form to garage
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PART 2 APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERS' DEBATE

Applications Received:

The following applications have been made to the District Council for planning permission under the Town & Country Planning Acts and referred to the Town Council as a statutory consultee. Copies of the applications and accompanying plans may be seen at the Planning Department Causeway House, Bocking End, Braintree or online at www.braintree.gov.uk

PLEASE NOTE: Under the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, representations cannot be treated in confidence. Witham Town Council is not responsible for issuing planning decisions.

24/00779/TPOCON	Walnut House , Collingwood Road, Witham	Central	Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area
24/00721/FUL & 24/00766/LBC	65 Newland Street, Witham, Essex	Central	Demolition of 1970s office building and construction of 3 no. 2 bedroom dwellings
24/00821/TPOCON	14 Guithavon Street, Witham, Essex	Central	Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area
24/00791/HH	45 Ashby Road, Witham, Essex	South	Proposed porch, single storey rear and first floor side extension

Witham Town Council – Planning Application Report

Application No:- 24/00779/TPOCON

Address:- Walnut House , Collingwood Road, Witham

Ward:- Central

Proposal:- Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area

Relevant Site History:- Previous applications in 2019 to trim back by 2m, in 2021 to trim by 3m both permitted

Representations:-

Summary:- The proposal is to carry out work to a Walnut tree - Crown reduce by 2.5 metres & shape.

Recommendation:- The Tree Warden has made a site visit and has suggested that to trim back by 2.5m would be excessive and therefore suggests no more than 1.5m. Would therefore recommend refusal to allow crown reduction of 2.5m but would have no objection to 1.5m; and subject to the advice of the District Council's Landscape Officer.

Policy References:-

Witham Town Council – Planning Application Report

Application No:- 24/00721/FUL & 24/00766/LBC

Address:- 65 Newland Street, Witham, Essex

Ward:- Central

Proposal:- Demolition of 1970s office building and construction of 3 no. 2 bedroom dwellings

Relevant Site History:- 17/02065/FUL Change of use from office to residential to provide 1 x 1 bed dwelling and 2 x 1 bed flats - refused.

Representations:-

Summary:- The proposal is to demolish the 1970s office building to the rear of 65 Newland Street and construct three 2 bedroom dwellings. The space created will allow for a terrace of small houses, each with an amenity space and parking for one vehicle. There will be both a bin and cycle store. The terrace will spread over 17.6m in width. As well as garden space each dwelling will have a second floor roof terrace. Sprinklers will be fitted to the properties.

Recommendation:- 65 Newland Street is an early 19th century gault brick house, two storied with a cellar. This property will remain and the new mews built behind it on land where there had previously been back land development. The vehicular access will be from Kings Chase and there is a right of way through the archway of 83 Newland Street. There is a need for town centre dwellings and a precedent has been set with the recently built Spread Eagle Mews. Just a glimpse of the properties will be seen through the archway into Newland Street I would recommend no objection to the FUL application and likewise to the LBC but subject to the Listed Buildings Officer being satisfied with the materials.

Witham Town Council – Planning Application Report

Application No:- 24/00821/TPOCON

Address:- 14 Guithavon Street, Witham, Essex

Ward:- Central

Proposal:- Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area

Relevant Site History:-

Representations:-

Summary:- The applicant has asked to trim back or fell two conifers in their front garden. Essex Highways has sent a letter stating that the conifers are encroaching on the footway and need to be trimmed back to a height of 2.1m.

Recommendation:- The Tree Warden has made a site visit and states that it would be unnecessary to fell the conifers but there would be no objection to the conifers being trimmed back. Recommend refusal to fell the conifers but offer no objection to trimming back to give 2.1m clearance on the footpath; and subject to the advice of the District Council's Landscape Officer.

Policy References:-

Witham Town Council – Planning Application Report

Application No:- 24/00791/HH

Address:- 45 Ashby Road, Witham, Essex

Ward:- South

Proposal:- Proposed porch, single storey rear and first floor side extension

Relevant Site History:-

Representations:-

Summary:- The proposal is to build a first story extension over the garage create a porch and demolish the existing conservatory at the rear of the property and build a lounge extension on a larger footprint. The materials will match existing.

Recommendation:- The only slight concern I have about this proposal is that the extension is right to the boundary. There are no representations from the neighbour but I would recommend no objection subject to no representations from neighbour.

