

PLEASE NOTE LATER START TIME OF 7 P.M.



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

AGENDA

Meeting of: **Planning & Transport Committee**

Date: **Tuesday, 7th January 2025** Time: **7.00 p.m.**

Place: **Town Hall, 61 Newland Street, Witham, Essex**

Members are hereby summoned to attend the above Meeting to transact the following business. Members are respectfully reminded that each item on the Agenda should be carefully examined. If you have any interest, it must be duly declared.

To be present: Councillors -

P.	Barlow	(Chairman)	J.	Martin
J.C.	Coleman	(Vice Chairman)	R.	Playle
E.	Adelaja		R.	Ramage
J.M.	Coleman		J.	Robertson
L.	Headley		E.	Williams

Nikki Smith
Town Clerk
GK/2.1.2025

1. **APOLOGIES**

To receive and approve apologies for absence.

2. **MINUTES**

To receive the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning & Transport Committee held 10th December 2024 (previously circulated).

3. INTERESTS

To receive any declarations of interests that Members may wish to give notice of on matters pertaining to any item on this Agenda.

4. QUESTIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Members of the press and public will be invited to address the Meeting.

Order Note: A maximum of 30 minutes is designated for public participation time with no individual speaker exceeding three minutes unless otherwise granted an extension by the Chairman under Standing Order 3(F) & 3(G)

5. PLANNING OFFICER'S REPORT

To receive a verbal report from the Planning Officer on any matters arising from previous Meeting.

6. PART 1 APPLICATIONS

To note that there are no Part 1 applications.

7. PART 2 APPLICATIONS

To consider applications in [Part 2](#).

8. DELEGATED DECISION

To note that the following delegated decision was taken due to the Christmas period – **24/02586/TPOCON - 38 The Avenue, Witham** to offer no objection subject to the advice of the District Council's Landscape Officer.

9. REVISED PLANS

To consider any revised plans received by Braintree District Council that have previously been commented upon.

10. DECISIONS

To receive and note decisions on planning applications pertaining to Witham which have been received from Braintree District Council ([attached](#) at page 6).

11. TACKLING SPEEDING IN WITHAM/20s PLENTY

(a) To receive a response from the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner ([attached](#) at page 8).

(b) To receive the notes from the 20's Plenty Zoom meeting ([attached](#) at page 9).

PART 2 APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERS' DEBATE

Applications Received:

The following applications have been made to the District Council for planning permission under the Town & Country Planning Acts and referred to the Town Council as a statutory consultee. Copies of the applications and accompanying plans may be seen at the Planning Department Causeway House, Bocking End, Braintree or online at www.braintree.gov.uk

PLEASE NOTE: Under the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, representations cannot be treated in confidence. Witham Town Council is not responsible for issuing planning decisions.

APPLICATION_NO	ADDRESS	WARD	PROPOSAL
24/02601/HH	6 Orchards, Witham, Essex	Central	Proposed single storey rear extension with balcony
24/02600/FUL	16, 17, 18, 19 And 20 Newlands Precinct, Witham, Essex	Central	Proposed works to shop fronts, including new glazing, aluminium frames and automatic door

Witham Town Council – Planning Application Report

Application No:- 24/02601/HH

Address:- 6 Orchards, Witham, Essex

Ward:- Central

Proposal:- Proposed single storey rear extension with balcony

Relevant Site History:-

Representations:-

Summary:- This is a three storey town house which backs on to Wetherspoons' garden. The proposal is to extend across the back of the property to a depth of 5m. The shape of the applicant's garden dictates that the extension will narrow to a width of 6.6m. The extension will allow for a large kitchen diner with french doors onto the garden and what appears to be velux windows in the roof. At present the applicant has a small balcony on the first floor, little more than a Juliet balcony. It is proposed to create a balcony on the roof of the extension. The balcony will have a powder coated aluminium frame with obscured safety glass.

Recommendation:- This extension would increase the floor space considerably in relation to the original size. The Design Statement states that the rear amenity space would be reduced to 87 square metres which seems a generous estimate but that the balcony could be used to bring the amount back to its original size. The balcony would be mainly overlooking Wetherspoons beer garden but there are neighbours either side. To ensure privacy of the neighbours there will be an opaque safety glass screen. In the plans it shows a height of 1.5m but in the statement as 1.8m. I do feel that this proposal is over-development of site and there is potential for over-looking. I would therefore recommend refusal on the grounds of over-development of site and potential for adverse impact on neighbouring amenities unless the height of the balcony screen is definitely 1.8m rather than that shown on the plans as 1.50m.

