

Witham's Voice

Summer 2023

Issue 85



Witham
town council

Witham Music Festival

Despite the rainy weather, on May 6th 2023 Witham Town Council held a Music Festival on the River Walk in Celebration of King Charles III and Queen Camilla's Coronation. This event included live music, food and drink stalls, rides, and entertainment for all the family. Here are some photos from the event:



Mayor's Past and Present

Farewell from the previous Mayor - Councillor Jack Bayford



I would like to firstly congratulate the newly elected Members of the Council, I hope you all have a fulfilling 4 years. I would also like to thank the staff at the Town Hall for all the support they have provided me in my term as Mayor.

This has been a wonderful year and has given me the opportunity to meet many people and organisations in Witham who do a lot of good work within the town.

Most importantly it has allowed me to raise funds for my two chosen charities, the Royal British Legion and the Witham Cricket Club, through a variety of charity events.

Thank you to the people of Witham for supporting me as your Mayor, and good luck to the new Mayor Cllr Susan Ager, I hope you have an enjoyable time!

Meet your new Town Mayor and Deputy for 2023/2024!



Councillor Susan Ager

Town Mayor



Councillor Lucy Barlow

Deputy Town Mayor

Annual Accounts

**Total Assets
Less Current
Liabilities**

**2022: £541,959
2023: £578,643**

**2022 Income: £863,825
2023 Income: £824,529**

This came from:



Room Hire charges



Allotment Charges



Precept



Event Income



Interest Received



**Information
Centre
Purchases**

**This was
spent on:**



**Maldon Road
Park Public
Toilets**



Community Events



Outdoor Spaces



Community Grants



Funding CCTV



**Witham's Community Special
Constabulary**

**2022 Expenditure: £733,170
2023 Expenditure: £787,845**

**For a full version
of the accounts
scan here:**



Meet Your New Town Councillors

Councillor Barry Fleet - Central Ward



I have lived in Witham since 1984, bringing up my family. I have been involved in a wide range of local organisations and have previously been on the Town Council and am a former Mayor. Witham is a great place to live but there is always scope for improvement in the services and environment.

Councillor Ross Playle - Central Ward



I have lived in Witham most of my life, growing up and going to school locally. I have also been part of many of the town's voluntary groups over the years and enjoy the community-spirit that Witham captures so brilliantly. Since 2021, I have served as the Essex County Councillor for the Witham Northern Division. I am honoured to have been elected to serve on Witham Town Council.

Councillor Emmanuel Adelaja - Hatfield Ward



I have enjoyed living in Witham since 2015 with my family. As a Financial Professional and Clergy. I am very much interested in the Social wellbeing, sustainability, and development of my town. As a musician and Sports enthusiast, I have been involved in the provision of social opportunities for the elderly and teenagers and I am keen to continue this work in the future.

Councillor Lucy Barlow - Hatfield Ward



I grew up in Witham and now live here raising my family. I have previously served on both the Town and District Council and I'm pleased to have the opportunity to serve again now. I love the community feel of our town and want to work towards promoting more of this.

Meet Your New Town Councillors

Councillor Phil Barlow - North Ward



I've lived in Witham for close on 50 years and brought up my family here. I've been a Councillor continuously since 1989 and was Mayor twice in 1995 and 2006. In that time I've campaigned on many local issues and supported many residents and organisations. I want to see more and better community and health facilities for the Town.

Councillor Leanora Headley - North Ward



I moved to Witham in July 1974 with my husband and remained in this friendly community. I am a health professional, complimentary therapist, social worker, and author. I am keen to work cohesively with others to 'improve opportunities' for young and old alike.

Councillor Billy Taylor - North Ward



I live in the town and run my own small business. I have previously served as a councillor in Romford and feel I bring a wealth of local government experience to the table. As someone who has lived in other parts of Essex, I believe that local people can be proud of Witham, a town that is clean, safe, connected, and vibrant.

Councillor Ethan Williams - North Ward



I have lived in Witham all of my young life being involved in the community from a early year becoming a member of the Royal British Legion leading to my advancement to a county representative I am keen to help the town grow and develop as it needs.

Meet Your New Town Councillors

Councillor Joan Coleman - South Ward



In 2011 I moved to Witham. In my career I was fortunate to have the opportunity to work on secondment in west Africa establishing a welfare law for children and training social workers. Like many grandparents, my grandchildren have made home at my house and this has meant that the interests and community activities that my grandson is interested in has rubbed off on me and vice versa. This has got me keen to work with families and individuals in need.

Councillor Paul Heath - South Ward



I have lived in Witham all my life (I'm 60 in June) and have been involved with the Town council for a number of years including 2 terms as mayor.

Nowadays I can often be seen walking my dogs around the river walk.

Councillor Jacqueline Martin - South Ward



I have lived in Witham for fifty years and have served the community in many ways. I was a school governor, a breastfeeding counsellor and coordinated Witham Citizen Advocacy. As Town Mayor of Witham, I supported various local charities. I enabled Witham youth council and the Witham town lunch club. I look forward to serving the community once more as a councillor.