Policy References:-

Witham Town Council – Planning Application Report

Application No:- 24/00045/FUL

Address:- The Grove Garage, Newland Street, Witham

Ward:- Central

Proposal:- Change of use

Relevant Site History:-

Representations:-

Summary:- This is a revised application. This Committee considered on 20th February 2024 and recommended refusal to the bulk and siting of the car wash which was proposed to be against a boundary wall. They raised concerns that noise emanating from the car wash would impact on the neighbour. The proposed installation includes a single vehicle wash bay, enclosed on three sides and has a solid roof. The wash bay will contain a jet washer driven by a compressor that is housed in a separate unit. The pressure washer and vacuum cleaner are likely to be used up to 60 minutes a day during opening hours of 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. A noise barrier will be installed to 0.5m above the height of the wash bay entrance extending out 2 to 3 m. A noise assessment indicates that the noise would be below the level where a low impact may be expected.

Recommendation:- The boundary wall was a concern and the impact on their neighbour. There is a proposed 2m boundary treatment, but details appear not to be available at the moment, hopefully whilst they negotiate with the neighbour. There will also be a noise attenuation fence extending 0.5m above the wash bay entrance and extending 2 to 3m from entrance. There will be a gap of 1.5m from the boundary to the car wash. The office and car wash sit on a smaller footprint than the current buildings. This proposal would be good for the town and tidy up this particular corner, would therefore suggest no objection subject to the neighbour being content with the proposals.

[Back to Agenda](#)

Application & Address	Proposal	BDC Decision	WTC Decision	Agenda Item 9
24/00434/HH - 26 Highfields Road Witham Essex CM8 2HJ	Single storey side and rear extension	Application Permitted	Raised no objection	
24/00262/FUL - 16 - 18 Freebournes Road Witham Essex CM8 3DX	Proposed security fence and gates; alterations to fenestration; replacement of roof and wall cladding; replacement of roof lights, windows and doors.	Application Permitted	Recommended Approval	
24/00404/HH - 43 Collingwood Road Witham Essex CM8 2DZ	Replacement windows	Application Refused	Raised no objection	

[Back to Agenda](#)

Agenda Item 10

Dear Nikki Smith, Clerk Witham Town Council

We are writing to you as a consultee on our Braintree District Council Planning Policy mailing list.

The council's current [adopted Local Plan](#) is designed to run until 2033, however, to ensure the document is up to date, work has now begun on a review. This will extend the plan timeframe to 2041.

A "Call for Sites" is one of the first steps in the council's review of its Local Plan, and provides an opportunity for landowners, developers, and the public to propose sites that could be considered suitable for development. This includes, homes, specialist housing, employment, leisure, open space, community facilities, and education.

All site proposals must be submitted on the appropriate form and be accompanied by a map of the site.

Forms (including facility to upload a map) can be found on the council's online public consultation portal:

<https://braintree-consult.objective.co.uk/kse/>

Submissions must be received by 5pm on 24th May 2024.

Sites received are not automatically marked for development, nor do they gain any special status. Once sites have been submitted, they will be assessed to determine whether they are suitable, available, and achievable for development.

Where necessary, a paper copy of the form can be requested via email:

localplan@braintree.gov.uk or collected from the reception of the council offices at Causeway House.

Background

Having no growth is not an option, so councils create and update Local Plans in line with government legislation to make sure sustainable development is properly

planned on allocated sites whilst giving us leverage to refuse inappropriate developments on unallocated sites in the strongest possible.

More information about the wider [Braintree District Development plan](#) is available on our website.

Future work

See www.braintree.gov.uk/localplanreview for more details on the Local Plan Review.

Yours faithfully

Alan Massow MRTPI

Principal Planning Policy Officer

Braintree District Council | Causeway House, Bocking End, Braintree, CM7 9HB

(01376) 552525 | www.braintree.gov.uk |

You are receiving this letter as you are registered on the Braintree District Council Planning Policy mailing list.

To view or amend your personal details and contact preferences please access the following link:

<https://braintree-consult.objective.co.uk/kse/> or email

planningpolicy@braintree.gov.uk

Braintree District Council is a data controller for the purposes of data protection legislation. All personal information is held and processed in accordance with this.

Please refer to our privacy notices published on our website at

www.braintree.gov.uk/privacy for details. Please contact us if you need the privacy notice in an alternative format.

[Back to Agenda](#)

Agenda Item 11

Dear Sir / Madam

Statutory Consultation for Norwich to Tilbury: 12:00 noon on Wednesday 10 April 2024 until 11:59pm on Tuesday 18 June 2024

Section 42 Planning Act 2008 (as amended): Duty to consult on a proposed application.