Policy References:- LPP36a and LPP36d.

Witham Town Council – Planning Application Report

Application No:- 24/02600/FUL

Address:- 16, 17, 18, 19 And 20 Newlands Precinct, Witham, Essex

Ward:- Central

Proposal:- Proposed works to shop fronts, including new glazing, aluminium frames and automatic door

Relevant Site History:-

Representations:-

Summary:- This application relates to the premises at the back of Newlands Precinct beside Feathers the hairdressers. The three units of YMCA, the adjacent vacant premises and Polly's Pie and Mash will be converted into a Pure Gym.

Recommendation:- This application to convert the shops in to a gym facility is to be welcomed and will make the precinct more vibrant. Would recommend approval.

Policy References:-

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Application & Address	Proposal	BDC Decision	WTC Decision	Agenda Item 10
24/02162/HH - 12 Rowan Way Witham Essex CM8 2LJ	Demolition of existing side porch and erection of a proposed two storey side extension and canopy. New hardstanding driveway.	Application Permitted	Raised no objection	
24/02033/HH - 36 Avenue Road Witham Essex CM8 2DP	Erection of front porch	Application Permitted	Raised no objection	
24/01959/ADV - Colemans Bridge Industrial Estate Colemans Bridge Witham Essex	Replacement of an existing 48-sheet advertisement display with an LED internally illuminated 48-sheet advertisement display	Application Refused	Recommended refusal on the grounds of highways safety as the digital display would distract motorists at this busy light controlled junction	
24/01699/FUL - 19A Collingwood Road Witham Essex CM8 2DY	Change of use from gym (Class E(d)) to dance school/studio (Class E(d))	Application Permitted	Raised no objection	
24/02167/HH - 4 Earlsmead Witham Essex CM8 2EH	Loft conversion with rear 3 no. dormers, 4 no. velux windows and 3 no. balconies	Application Refused (on grounds of design and appearance)	No objection subject to no representations from neighbours	
24/01163/TPO - 22 Charlotte Way Witham Essex CM8 2TZ	Notice of intent to carry out works to trees protected by Tree Preservation Order TPO - 06D7 Sycamore, twin stemmed - Fell to stump.	Application Permitted	No objection subject to a replacement tree being planted	

<p>23/00874/ADV - Land Opposite The Old Pottery Kiln Gershwin Boulevard Witham Essex</p>	<p>Installation of: 3NO Double 1NO Single - Freestanding internally illuminated digital menu signs 2NO. Banner units 1NO. internally illuminated play land sign 18NO. Dot signs comprising of: 2NO Accessible bays, 2NO Parked order bays, 3NO litter, 2NO No entry, 2NO Pedestrian crossing, 2NO Give way, 3NO Look left and 2NO Look right.</p>	<p>Application Permitted</p>	<p>Raised no objection</p>
<p>23/00873/ADV - Land Opposite The Old Pottery Kiln Gershwin Boulevard Witham Essex</p>	<p>Installation of: 2NO. Custom letter fascia signs 3NO. Booth Lettering Signs 1NO Digital Booth Screen</p>	<p>Application Permitted</p>	<p>Raised no objection</p>
<p>23/00827/FUL - Land Opposite The Old Pottery Kiln Gershwin Boulevard Witham Essex</p>	<p>Erection of five buildings, 3 units (1x Class E (a or b), 2x combined units comprising a restaurant for the sale of hot food for consumption on and off the premises, (Class sui generis), a drive thru restaurant, (McDonalds, Class Sui Generis) and a drive thru coffee shop, (Class E), an electric vehicle charging station with associated access, parking and landscaping</p>	<p>Application Permitted</p>	<p>No objection subject to the Planning Authority being satisfied that sufficient investigation had taken place to prove that the change of use from warehousing was necessary; acknowledge the negative impact that this development would have on local residents regarding noise and antisocial behaviour, that McDonalds maximum opening hours should stay at the proposed 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. and that steps be taken to limit the effect of littering through using bar codes on receipts and that the Town Council be involved in the Section 106 process</p>
<p>24/02005/FUL - 5 Wheaton Road Witham Essex CM8 3UJ</p>	<p>Demolition of existing workshop bay and office and erection of single storey vehicle service building.</p>	<p>Application Permitted</p>	<p>No objection but Members felt strongly that solar panels should be included on the building</p>

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Agenda Item 11(a)



Kelvedon Park
London Road
Rivenhall
Essex
CM8 3HB
Telephone: 01245 291600
E-mail: pfcc@essex.police.uk
<http://www.essex.pfcc.police.uk>

Date: 27th November 2024
Our ref: 8341

N Smith
Witham Town Council
Town Hall
61 Newland Street
Witham
Essex CM8 2FE
Email: townclerk@witham.gov.uk

Dear Nikki

Thank you for your recent letter addressed to Roger Hirst, Police Fire and Crime Commissioner, regarding 20mph speed limits on residential estates.

