

WHITTLESEY TOWN COUNCIL - Planning Committee

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 7th September 2026 at 7.30pm at Peel House, 8 Queen Street, Whittlesey, PE7 1AY.

Present: Councillors Miscandlon, Bibb, Laws, and Wainwright.

Officer in attendance: Miss Angelika Piotrowicz- Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.

Recording: A recording is made as an aide memoir for the minutes

P214/ 2026. To receive apologies from absence members and the reason for the absence.

Councillor Nawaz- Meeting.

Councillor Dickinson- No apologies received.

P215/2026. To receive members' declarations of disclosable pecuniary, non-disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in relation to any items discussed later in the agenda.

Councillor Laws- Planning portfolio holder at Fenland District Council.

P216/2026. To confirm and sign the minutes from the planning meeting held on Monday 7th September 2026.

- The minutes from the planning meeting held on Monday 7th September were approved with a correction that was noted and will be added to correct the Disabled Parking bay at Windmill Street.

P217/2026. Public Forum

To allow any member of the public to address the council. Time allowed 15 minutes in total to be split equally between the total amount wishing to speak.

2 members of the public present.

Niel Jackson: Raised concerns regarding a large oak tree with extremely low-hanging branches situated on the green space off Commons Road on Bowker Way.

- **Councillor Laws** clarified that the land was transferred from the developer to Fenland District Council, and they are responsible for regular grass cutting and ongoing tree maintenance.

Action:

- The Town Council will report the tree to FDC for inspection to determine if the low branches present a dangerous condition.

Mr Anthony:

Question 1: The resident questioned why planning application to build expensive bungalows on farmland east of 190 Wype Road are being approved. He argued these applications violate the Whittlesey Neighbourhood Plan, violate the Fenland District Council Local Plan, utilize active

agricultural land instead of infill sites, and provide zero economic benefit to local shops and businesses.

Question 2: The resident asked why Councillor Laws did not inform him of proposed building plans south of his property during his previous visit to the Council offices to discuss an appeal regarding land North of the A605 near Coates, noting she had previously stated "farmland has priority".

Question 3: The resident questioned why a neighbourhood newsletter was distributed regarding potential building work near Mr Wainwright's property in Eastrea, yet only local residents received a consultation letter regarding the development East of 190 Wype Road.

- **Councillor Miscandlon suspended standing orders, so that Councillor Laws can answer the questions.**

- In response to a question, Councillor Laws explained that, under current legislation, Fenland District Council is required to notify immediate neighbours either side of or directly opposite a proposed development. Residents were advised to monitor the planning portal for applications in their area.
- It was clarified that the Eastrea newsletter Councillor Wainwright produces is a voluntary publication, and it's not an official Council communication.
- In response to questions regarding development along Wype Road, it was explained that the Town Council's planning committee refused the application, although Fenland District Council subsequently approved them.
- Questions were raised regarding the protection of agricultural land. It was explained that current National Planning Policy provides limited protection to agricultural land, and the work is being undertaken through the emerging Local Plan to consider the protection of farming land.
- Proposed changes to planning arrangements, it was explained that planning officers would determine applications falling within specified categories, including certain applications relating to flood zones, conservation areas and relevant planning policies. Concerns were raised during the questions regarding the reduced opportunity for local committee involvement.
- Councillor Laws advised that permission had been obtained to seek specialist advice from King's Counsel regarding the proposed planning changes and whether there is any scope to retain local involvement in the planning process. An update will be provided.
- A question was raised regarding a possible connection between Councillor Laws and land subject to a planning application. Councillor Laws clarified that the land concerned is not owned by her relative.

- **Standing orders resumed.**

P218/2026. To consider planning applications received from FDC and CCC.

F/YR26/0648/TRCA- Works to 2 x White Poplar trees and 1 x Ash tree within a conservation area at 10 Briggate Quay Whittlesey Peterborough Cambridgeshire PE7 1DH

- **The Town Council recommended this application for approval, with condition that all works must be executed by a certified, professional arborist in strict accordance with British Standard BS 3998:2010.**

F/YR26/0639/E- Conversion of existing attached garage to form additional living accommodation to existing dwelling at 10 The Limes Whittlesey Peterborough Cambridgeshire PE7 1DS

- **The Town Council recommended this application for approval.**

F/YR26/0650/TRTPO- Works to 1no Willow Tree covered by TPO 03/2012 at Mandalay Park Commons Road Whittlesey Cambridgeshire PE7 1WF

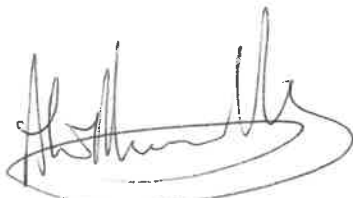
- **The Town Council recommend this application for approval, with condition a tree report is provided, subject all works must be executed by a certified, professional arborist in strict accordance with British Standard BS 3998:2010.**

P219/2026. Additional information.

- No additional information.

P220 /2026. Date of next meeting - Monday 5th October 2026 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 7.59pm



Councillor Miscandlon

Chairman

Planning Committee