The Infrastructure Planning (Applications and Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as amended) (the “APFP Regulations”)

Notification under Regulation 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (as amended) (the “EIA Regulations”)

National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (“National Grid”) writes in relation to the launch of a statutory consultation in accordance with sections 42, 44, 47 and 48 of the Planning Act 2008 (the “Act”) for the project called Norwich to Tilbury (“the Project”). The consultation starts at **12:00 noon on Wednesday 10 April 2024 and runs until 11:59pm on Tuesday 18 June 2024.**

The Project is a proposal by National Grid to upgrade the electricity transmission system in East Anglia between Norwich and Tilbury. The Project includes a new 400 kilovolt (“kV”) electricity transmission connection of approximately 184 kilometres (“km”) in overall length from Norwich Main Substation and Tilbury Substation via Bramford Substation, comprising:

- approximately 159 km of new overhead line supported on approximately 510 steel lattice pylons (approximately 50 metres (“m”) in height) some of which are gantries (typically up to 15 m in height) within proposed Cable Sealing End (“CSE”) compounds, or existing or proposed substations
- approximately 25 km of 400 kV underground cabling some of which is located through the Dedham Vale National Landscape (formerly known as Dedham Vale AONB)
- six new CSE compounds, each with a permanent access, to connect the overhead lines to the underground cables
- a new 400 kV East Anglia Connection Node (“EACN”) substation, with a new permanent access, on the Tendring Peninsula. This is proposed to be an Air Insulated Switchgear (“AIS”) substation
- substation extension works at the existing Norwich Main, and Bramford substations and works within the existing Tilbury Substation to connect and support operation of the new transmission connection
- temporary works associated with construction of the Project.

An alternative design at the Waveney Valley (referred to as the Waveney Valley Alternative) is also being considered and is the subject of consultation and ongoing assessment. This design alternative, if taken forward, would result in changes those elements of the Project set out below. This would instead comprise:

- installation of approximately 157 km of new 400 kV overhead line.
- installation of approximately 27 km of 400 kV underground cabling (some of which is located through the Dedham Vale National Landscape).
- eight new CSE compounds (each with a permanent access) to connect the overhead lines to the underground cables.

All other works not listed above would be consistent with either alternative.

In other words, the Waveney Valley Alternative, if taken forward and based on the 2024 preferred draft alignment would comprise approximately 2 km less new 400 kV overhead line and approximately

an additional 2 km of 400kV underground cabling and two additional new CSE compounds, each with a permanent access, to connect the overhead lines to the underground cables.

Third party utilities diversions and / or modifications would also be required to facilitate the construction of the Project. There would also be land required for mitigation, compensation and enhancement of the environment including Biodiversity Net Gain.

As well as the permanent infrastructure, land would also be required temporarily for construction activities including, for example, working areas for construction equipment and machinery, site offices, welfare, storage and temporary construction access.

Norwich to Tilbury will play a vital role in delivering electricity efficiently, reliably, and safely and will support the UK's move to reduce carbon emissions and we are committed to working with local communities as we develop our plans.

National Grid expects the Project to be classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project ("NSIP") and to require consent from the Secretary of State for Energy Security & Net Zero via a Development Consent Order ("DCO"). The development consent being sought will include a number of other provisions, including those which authorise the compulsory acquisition of land and rights over land, if necessary, to construct and maintain the Project.

Statutory consultation

The Project is an Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") development, as defined by the EIA Regulations. As part of the consultation, we are seeking views on the potential environmental effects of the proposals and if consultees have suggestions for reducing these effects (for example, through mitigation measures). This information is detailed in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report ("PEIR"). An Environmental Statement will be prepared subsequently in accordance with the EIA Regulations and will accompany the application for development consent.

The Project is currently in the pre-application stage of the DCO application process. As such, the Project is consulting on its proposals between **12:00 noon on Wednesday 10 April and 11:59pm on Tuesday 18 June 2024**, including with those consultees prescribed under Section 42 of the Act.

Consultation Documents

We are contacting you because you are a prescribed consultee under Section 42(1) of the Act and in accordance with Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations. This is therefore a formal notice that we are holding a statutory consultation under the Act.

The Project is an "EIA development" for the purposes of the EIA Regulations. As required by Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations, we also attach a copy of the newspaper notice which is being published in accordance with Section 48 of the Act.

National Grid (as required by the Act) has prepared a Statement of Community Consultation ("SoCC") which sets out how National Grid will undertake the statutory consultation for the proposed application with those people living and working in the vicinity of the Project. The SoCC is available to view on the Project website: <http://www.nationalgrid.com/n-t> and at the inspection points listed further down in this email.

A copy of the full suite of consultation documents is available to view on the Project website from **12:00 noon on Wednesday 10 April 2024 until 11:59pm on Tuesday 18 June 2024**.