Road Safety continues to be a priority within the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan and working with partners such as Safer Essex Roads Partnership (SERP), local authorities and National Highways we are tackling speeding, drink, and drug driving to improve road safety and reduce road death in Essex to zero by 2040.

Having checked with the Head of Roads Policing for Essex Police, whilst the force is always consulted prior to the introduction of any new proposal, the placing of speed limits is a matter for Essex County Council Highways. Essex County Council has an existing policy covering speed management, sitting alongside their route hierarchy strategy. Both policies are currently subject to review which we hope will bring them into line with the safer systems principles required to achieve Vision Zero. The 20mph zones are different to speed limits, as a zone will always be supported by measures such as raised tables; such designs are normally found on new housing developments. Your voice here matters so we would encourage you to share your views with Essex Highways and Essex County Council.

Community Speed Watch (CSW) is a local traffic monitoring support by SERP and partners. It is delivered by volunteers within their own communities aiming to improve road safety. Becoming part of CSW gives an opportunity for residents to increase road safety in their area, and support activities to reduce road traffic collisions and injuries. Volunteers receive full training, are provided with equipment, and supported by a CSW Co-ordinator and Essex Police. If you or any of your members are interested in joining, please email: community.speedwatch@essex-fire.gov.uk.

I hope you find the above information useful and would like to thank you and the council for your support in making Essex safer.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Darren Horsman', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Darren Horsman
Strategic Head of Policy and Public Engagement

WORKING WITH YOU TO MAKE ESSEX SAFER

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Agenda Item 11(b)

20's Plenty for Essex Zoom mtg 10.12.24

Present: councillors & campaigners from Loughton, Chappel, Gt Waltham, Billericay, Wivenhoe, Colchester.

Apols from Mountnessing, Broomfield, Heybridge Basin.

Adrian Berendt from national 20's Plenty campaign talked re Wales success with 20mph reducing death and injury by nearly 30% being [recognised in CIHT awards](#)

If you haven't already, please get a 20mph motion on your council agenda, [guidance here](#) (includes list of evidence/benefits too). If you have, then please forward this email and ask your neighbouring councils to do so.

National [20's Plenty Webinar](#) - hear members & officers from Oxford, Cornwall, Surrey and Cambs explain why and how they are rolling out 20mph in communities.

Latest [evidence from Wales](#), average speeds down, minimal impact on journey times. [20mph Misinformation Factsheet](#)

Payback is quick. Wales cost of changing the 30mph default to 20mph c. £10 p/head of population; payback within 12 months.

Aside from incalculable cost and impact of trauma for all involved, measurable cost of a fatality is £2.25 million; serious injury c.£290,000 (Cornwall CC quoted [DfT figures](#)).

For Essex, the cost of making 20mph the default would be c. £15million.

Year one, min. 20% fewer casualties.

In [2023 Total casualties 3658](#)

With 20mph, there would be 730 fewer casualties (inc 170 Killed & Seriously Injured) saving over £75 million of public funds.

Changing the current 30mph default to 20mph across Essex communities is MUCH cheaper than piecemeal delivery of 20mph 'zones', individual streets, just on estates or around schools - which simply can't bring the multiple benefits of a much safer street network: less death and injury, more cycling and walking, reduced pollution and noise and substantially improved community liveability.

[Vision Zero](#) is failing and will continue to do so without 20mph being the norm where people and traffic mix and interact.

[Essex Police report March 2024](#)

5.17. The number of people killed or seriously injured is not declining and remains above the target line for reducing death and serious injuries by 50% ahead of 2030, which in turn sets the trajectory for zero death and serious injury by 2040. Motorcyclists, young drivers, including passengers, and pedestrians remain the most at risk road user groups.

Devolution speculation brings uncertainty about the May election, but for now we need to proceed as if it's going ahead.

[May 2025 ECC election](#): We're urging residents, councils and organisations to contact our political groups ASAP asking for an election pledge to make 20mph the default across Essex where communities want it.

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