



Town Hall | 61 Newland Street | Witham | CM8 2FE
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MINUTES

PLANNING AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Date: **Tuesday, 25th November 2025**

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

Present: Councillors

J.	Robertson	(Chairman)
E.	Adelaja	
P.	Barlow	
L.	Headley	
R.	Playle	
R.	Ramage	
G.	Kennedy	(Planning Officer)
S.	Puckey	(Open Spaces Admin. Officer)

161. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Williams due to work commitments. Councillor J.C. Coleman, J.M Coleman and A Sloma were absent.

RESOLVED That the apologies be received and approved.

162. MINUTES

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning and Transport Committee held on 10th November 2025 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

163. INTERESTS

Councillor Playle declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Member for Essex County Council. Later in the meeting Councillor Playle declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Planning Officer's Report as a resident of Warwick House and Councillor Barlow declared a non-pecuniary interest in application 25/02481/FUL as the Chairman and Trustee of Witham United Charities.

164. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the press or public present.

165. PLANNING OFFICER'S REPORT

The Planning Officer explained that following the installation of UPVC windows and doors at the old Byfords store she had complained to the Enforcement Officer. She hoped this would be quickly resolved. The Witham and Countryside Society had also complained that the wall in front of Warwick House had been removed to allow for the second access for parking.

Councillor Playle declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Planning Officer's Report as a resident of Warwick House.

The Town Council had been informed about a licensing application for 28 Newland Street. The District Council had asked for any representations to be made by 22nd December 2025. Members could make individual representations or the matter could be considered at the next Meeting on Tuesday, 9th December 2025 for a Town Council response. Following a discussion, Members agreed that it would be discussed at the next meeting if Special Sergeant Simon Jesse had concerns.

The Planning Officer invited Councillor Ramage to provide feedback on the Passenger Transport Engagement meeting he attended. Councillor Ramage informed Members that DigiGo was currently undertaking a feasibility survey to extend its services to Witham and that Stevensons buses would look at the potential to extend the 21 route to Witham, which currently ran between The Notleys and Braintree.

RESOLVED That the information be received and noted.

166. PART 1 APPLICATIONS

25/02493/T56

Telecommunications Site at Station Maltings, Station Road, Witham

Proposed upgrade to existing rooftop telecommunications equipment including the removal of an existing 5m stub tower to be replaced by an upgraded 7.5m high stub tower

NO OBJECTION

25/02517/HH

3 Gershwin Boulevard, Witham

Retention of single storey rear extension and alterations to fenestration

NO OBJECTION

167. PART 2 APPLICATIONS

25/02491/HH

13 Barnardiston Way, Witham

Proposed single storey rear extension

Members were informed that the proposed extension would limit the garden size to less than the recommended 100m² in the Essex Design Guide however there would appear to be a precedent with the neighbouring property having an even smaller garden.

Members observed that they would normally be concerned about garden size, however as a precedent had already been set, on this occasion they would raise no objection.

NO OBJECTION

25/02481/FUL

50 Church Street, Witham

Proposed boundary fence

Members were informed that the boundary wall had needed to be demolished as it had partially collapsed and lost its structural integrity. It was pointed out that the original wall was the other side of the access drive to the Listed properties.

Councillor Barlow declared a non-pecuniary interest in this application as the Chairman and Trustee of Witham United Charities and would not vote.

Members noted that the fence would be out of sight of the road and would not impact the street scene. There were other fences in the vicinity and therefore raised no objection.

NO OBJECTION

25/02512/HH

20 Pitt Avenue, Witham

Proposed single storey rear extension and alterations to fenestration

Members were informed that there had been representations from neighbours who had asked that when the existing conservatory was demolished the party wall remain.

NO OBJECTION

25/02558/TPOCON

16 Chipping Hill, Witham

Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area: Box Alder – reduce crown by 2m

The Tree Warden agreed that the work was reasonable and therefore no objection be raised.

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

25/02563/TPOCON

1 Magistrates Court, Witham

Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area: 1 Maple (M1) to be felled

Members were informed that there was no information available as to why the tree should be felled and the Tree

Warden agreed that on those grounds the application should be recommended for refusal.

RECOMMEND REFUSAL on the grounds of lack of information.

25/02571/TPOCON

11 Old Magistrates Court, Witham

Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area: 1 No Maple (M1) to have crown reduced by 0.6 – 1 metre, 1 No Cherry (C1) to have upper crown reduced by up to 1 metre and sides to be reduced as required to leave a balanced crown.

Members were informed that the Tree Warden had agreed that this was routine work and no objection should therefore be raised.

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

168. REVISED PLANS

There were no revised plans to consider.

169. DECISIONS

The decisions on Planning Applications pertaining to Witham were received.

RESOLVED That the decisions be received and noted.

170. TACKLING SPEEDING IN WITHAM/20s PLENTY

The Planning Officer explained that the equipment had now been delivered and an estimate had been sought to supply and install an appropriate post. It was hoped that the Speed Indicator Device would be installed before Christmas and she suggested that in the New Year consideration be given to the pressing need for an alternate site. It was further noted that there was money in the budget next year for another device.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.08 p.m.

Councillor J. Robertson
Chairman
GK/SP/26.11.2025