

WITHAM LOCAL COMMITTEE

AGENDA

PUBLIC MEETING

Date: Thursday 10th January 2008

Time: 7.15pm.

Venue: Public Hall, Collingwood Road, Witham (see location map on page 3)

Members of the public and representatives from local organisations are encouraged to come to the meeting, ask questions or raise matters of relevance to Witham and the surrounding area.

Local Chairman: Cllr T J W Foster

Contact Point for further information: David Triggs - Locality Co-ordinator
David.triggs@braintree.gov.uk ; Tel: 01376 551414

Membership:

Councillor J E Abbott	Councillor Mrs S A Howell
Councillor Miss L Barlow	Councillor P J Hughes
Councillor D L Bebb	Councillor M C M Lager
Councillor K E Bigden	Councillor S J Lambourne
Councillor J G J Elliott	Councillor A M Meyer
Councillor Dr R L Evans	Councillor R G S Mitchell
Councillor T J W Foster	Councillor Mrs J M Money
Councillor Mrs M E Galione	Councillor R Ramage
Councillor J E B Gyford	Councillor W Rose

1. **Opening Items:**

1.1 **Apologies for Absence.**

1.2 **Declarations of Interest.**

To declare any 'personal' or 'personal and prejudicial' interests relating to items on the agenda having regard to paragraphs 8 to 12 (inclusive) of the Code of Conduct for Members in Part 5 of the Constitution and having taken appropriate advice (where necessary) before the meeting.

1.3 **Minutes of Meeting held on 6th November 2007.**

Copy previously circulated. Minutes are also available on the Council's web site.

1.4 **Public Question Time.**

Immediately after the Minutes of the previous meeting have been approved there will be a period of up to 30 minutes when members of the public can speak about Council business or other matters of local concern. People wishing to speak should contact the Locality Co-ordinator on (01376) 552525 or email david.triggs@braintree.gov.uk prior to the meeting. The Council's "Question Time" leaflet explains the procedure and copies of this may be obtained at the Council's offices at Braintree, Witham and Halstead.

1.5 Topic for Debate – “Community-led Plans”. To receive a presentation from Jan Cole, Field Worker at the Rural Community Council for Essex on Community Led Plans. Further information available at <http://www.essexrcc.org.uk>

2. Local Decisions:

2.1 Place of Worship at Maltings Lane, Witham.

To consider the attached report – page 1.

2.2 CCTV in Witham. To note the decision by Cabinet at its meeting held on 3rd December 2007. Extract of Cabinet Minutes attached at page 5 for information.

3. Local Priorities:

3.1 Action Plan

To comment on the local priorities Action Plan with a view to making any additions or amendments – copy attached at page 6.

3.2 To receive report from the Anti-Social Behaviour Sub Group.

3.3 To receive a report from the Roads and Traffic Action Group

4. Information:

4.1 Local Committee Budgets.

- (a) To consider a report from the Head of Law and Governance on funding for 2008/09 – report to follow.
- (b) To note the current position regarding expenditure of the Local Committee Budgets in 2007/08 – Witham Local Committee has a total of £63,000 revenue and £45,000 Capital funding in the current financial Year. The summary attached at page 11 sets out details of the expenditure already approved by the Committee in 2007/08.
- (c) To consider any applications for expenditure
 - A bid for funding will be made by the Hatfield Peverel Parish Council supported by the two Ward District Councillors – supporting letter attached at page 12.

4.2 Health Facilities in Witham. To consider the attached briefing note from Councillor Rose – page 14.

4.3 Mid-Essex Area Forum Budget. To note the attached report regarding the setting of a budget of £50,000 for 2008/09 – page 15.