These include:

- Project Background Document
- Feedback questionnaire

- Copy of the newspaper notice published under Section 48 of the Act (as the Project is 'EIA Development' for the purposes of the EIA Regulations and as required by Regulation 4 of the APFP Regulations)
- Preliminary Environmental Information Report ("PEIR") and non-technical summary ("NTS") of the PEIR
- Project maps/Project area maps showing the extent of the Project
- Statement of Community Consultation ("SoCC").

Copies of consultation materials and documents can be provided on request by contacting us either by email at contact@n-t.nationalgrid.com or by telephone on 0800 915 2497.

Public information events

During the consultation period a series of face-to-face public information events will be held where you can speak with the Project team.

You can attend any of our events to meet the Project team, ask questions and view more details of the Project:

Date and time	Venue
Wednesday 24 April 2024 12pm-5pm	Towngate Theatre, St Martin's Square, Basildon, Essex SS14 1DL
Thursday 25 April 2024 2pm-7pm	The Brentwood Centre, Doddinghurst Road, Pilgrims Hatch, Brentwood, CM15 9NN
Saturday 27 April 2024 11am-4pm	Chelmsford City Racecourse, Chelmsford, CM3 1QP
Tuesday 30 April 2024 12pm-5pm	Gislingham Village Hall, Mill Street, Gislingham, IP23 8JT
Wednesday 1 May 2024 11am-4pm	Copdock Village Hall, Old London Road, Copdock, IP8 3JN
Friday 3 May 2024 1pm-6pm	Needham Market Community Centre, School St, Needham Market, Ipswich IP6 8BB
Saturday 4 May 2024 11am-4pm	Lawford Venture Centre 2000, Bromley Road, Lawford, Manningtree CO11 2JE
Wednesday 8 May 2pm-7pm	The Civic Hall, Blackshots Lane, Grays, RM16 2JU
Thursday 9 May 2024 1pm-6pm	Thorpe Hall, Ashwell Thorpe and Fundenhall Community Centre, Muskett Road, Ashwellthorpe, NR16 1FD
Friday 10 May 2024 1pm-6pm	Tibenham Community Hall, Pristow Green Lane, Tibenham, Norwich NR16 1PX
Tuesday 14 May 2024 11am-4pm	Witham Public Hall, Collingwood Road, Witham, CM8 2DY
Wednesday 15 May 2024 1pm-6pm	Diss Town Football Club, Diss, IP22 4QP
Thursday 16 May 2024 2pm-7pm	Langham Community Centre, School Road, Langham, Colchester, CO4 5PA
Friday 17 May 2024 1pm-6pm	Great Bromley Village Hall, Parsons Hill, Great Bromley, Colchester, CO7 7JA

Printed copies of the consultation materials will be made available at information events for attendees to review. Attendees will also be able to take away copies of the Project Background Document and Feedback questionnaire.

[Back to Agenda](#)



Welcome to the Highways Service Information Centre

[Home](#) > [Making Changes](#) > [Local Highway Panels](#) > [LHP Members' Guides](#) > 18 Vehicular Activated Signs (VAS)

Members' Guide 18 - Vehicular Activated Signs (VAS)

Introduction

Vehicular Activated Signs (VAS) and Speed Indicator Devices (SID) are signs with illuminated messages that flash when vehicles are travelling above a set trigger speed.

These signs are generally requested to help reinforce the message to drivers that they are driving too fast, usually above the speed limit.

In 2021, the Highway Practice Note (HPN) 032 was updated to permit 'Parishes' (including District/Borough/City Council) to install VAS or SID on the Highway network without the need to meet a set speed criteria. This gives Parishes the opportunity to install signs where a perceived speed issue occurs.

Typical issues



VAS have been installed in the County since 2003 with over 500 now in place but not all are having the desired effect. Parishes would still like to install VAS and SIDs where they have a perceived speeding problem to appease residents however the sites often do not meet the criteria. The criteria has now changed to enable Parishes to install VAS themselves in locations which they feel would gain the most benefit and with the flexibility to move them to keep the message fresh to the drivers.

Things to consider

It is often the case that residents perception of a speeding problem is not supported by the speed data. If a VAS or SID is installed where there is not a speeding issue then the sign will not activate.

The HPN allows the purchase of VAS and SID signs by Parish Councils which are outside of the criteria published by Essex County Council as long as they are owned and maintained by the Parish going forwards. The following should be noted when a Parish is considering this option.

- To be mindful that installing a permanent sign where mean speeds are already at or below 33mph will increase driver desensitisation and potentially negate any effectiveness.
- Rotatable signs will need to be battery powered and the Parish will be responsible for organising and funding their rotation.



