Witham town council

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

# MINUTES

# PLANNING AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Date: **Monday, 5th October 2026**

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

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Present: | Councillors | P. | Barlow | (Chair) |
| | | J. | Robertson | (Vice Chair) |
| | | E. | Adelaja | |
| | | J.M. | Coleman | |
| | | L. | Headley | |
| | | R. | Playle | |
| | | G. | Kennedy | (Planning Officer) |
| | | J. | Brown | (PA to the Council) |
| | | S. | Puckey | (Open Spaces Admin) |

## 235. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R. Ramage and E. Williams.

**RESOLVED** That the apologies be received and approved.

## 236. MINUTES

**RESOLVED** That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning and Transport Committee held on 21st September 2026 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

## 237. INTERESTS

Councillor Playle declared a non-registerable interest as a Member of Essex County Council and later in the meeting declared a non-registerable interest at Minute 241 - application 26/02146/FUL - 2 Maldon Road, Witham, as a patient of the dentist.

## 238. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present.

## 239. PLANNING OFFICER'S REPORT

The Planning Officer referred to Minute 233 – Street Naming, and since contacting Braintree District Council and reminding them of the policy to use names from the War Memorial for roads on the Maltings Lane development, the developer has now proposed for the road to be called Ashby Gardens.

She further reported that she had attended a Teams meeting with National Highways, regarding the Woodend Farm bridge over the A12, and a full report would be given once they issue a Press Release.

**RESOLVED** That the report be received and noted.

## 240. PART 1 APPLICATIONS

**26/02138/HH** — **35 Speedwell Close, Witham**
Proposed single storey rear extension

**NO OBJECTION**

## 241. PART 2 APPLICATIONS

**26/02158/TPOCON** — **9 The Avenue, Witham**
Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area: T1 – to fell. Reason: too large for the space and the roots are causing the paving to lift

The Tree Warden advised no objection to the felling of this self-seeded tree.

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

**26/02194/FUL** — **80 Newland Street, Witham**
Replacement of windows and door

Members were informed that the front windows would be timber framed double glazed units whilst the small side and rear windows would be UPVC.

**NO OBJECTION** subject to the advice of the Listed Buildings Officer.

**26/02146/FUL** — **2 Maldon Road, Witham**
Proposed two-storey rear ex tension, internal reconfiguration and associated alterations to side and rear fenestration

Councillor Playle declared a non-registerable interest as a patient at the practice.

**NO OBJECTION** subject to the advice of the Listed Buildings Officer.

**242. REVISED PLANS**

There were no revised plans

**243. DECISIONS**

The decisions on Planning Applications pertaining to Witham were received.

**RESOLVED** That the decisions be received and noted.

**244. WOODEND FARM ALLOTMENTS**

A proposed plan was received for the Woodend Farm allotments. Following discussions, Members were happy with the plan but asked for clarification regarding the situation of the pedestrian gate and, following advice from the Operation Manager, requested that the fruit trees be replaced by native deciduous trees.

**RESOLVED** That clarity be sought regarding the situation of the pedestrian gate and that a request be put forward to plant native deciduous trees rather than fruit trees.

**245. LOCAL PLAN REVIEW**

An email was received from Braintree District Council regarding the Regulation 19 Consultation which runs until 6th November 2026.

The Planning Officer explained that this consultation related to the soundness and legal compliance of the Draft Local Plan. There would be a Webinar on Tuesday, 20th October 2026 between 6 and 7 p.m. and exhibitions would be held in Coggeshall, Halstead, Feering and Kelvedon, where substantial housing is planned.

Members discussed the elements of the plan pertaining to Witham at length and were particularly keen to see the compulsory purchase of the ransom strip between Cut Throat Lane and Morrisons and the installation of a cycle path from Woodend Farm to the town centre.

**RESOLVED** That the Planning Officer send a link to Members about the consultation and that feed back be made on behalf of Witham Town Council that the ransom strip between Morrisons and Cut Throat Lane would need to be resolved before any house building in the car park and that a cycle path from Woodend Farm had long been an aspiration and would be beneficial to residents to the south of the town.

**246. SCHOOL TRANSPORT**

An email was received about school transport. Members were not aware of any issues but agreed to pass the letter on to Essex County Councillor Ross Playle to take forward. He said that the matter of school transport was to be discussed at the next County Council Meeting.

**RESOLVED** That the details be passed to Essex County Councillor Playle to take forward on behalf of the resident.

**247. PUBLIC NOTICE**

A Public Notice was received concerning Disabled Parking Spaces.

**RESOLVED** That the notice be received and noted

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.18 p.m.

Councillor P. Barlow
Chair

SP/GK/6.10.2026