Witham town council

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

MINUTES

PLANNING AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Date: **Monday, 18th May 2026**

Place: **Council Chamber**, **Town Hall, 61 Newland Street, Witham, CM8 2FE**

Present:	Councillors	J.	Robertson	(Chairman)
		E.	Adelaja	
		P.	Barlow	
		J.M.	Coleman	
		L.	Headley	
		R.	Playle	
		R.	Ramage	
		G.	Kennedy	(Planning Officer)
		S.	Puckey	(Open Spaces Administrator)

Councillor B Taylor was also in attendance.

271. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A. Sloma and E Williams. Councillor J.C. Coleman was absent.

RESOLVED That the apologies be received and approved.

272. MINUTES

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning and Transport Committee held on 7th April 2026 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

273. INTERESTS

Councillor Playle declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Member of Essex County Council.

274. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present.

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275. PLANNING OFFICER'S REPORT

The Planning Officer informed members that the Finchingfield and Wethersfield Neighbourhood Plan was out for consultation until 1st July but she considered that as a Committee it was unnecessary for comment.

RESOLVED That the information be received and noted

276. PART 1 APPLICATIONS

26/01008/HH **36 St Nicholas Road, Witham**
Single storey rear extension

NO OBJECTION

277. PART 2 APPLICATIONS

26/00952/HH **20 Chalks Road, Witham**
Extension to front dormer with pitched roof and pitched roof over front of garage and porch.

Members noted that Chalks Road had a plethora of different style dwellings and that the planned changes would not impact negatively on the street scene.

NO OBJECTION

26/00750/LBC **90 – 92 Newland Street, Witham**
Installation of a hanging sign to the front elevation, with internal vinyl window stickers and vinyl business lettering above the entrance door

Members noted that this is a distinctive listed building in a conservation area and while they supported new business, Members were keen to uphold the appropriate standards for the high street. The wooden sign was considered to be in keeping and the window stickers acceptable, however the vinyl lettering on the fascia was not considered appropriate under LPP 55.

RECOMMEND REFUSAL for the vinyl stickers on the fascia over the door contrary to LPP 55 but offer **NO OBJECTION** to the hanging sign or vinyl letters in the window and subject to the advice of the Listed Buildings Officer.

278. DELEGATED DECISIONS

26/00824/TPO **10 Augustus Way, Witham**
Notice of intent to carry out works to trees protected by Tree Preservation Order TPO - 5/83 T7 -Oak tree -Reduce canopy of Oak tree back to previous pruning points approximately 2-3 m to continue the cycle of maintaining the trees size and shape.

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NO OBJECTION subject to the advice of the District Council's Landscape Officer.

26/00761/TPOCON **The Old Vicarage, Chipping Hill, Witham**

Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area: Removal of four mountain ash trees identified at T003, T004, T005 and T006 on site plan & report replaced either with similar mountain ash trees with a smaller habit or, if this is not feasible (taking into account the stability of the adjacent wall), replacement trees will be planted elsewhere on the site.

NO OBJECTION subject to the advice of the District Council's Landscape Officer.

26/00681/HH **222 Church Street, Witham**

Proposed single storey rear extension, conversion of garage to habitable accommodation & new pitched roof. Alterations to fenestration.

NO OBJECTION with the Chairman's comment subject to the extension size being relative to the garden size.

26/00844/FUL **Chelmer House, Bellcroft, Witham**

Single storey first floor extension

NO OBJECTION

26/00812/FUL **Gershwin Park, Land north east of Reid Road, Witham**

Proposed turning head at Gershwin Park

NO OBJECTION

Essex County Council asked that the two following applications be considered together –

ESS/23/25/BTE **Land at Rivenhall Airfield, Coggeshall Road, Braintree**

Continuation of development of the Integrated Waste Management Facility (IWMF) permitted by ESS/39/23/BTE

ESS/24/25/BTE **Land at Rivenhall Airfield, Coggeshall Road, Braintree**

Outline planning application with all matters reserved (except for access) for the construction of a Carbon Capture, Usage and Storage Plant, a Heat Offtake plant, an electrical switch room and electricity cables, associated external pipelines and cables and landscape works

RECOMMEND REFUSAL with regard to the continued development of the Integrated Waste Management Facility but to offer no objections to the construction of the carbon capture element.

26/00825/HH **Jacksons Farm, Maltings Lane, Witham**

Proposed single storey side and rear extension with pitched roof

NO OBJECTION

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26/00856/LBC **Jacksons Farm, Maltings Lane, Witham**
Proposed single storey side and rear extension with pitched roof

NO OBJECTION subject to the advice of the Listed Buildings Officer

26/00890/HH **32 Highfields Road, Witham**
Proposed replacement sigle storey rear and side addition with carport and continued front storm shelter roof addition

NO OBJECTION

26/00935/TPOCON **17 The Avenue, Witham, Essex**
Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area: Birch (Betulus pendula), approximately 10 metres in height and currently in good structural condition with good crown vitality. Proposed Works :- Excavation and construction associated with installation of a vehicle crossover within part of the RPA and No felling, pruning, or direct above-ground works to the tree are proposed

NO OBJECTION subject to the root protection being carried out as per Place Services instructions and BDC Landscape Officer's advice

26/00896/HH **30 Collingwood Road, Witham, Essex**
Proposed single-storey rear extension, a first-floor rear extension and loft conversion incorporating a rear hip-to-gable roof alteration and installation of two rooflights

NO OBJECTION

279. REVISED PLANS

There were no revised plans to consider.

280. DECISIONS

The decisions on Planning Applications pertaining to Witham were received.

RESOLVED That the decisions be received and noted.

281. TACKLING SPEEDING IN WITHAM/20s PLENTY

Data from the Speed Indicator Device was received which included comparisons for the last Friday in the month from January to April 2026. Members were pleased to note that there was negligible excessive speeding and requested to see at the next meeting how the speed has changed over time since the implementation.

RESOLVED That the information be received and noted.

282. OUTSTANDING TRANSPORT ISSUES

The Planning Officer explained that as well as the issues listed in the agenda there were other matters that had been raised with Essex County Council's Cabinet Member for Roads and

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Transport that had not been resolved, including 20's Plenty on residential estates, HGV routing and alternative diversions when the A12 is closed. Now that a new administration was in place, she was hoping to set up a meeting with the new Cabinet Member and Witham's two County Councillors.

RESOLVED That the information be received and noted

283. LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

Details of the next steps to be taken by Braintree District Council with regard to the Local Plan was received.

The Planning Officer drew Members' attention to the fact that even though there had been a large volume of responses, BDC proposed to go to Regulation 19 in the summer/autumn and questioned if that would give enough time for the Local Plan Committee to consider all the representations.

RESOLVED That the information be received and noted

284. SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENTS

The Planning Officer said that she had read the Waste Collection and Storage document which was interesting and a report would be available at the next Meeting along with a report about Affordable Housing.

RESOLVED That the information be received and noted

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 6.58 p.m.

Councillor P. Barlow
Chairman
GK/SP/19.5.2026

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