40mph Slow Down Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS)

Photo: Tesco

15/04/2024, 09:53

18 Vehicular Activated Signs (VAS)

- No parish-funded sign will be mains powered and therefore the following needs to be considered.
 - The size of the VAS in terms of LEDs (the more LEDs used the more power required).
 - The amount of 'on time' per activation, longer display periods will consume more power or battery life.
 - The number of activations in a 24 hour period - more activations require more battery power.
 - Physical site location - open area, under trees, shady, near buildings for solar or wind.
- Consideration for insuring the equipment in the event of theft or damage - the equipment, pole and foundations are all the responsibility of the Parish listed on the licence.
- Training by the manufacturer for the correct use of the sign installation and calibration in the case of use within different posted speed limit sites.
- Additional battery packs.
- Any manufacturers guarantee period and it is recommended that options to increase this time frame are undertaken with the manufacturer however this is the choice of the owning Parish.
- It is NOT possible to consider the attachment of VAS signs to lamp columns, previously the structural integrity of the column would be assessed however it has now been determined that existing lamp columns are not designed to take a sign the size and weight of a VAS.
- If the Parish install the sign then under the licencing process they will be responsible for that unit and the post it is mounted onto.

LHP funded VAS/SID

VAS and SIDs are still an option for funding via the Local Highway Panel (LHP) if they meet the criteria set out in the HPN. The following should be noted for VAS funded by the LHP:

- Ongoing maintenance cost for LHP installed units will have an effect on the limited revenue budget as the cost of maintenance will be the responsibility of the LHP revenue budget.
- LHP units will only be installed where a significant speed problem or collision pattern is identified. The criteria will be an average of 10mph over the posted speed limit or to meet the Road Safety intervention level for a Casualty Reduction site (see Member's Guide on Road Safety Schemes).
- Any VAS meeting the criteria will still need to be recommended for funding by the LHP.



Speed Indicator Device with additional text

Typical schemes

The following table identifies the appropriate approval process and which signs could be suitable for each situation.

Image	Sign	Road Safety Engineering Team	Local Highway Panel Schemes	'Parish' Schemes
	Hazard signs	May use the signs as a collision reduction measure following site investigation	Only at sites identified by the Road Safety Engineering Team and as an approved collision reduction measure	Not permitted to avoid the overuse of this signage on the network detracting from the sites where they are required for safety reasons
	Permanent SID/VAS	May use the signs as a collision reduction measure following site investigation	Only at sites as a collision reduction measure related to speeding or where the mean average is above 10mph above the posted speed limit.	May purchase and maintain the signs subject to a safety check on the location and installed using an approved contractor who is experienced in these works

<https://www.assoshighways.org/vo-members-guide>

20

15/04/2024, 09:53

18 Vehicular Activated Signs (VAS)

Image	Sign	Road Safety Engineering Team	Local Highway Panel Schemes	'Parish' Schemes
	Temporary SID/VAS	N/A	Only at sites identified as a collision reduction measure – the site to be monitored over a 12 month period and the results analysed.	May purchase and maintain the signs subject to a safety check on the location and installed using an approved contractor who is experienced in these works. Groups/areas can work together to install temporary signs to rotate.

Scheme investigation/installation

The investigation of a new VAS/SID site will be the responsibility of the 'Parish' under the licencing process however your Highways Liaison Officer (HLO) is available for advice.

Process for the licence



Apply to install a VAS or SID illuminated sign

Vehicular Activated Signs (VAS) and Speed Indicator Devices (SID) are signs with illuminated messages that flash when vehicles are travelling above a set trigger speed.

Schemes, which experience a significant speeding problem, can be requested via your County Councillor. An LHP application needs to be completed and forwarded to the County Member for support. Then the application will be sent by the County Member to Local.HighwayPanels@essexhighways.org for processing. Schemes funded by the LHP will either have an average mean speed of 10mph over the posted speed limit or meet the Casualty Reduction Criteria as investigated by the Road Safety Engineering Team and presented to the panel in March each year.

If the Parish would like to buy a new sign for installation on the highway then the following information needs to be included within the licence:

- An application form need to be completed, however before applying please gain written support from your County Councillor for your application.
- Name of the requestor and the name of the overall authority responsible for the sign going forward needs to be included.
- The sign is to be placed at least 70m within the speed limit.
- The sign is to be either solar powered or battery powered but not mains powered.
- Each application must include a street map of the proposed location for the sign.

