



Town Hall | 61 Newland Street | Witham | CM8 2FE
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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 extension, 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