



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

## MINUTES

### PLANNING AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Date: **Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

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

Present: Councillors

P.	Barlow	(Chairman)
J.C.	Coleman	(Vice Chairman)
E.	Adelaja	
J.M.	Coleman	
L.	Headley	(arrived at 7.02 p.m.)
J.	Martin	
R.	Playle	
R.	Ramage	
J.	Robertson	
E.	Williams	
G.	Kennedy	(Planning Officer)

And one member of the public.

**199. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

**200. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning and Transport Committee held 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**201. INTERESTS**

Councillor P. Barlow declared a non-pecuniary interest in application 24/02601/HH – 6 Orchards, as he was a neighbour who could possibly be affected by the proposal. He said that he would leave the Council Chamber whilst the application was discussed. Councillor Playle declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute 209 – Tackling Speeding in Witham/20s Plenty as a Member of Essex County Council.

**202. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No comment was made by the member of the public present.

**203. PLANNING OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Planning Officer asked Members for suggestions for the name of the private drive off Hatfield Road. Background research had identified two names of people who had assisted the Town Council in years gone by and the Chairman suggested that names related to Bridge Hospital might be appropriate and would therefore make enquiries. It was agreed that Hancock, Pitchforth and if possible additional names from Bridge Hospital be recommended to Braintree District Council.

The Planning Officer explained that the Public Inquiry regarding the stopping up of the Public Highway adjacent to the former Victoria Public House would be held on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 10 a.m. at the Rivenhall Oaks Golf Centre.

The Planning Officer said that she had today received details of the next Local Highways Panel which will be held on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 5 p.m. at Causeway House.

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

**204. PART 1 APPLICATIONS**

There were no Part 1 applications.

**205. PART 2 APPLICATIONS**

**24/02601/HH**

**6 Orchards, Witham**

Proposed single storey rear extension with balcony

Councillor P. Barlow had declared an interest and left the Council Chamber.

Councillor J.C. Coleman then assumed the Chair.

Members noted that the proposed large extension would extend 5m into the garden across the back of the house but would narrow because of the shape of the garden. It was suggested that the size of the extension in relation to the footprint of the original dwelling would be over development. There was concern that the extension would have a flat roof used as a balcony and the plans showed an obscured screen height of just 1.5m on each side and across part of the back to retain privacy of neighbours.

After much discussion Members agreed that the application should be recommended for refusal on the grounds of over-development of site and potential for adverse impact on neighbouring amenities.

**RECOMMEND REFUSAL** on the grounds of over-development of site and potential for adverse impact on neighbouring amenities contrary to LPP36a and LPP36d.

Councillor P.R. Barlow then returned to the Council Chamber and resumed the Chair.

**24/02600/FUL**

**16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 Newlands Precinct, Witham**

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

Members welcomed the application which would make the precinct more vibrant.

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

**206. DELEGATED DECISION**

Members noted the following delegated decision –

**24/02586/TPOCON**

**38 The Avenue, Witham**

Proposed works to trees in a Conservation Area

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

**207. REVISED PLANS**

There were no revised plans.

**208. DECISIONS**

The decisions on Planning Applications pertaining to Witham were received.

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

**209. TACKLING SPEEDING IN WITHAM/20s PLENTY**

Councillor Playle had declared an interest.

(a) A response was received from the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.

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

(b) Notes from a 20's Plenty meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024 were received.

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

There being no further business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 7.27 p.m.

Councillor P. Barlow  
Chairman

GK/8.1.2025