<https://www.essexhighways.org/vo-members-guide>

15/04/2024, 09:53

15 Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS)

- The sign must be installed so the edge of the sign is 450mm min from edge of carriageway.
 - For a 450mm wide sign erected, the verge must be a minimum of 1.0m.
 - For a 450mm wide sign erected, the footway must be a minimum of 1.6m to allow buggies and wheelchairs to pass.
 - For a 600mm wide sign erected, the verge must be a minimum of 1.2m.
 - For a 600mm wide sign erected, the footway must be a minimum of 1.8m to allow buggies and wheelchairs to pass.
 - No sign larger than 600mm wide should be erected.
- Sign should be placed in locations where it will be easy to access, maintain or move.
- The existing speed limit should be in place for at least 12 months before a VAS/SID can be considered.
- Please include the size of the sign, the material the sign is made of and the details of the foundations to be used.
- The applicant must state if the sign will be on an existing post or new post.
- Mounting height needs to be either 2.4m on a cycleway, 2.1m on a footway or 1.5m on a verge where people do not tend to walk.
- The device should not be within close proximity of another VAS sign, neither should it be close to any other flashing equipment such as a pedestrian crossing or wig wag unit due to safety reasons.
- The sign roundel must be no larger than 600mm and should display either the 30mph roundel with or without 'slow down' message. It can be a SID which either shows the 'face' or the actual speed of drivers however this is to be set at a maximum activation speed of 45mph to prevent drivers using it to record their speed for racing purposes.

Costs and timescales

The costs of a scheme installed via the Local Highway Panel will be assessed, designed and installed via Essex Highways and the costs borne by the LHP. The LHP revenue budget will then pay for the maintenance of those signs until they reach the end of their serviceable life.

The costs of investigating a scheme for a VAS/SID to be installed by Parish/District/Borough or City Councils will be initially covered by the LHP however the remainder of the design, installation and ongoing maintenance costs will be borne by the installing body.

Existing signs on the network installed via Essex County Council budget will be maintained by the LHP revenue budget until they reach the end of their serviceable life. An assessment will take place to determine if the sign is fixable within a budget of £1,000. If this is exceeded the sign will be removed or offered to the relevant Parish Council to replace if so desired.

Glossary of terms

AVL

Automatic Vehicle Location (similar to RTPI)

CMA

Cabinet Member Action

CMB

Cabinet Member Briefing

EA

Environment Agency

ECC

Essex County Council

EH

Essex Highways

LHP

Local Highways Panel

NEPP

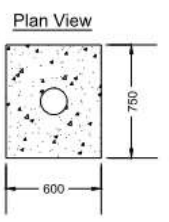
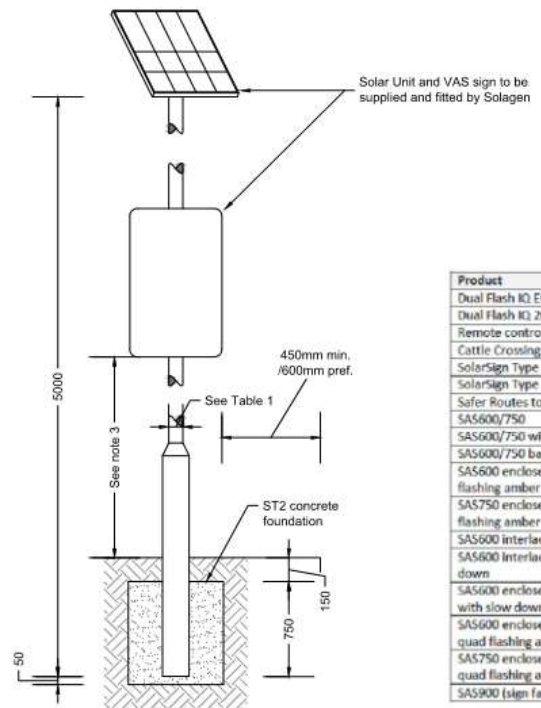
North Essex Parking Partnership

PP

Parking Partnership

<https://www.essexhighways.org/vw-members-guide>

4/5



Product	Shaft Diameter	Wide base
Dual Flash IQ Evolution	89mm	138/168mm
Dual Flash IQ 200	89mm	138/168mm
Remote control Dual Flash IQ	89mm	168mm
Cattle Crossing	89mm	168mm
SolarSign Type F	89mm	168mm
SolarSign Type FB	89mm	168mm
Safer Routes to School	89mm	168mm
SAS600/750	89mm	168mm
SAS600/750 with slow down	89mm	168mm
SAS600/750 back to back	89mm	168mm with double door
SAS600 enclosed with slow down and quad flashing amber puku	89mm	168mm
SAS750 enclosed with slow down and quad flashing amber puku	114mm	168mm
SAS600 interlaced speed roundel	89mm	168mm
SAS600 interlaced speed roundel with slow down	89mm	168mm
SAS600 enclosed interlaced speed numerals with slow down and quad flashing amber puku	89mm	168mm
SAS600 enclosed vinyl with slow down and quad flashing amber puku	89mm	168mm
SAS750 enclosed vinyl with slow down and quad flashing amber puku	114mm	168mm
SAS900 (sign face only)	89mm	168mm