Casual Vacancy - South Ward

At the time of publishing there was a casual vacancy for this ward. A casual vacancy for a town council occurs when a seat on the council becomes vacant before the completion of its term. This can happen due to various reasons, such as the resignation, death, disqualification, or inability to perform duties of a council member. When such a vacancy arises, it needs to be filled to ensure the smooth functioning of the council.

Meet Your New Town Councillors

Councillor Susan Ager - West Ward



I have been a town councillor for four years and have been re-elected to serve four more. My interests are the Environment and Climate Change, as well as anything to do with the people of Witham. I have been elected Mayor for this year during which time I will be raising money for my charities and hoping to raise awareness of just how lovely our town is.

Councillor Jack Coleman - West Ward



I spent my childhood in East Asia and became passionate about community outreach whilst in middle school. I got involved in crisis assistance by helping earthquake victims in Nepal raising funds and spreading awareness. When I returned to my family home town of Witham in 2017 I continued to get involved within the communities, helping the homeless in Colchester and through the pandemic as a Covid volunteer.

Councillor Ron Ramage - West Ward



I've lived in Witham since the early seventies, where I brought up my two children, and now my daughter who still lives in the town is bringing up my two grandsons, George and Archie. In that time I've served as a Braintree District Councillor and a Town Councillor.

Councillor Artur Sloma - West Ward



I moved to Witham six years ago with my wife and two children. We bought here our first home and settled down. Fly fishing is my hobby and passion. Free time I am spending with my family close to the nature which is very important for us that's why I would like to help to look after our safe and clean environment for our children and all community.

Council Meeting Schedule

May be subject to change

Schedule of Meetings for Civic Year 2023 - 2024

FULL COUNCIL & STANDING COMMITTEES

	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APRIL	MAY
TOWN COUNCIL	AM Mon 15th	Mon 12th	Mon 10th	Mon 7th	Mon 4th	Mon 2nd Mon 30th	Mon 27th		Mon 8th	Mon 5th	Mon 4th	Tues 2nd Mon 29th	AM Mon 13th
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE			Mon 24th			Mon 16th			Mon 22nd			Mon 15th	
COMMUNITY COMMITTEE	Tues 30th			Mon 21st			Mon 13th			Mon 19th			
POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE		Mon 26th			Mon 18th			Tue 12th			Mon 18th		
PLANNING & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE <i>(Commences 6:30pm)</i>	Tues 30th	Mon 12th Mon 26th	Mon 10th Mon 24th	Mon 7th Mon 21st	Mon 4th Mon 18th	Mon 2nd Mon 16th Mon 30th	Mon 13th Mon 27th	Tue 12th Mon 18th	Mon 8th Mon 22nd	Mon 5th Mon 19th	Mon 4th Mon 18th	Tues 2nd Mon 15th Mon 29th	Mon 13th
STAFFING & ACCOMMODATION SUB-COMMITTEE <i>(Commences 7:30pm)</i>		Mon 5th			Mon 25th				Mon 15th			Mon 22nd	

The Witham Street

Taking place along Newland Street,



 **Witham**
town council

JOIN US FOR

WITHAM STREET

ENTERTAINMENT FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 16, 2023

10AM – 3PM



Entertainment Festival

and the Newlands and Grove Shopping Centres.

Take a look back at last years event that had a theme of 'Conservation'



Witham
town council



@WithamTC



@WithamCouncil



@town_Witham



TOWN HALL AND INFORMATION CENTRE

**61 Newland Street,
Witham, Essex, CM8
2FE**

Witham Town Council Offices are open Monday - Thursday 9:00AM-5:00PM and Friday 9:00AM-4:00PM.

The Information Centre in the Town Hall is open from 9:00AM-4:30PM Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 10:00AM – 4:30PM Wednesday and 9:00AM - 3:50PM Friday.

Both are closed Weekends and Bank Holidays.

Meetings of your Town Council are open for you to attend.

Full details are displayed at www.witham.gov.uk

Agendas are on display on the noticeboard in Newland Street.

Meetings usually begin at 7:30PM and Planning Applications & Transport Committee meetings at 6:30PM. These are held in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall.

YOUR COUNCILLORS

CENTRAL WARD

Barry Fleet: cllr.b.fleet@witham.gov.uk
Ross Playle: cllr.r.playle@witham.gov.uk

WEST WARD

Susan Ager: cllr.s.ager@witham.gov.uk
Jack Coleman:
cllr.jack.coleman@witham.gov.uk
Ron Ramage: cllr.r.ramage@witham.gov.uk
Artur Sloma: cllr.a.sloma@witham.gov.uk

SOUTH WARD

Joan Coleman:
cllr.joan.coleman@witham.gov.uk
Jacqueline Martin: cllr.j.martin@witham.gov.uk
Paul Heath: cllr.p.heath@witham.gov.uk

NORTH WARD

Philip Barlow: cllr.p.barlow@witham.gov.uk
Leanora Headley: cllr.l.headley@witham.gov.uk
Billy Taylor: cllr.b.taylor@witham.gov.uk
Ethan Williams: cllr.e.williams@witham.gov.uk

HATFIELD WARD

Emmanuel Adelaja:
cllr.e.adelaja@witham.gov.uk
Lucy Barlow: cllr.l.barlow@witham.gov.uk

For further information please contact the Town Hall:

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