



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

## MINUTES

### PLANNING AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Date: **Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

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	
R.	Ramage	
E.	Williams	
G.	Kennedy	(Planning Officer)
S.	Puckey	(Open Spaces Admin Assistant)
L.	Bamigbele	(PA to the Council)

Councillor Jack Robertson was also in attendance and two members of the public.

#### 149. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Martin.

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

#### 150. **MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning and Transport Committee held 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 151. **INTERESTS**

Councillor J. C. Coleman declared a non-pecuniary interest in regards to Minute 155 - application 24/01633/FUL, as he knew an interested party.

#### 152. **QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No members of the public present wished to speak.

**153. PLANNING OFFICER’S REPORT**

The Planning Officer referred to Minute 135 and street naming for the road off Conrad Road, she was pleased to report that, in line with Members’ suggestions, the name Dahl would be used. Members were pleased with this outcome.

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

**154. PART 1 APPLICATIONS**

**24/02224/HH**

**4 Flemming Way, Witham**

Installation of air source heat pump

**NO OBJECTION**

**155. PART 2 APPLICATIONS**

**24/02149/HH**

**35 Guithavon Street, Witham**

Proposed ground and first floor rear extension.

Members discussed whether there would be any impact on the garden size and acknowledged similar work on other properties.

**NO OBJECTION**

**24/01699/FUL**

**19A Collingwood Road, Witham**

Change of use from gym to dance school/studio.

Councillor J. C. Coleman declared a non-pecuniary interest and offered no opinion.

Members were happy that this property was being put to good use and noted that the neighbouring carpark could be used for any additional parking requirements.

**NO OBJECTION**

**24/02167/HH**

**4 Earlsmead, Witham**

Loft conversion with rear 3 no. dormers, 4 no. velux windows and 3 no. balconies

Members were advised that there was potential for overlooking the neighbour’s garden.

**NO OBJECTION** Subject to no representations from neighbours.

**24/02162/HH**

**12 Rowan Way, Witham**

Demolition of existing side porch and erection of a proposed two storey side extension. New hardstanding driveway and dropped kerb

Members were advised that the proposed colour scheme for the weather boarding and rendering could be considered too much of a contrast in the street scene and that a more muted palette could potentially be considered however Members liked the contrasting white render and black weatherboarding and felt it enhanced the street scene.

**NO OBJECTION**

**24/02263/TPOCON**

**Gueth Cottage, Maldon Road, Witham**

Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area

Members were advised that the Tree Warden had made a site visit and considered that the removal of the two trees would give the third an opportunity to flourish. The other work was general maintenance and therefore recommended no objection subject to the advice of the District Council's Landscape Officer. The Planning Officer advised Members that whilst replacement trees would normally be recommended the number of trees already growing in the garden, this condition should be waived in this instance.

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

**156. REVISED PLANS**

There were no revised plans.

**157. DECISIONS**

The decisions on Planning Applications pertaining to Witham were received.

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

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

An email was received. In addition, the Planning Officer advised Members of the meeting with Councillor Derrick Louis where they were advised that 20 mph speed limits could only be considered where there were already constructive measures in place to reduce speed. Members were concerned that this is contrary to the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's (Roger Hurst) vision for 20mph on estate roads and no fatalities by 2050 on Essex roads. Members requested that a letter be written to the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner asking for examples of where 20mph speed limits had been introduced in Essex.

He also advised that "Unsuitable for HGVs" signs for Maltings Lane had been requested through the Local Highways Panel but that this would take some time to process. There was also discussion about the potential for an HGV route strategy for Witham.

During the meeting Councillor Louis further agreed to find out the distance ‘20’s Plenty’ signs need to be from a school. He also reminded Members that highway defects should be reported on the Essex County Council website in the first instance but if the defects did not meet criteria to be repaired then they could be passed on to him for consideration as part of his rolling programme of repairs.

The Planning Officer further advised that he had said that the encroaching vegetation on Hatfield Road was the responsibility of Braintree District Council and its Members should contact them direct.

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

**RESOLVED** That a letter be written to the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner to ask for examples of successful 20mph implementation on estates in Essex.

**RESOLVED** That as the vegetation problem on Hatfield Road is the responsibility of Braintree District Council its Members should raise this issue direct with them.

**159. TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE FOR 5 MILE BOXING DAY RACE**

Details of the temporary road closure on Boxing Day for the annual 5 mile race were received.

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

**160. ESSEX HIGHWAYS USER SURVEY 2024/25**

Members were asked to decide if this survey could be completed under delegated authority in the Office. They were encouraged to complete the survey too as members of the public.

**RESOLVED** That the survey be completed under delegated authority.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 7.10 p.m.

Councillor P. Barlow  
Chairman

GK/SP/30.10.2024