Table 1 - Sign types/post diameters

- Notes**
- Do not scale from this drawing.
 - This drawing is to be read in conjunction with all other contract documents and drawings.
 - VAS to be mounted at 2.1m in pedestrian areas, 2.3m over cycle facilities and 2.0m in all other areas.
 - All posts are to have a wall thickness of 3.2mm.
 - Posts are to be colored black in conservation areas and galvanised steel in all other locations.

Rev	Date	Description of revision	Drawn	Checked	Released	Approved
A	21 JUN 21	Amended to standard detail		XXX		

DRAWING STATUS

APPROVED



Essex Highways, Sixes House, Victoria Road South, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH
Tel: 0345 6037631 © Essex County Council

SCHEME TITLE

STANDARD DETAIL

DRAWING TITLE

VAS SIGN POST DETAIL

DESIGNED	DRAWN	CHECKED	REVIEWED	APPROVED
MJW	MJW	TUS	MJW	SLS
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
JUN 21	JUN 21	JUN 21	JUN 21	JUN 21

DIMENSIONS IN MILLIMETRES LEVELS IN METRES

NTS

DRAWING NO: EH-SMO2-SD-1200-02

REV: A



[Back to Agenda](#)



Agenda Item 13

Next Essex 420 meeting Wed 29 May 19:30. Please register using this link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vf-uurDsvGtW8i6dUMPcQNsU5Yfmw86x3>

Notes/actions from 16.04.24 online mtg. Present

Adrian Berendt - National 20'sP

Jo Wheatley - Wivenhoe 20'sP campaign/E420 admin vol

John Wharton MBE - Great Bentley PC

Stuart Johnson - Colchester Cycle Campaign

Peter Latham - Highwood PC

Christine Townley - Billiercay Cycle Campaign

Jayne Halfhide - Terling & Fairstead PC

1 Previous mtg actions update

Jo wrote to Cllr Tom Cunningham ECC Transport requesting mtg to discuss how best we can support Vision Zero. No reply. To chase

EALC AGM is 26/09 at Community Stadium. Jo to ask for E420 presentation slot, or stall. (post mtg note: Robert Johnstone Colchester ALC in touch re speaking to their cluster. **If anyone can put us in touch with other clusters please do!**).

2 Adrian gave an update - see attached e-News April from national 20'sP campaign.

3 Local and PFCC Elections ACTIONS for any parish councillor or resident to take:

Attached is a template email to amend and send to political party chairs/councillors/PFCC candidates. NB for *PFCC candidates* the main Essex ask is for their pledge to support 20mph and commit more £road policing as Essex are doing quite well using dash cam/tech evidence for prosecutions.

PFCC candidates

Adam Fox chair@colchesterlabourparty.org.uk

Robin Tilbrook chairman@englishdemocrats.party

Kieron Franks kieron.franks@essexlibdems.org.uk

Roger Hirst, current commissioner, pfcc@essex.pnn.police.uk

4 Gt Bentley PC have an Environment Strategy (attached) which introduces 20mph as a way in to making a case and gaining local support. Cllr John Wharton MBE welcomes Qs about it john.wharton@greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk 07377 192299

5 Castle Heddingham PC are running an online survey, shared here FYI
<https://www.castleheddingham.org/survey/> NB without careful protocols online surveys can be easily abused.

6 We urge Councils supporting 20mph for Essex to write to ECC Transport cllr.tom.cunningham@essex.gov.uk requesting an update on progress with their Speed Management Strategy review. Remind them of the urgency for this, since 20mph helps address **public health** (by enabling more active travel, improving air quality); **reduces the costs and trauma of death and injury from collisions;** massively **improves community** cohesion, liveability, quality of life; helps **reduce carbon emissions;** is more **equitable and inclusive,** meeting our duty of care to vulnerable people.

Therefore please Cc in the following

Climate Commission Jules Pretty jpretty@essex.ac.uk

ECC Leader cllr.kevin.bentley@essex.gov.uk

ECC Health cllr.john.spence@essex.gov.uk

ECC Climate Czar cllr.peter.schwier@essex.gov.uk

ECC Children cllr.beverley.egan@essex.gov.uk

cllr.lesley.wagland@essex.gov.uk

PFCC Roger Hirst pcc@essex.pnn.police.uk

Safer Essex Roads P/ship saferessexroads@essexhighways.org

william.cubbin@essexhighways.org

nicola.foster@essexhighways.org (Group Manager road safety & Chair of SERP)

best wishes

Jo



20's Plenty E-News - April 2024

In this month's E-News:

'Plan for Drivers' a pre-election stunt that won't stop progressive local authorities implementing 20mph • Great results for 20mph in Wales • ... more on Local and Mayoral Elections 2 May 2024



The big news is that the UK Government has published its long-awaited "[Setting Local Speed Limits](#)" guidance to local authorities (including 20mph limits) under its so-called 'Plan for Drivers'. 20's Plenty for Us has responded [here](#). In summary, it is little more than virtue signalling from a government with an eye on the next General Election. The changes in guidance are minor and will not stop progressive local authorities from implementing 20mph.

Cambridgeshire is rolling out 20mph schemes in [Ely](#) (city wide) and in [Huntingdon](#).

Somerset is responding to community demand by implementing 20mph speeds limits in [15 places](#).

More 20mph limits in [Sheffield](#) but campaigners are lobbying for a city-wide scheme including arterials. The proposed flashing 20mph signs at school drop-off /pick-up do not protect people in other places or other times.



Westmorland and Furness invited Parish Councils to bid for a share of a [£300k budget for 20mph limits](#).

Are there local elections in your area? Police and crime commissioners, some districts and a few unitaries will go to the polls on **2 May** - [see map](#). In some cases these are 'dry runs' for the General Election and for next year's county elections. For **tips on getting candidates to support 20mph**, contact your county coordinator, or **Anna** or **Adrian** (see contact details below) or watch this [video](#).

As expected, the latest result for [20mph in Wales](#) show speeds are down significantly (by 4mph on faster roads), consistent with data from other places in the UK.

20's Plenty for North Yorkshire ran a brilliant [hustings](#) for all but one of the Mayoral candidates on 19 March. Three candidates that sent supportive videos in advance can be found on the 20's Plenty for North Yorks Youtube recording [here](#).

Fact sheets on 30km/h from Lucerne - follow [this link](#) to the 20's Plenty for Us website to read information on **Swiss research** which highlights the benefits of 30km/h speed limits

(cont/d)

20's Plenty E-news - April 2024

CAMPAIGNER NEWS



We are supporting the **Safe Streets Now** events happening this Saturday (20 April) across the country.

For further details, visit the **Safe Streets Now** [website](#).

Regular Training Zooms on 20th of each month. As 20 April is a Saturday, we propose that the next training be instead on **Monday 20 May at 8pm** with the topic of post-election activism advice eg on introducing 20mph and your campaign to newly elected people. Pre-register [here](#)

Please let us know if you've been featured on local (or national) TV, radio or in print. We're happy to help with media training. Watch the 15 min media training by Ian Conlan, 20's Plenty Campaigner of 2023 winner (acceptance speech [here](#)), at the 20's Plenty for North Yorkshire YouTube channel [here](#) on how to write a press release.

Andy Jefferson of 20's Plenty for Whitby made a great 'how to make a campaign' video [here](#) and a 6 min Whitby one [here](#).

With his **Action Vision Zero** hat on, **Jeremy Leach** did a great 21 minute presentation on aiming for zero deaths or serious injuries with a focus on York and North Yorkshire data. Link [here](#).

County campaigns work well. Ask Anna (anna.s@20splenty.org) or Adrian (adrian.b@20splenty.org) for help or watch this [briefing and video](#). More than **500 Parish Councils** in the UK support 20's Plenty. Share resources using a Google account and create campaign maps such as this one from Essex.

Join our private [Campaigner Facebook Group](#). A vibrant, interactive way to find out how to win.

Welsh supporters can join the Facebook Group [Diolch am 20/Thanks for 20](#). See the [Wales](#) micro-site with [Welsh FAQs](#), [graphics, stickers](#) and [newsletters](#)

Thanks for all you do - ask us anything, anytime.



A SPECIAL PLEA

With over 700 registered campaigns, we remain free to join, but costs continue to rise. Please [buy our resources](#), or [donate](#) (or ask others to do so) so that we can continue to support communities that want 20mph.

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[@20splentyforus](#)

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Campaign Manager
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[@AnnaSemlyen1](#)

Adrian Berendt
Community Champions
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[@adrianberendt1](#)

Jeremy Leach
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Sue Nicholls
Media & Graphics
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07810 564432

[Back to Agenda](#)