5. Timetable and arrangements for Future Meetings

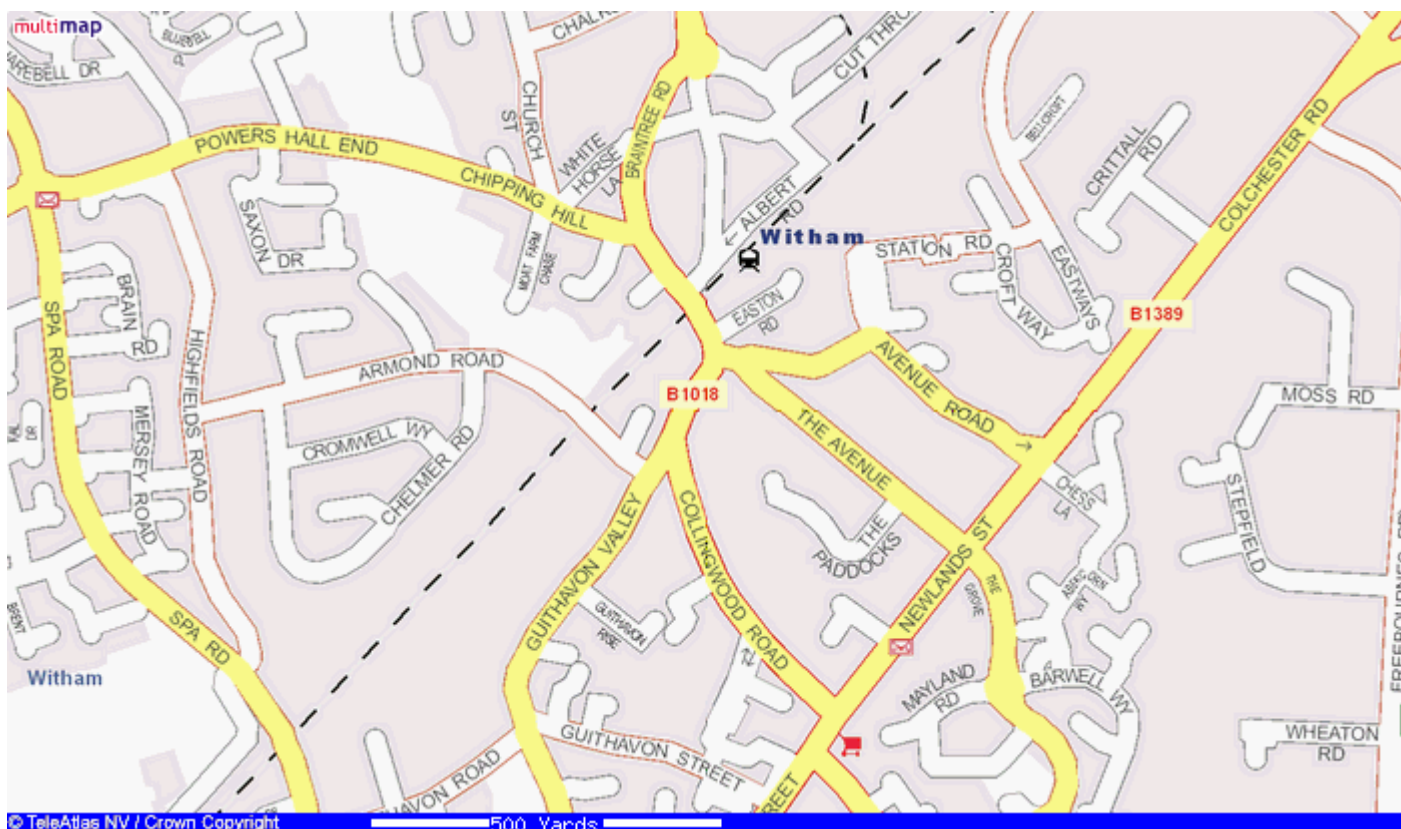
To note that it is planned to continue to hold meetings at the Public Hall at 7.15pm on Tuesdays in 2008/09. A draft schedule of meetings for 2008/09 will be made available for the meeting.

6. Future Items:

- 6.1 Witham Newland Street Conservation Area Appraisal - February 2008.
- 6.2 Proposed sale of 9 Council-owned shops in Witham - February 2008.
- 6.3 Improvements to the Blackwater Rail Trail - February 2008.
- 6.4 Proposed cycle/pedestrian link from Cypress Road to Cut Throat Lane - February 2008.
- 6.5 Growth Area Funding - February 2008.
- 6.6 Witham Sewage Works - February 2008.
- 6.7 Trial of Enforcing “No Parking” on Grass Verges – February 2008.

NOTE - Call in Procedure

*Key Decisions can be identified by the prefix **. Any 5 Members of the Council may refer any key decision made on this Agenda to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 'call in'. This must be undertaken within 6 days of publication of the minutes. Any decisions made and not 'called in' by this date and time will become effective*



Health and Safety

Any persons attending meetings in the Public Hall are requested to take a few moments to familiarise themselves with the nearest available fire exit, indicated by the fire evacuation signs. In the event of a continuous alarm sounding during the meeting, you must evacuate the building immediately and follow all instructions provided by a Council officer who will identify him/herself should the alarm sound. You will be assisted to the nearest designated assembly point until it is safe to return to the building.

ASSET MANAGEMENT: PLACE OF WORSHIP & COMMUNITY CENTRE, MALTINGS LANE, WITHAM – BETHAL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Contact Details:- Andrew Epsom
Designation:- Head of Asset Management
Ext. No:- 2921
E Mail Address:- Andrew.Epsom@braintree.gov.uk

Background Papers:- Report to Witham Area Committee on 29th March 2005.
Report to Witham Local Committee on 17th July 2007.

Financial Implications:- Transfer & Lease of land at nominal value to Bethal Christian Fellowship.

Equalities Implications:- Shared religious and community facility.

Legal Implications:- Transfer & Lease of land to Bethal Christian Fellowship

Options:

- a) Transfer Place of Worship Site to Bethal Christian Fellowship
- b) Lease Community Centre to Bethal Christian Fellowship
- c) Remarket if Bethal Christian Fellowship unable to fund Place of Worship

Risks:

- a) Bethal Christian Fellowship unable to fund development and meet timescales.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report summarises the principle terms and conditions recently agreed in respect of the transfer of the Place of Worship site and lease of Community site at Maltings Lane in Witham to Bethal Christian Fellowship, subject to contract, as shown attached.

DECISION

That members approve the attached proposed terms and conditions for the freehold transfer of the Place of Worship site and lease of the Community Centre at Maltings Lane, Witham to Bethal Christian Fellowship and authorise the Head of Asset Management to complete the necessary legal documentation.

**ASSET MANAGEMENT: PLACE OF WORSHIP & COMMUNITY CENTRE, MALTINGS
LANE, WITHAM – BETHAL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

VE/AB/FZ3/221

Your Ref:

Miss A Blyth

01376 551414 xt 2923

Email: anna.blyth@braintree.gov.uk

Date: 23rd November 2007

Tim Jones
33 Armond Road
Witham
Essex
CM8 2HB

**Without Prejudice
Subject to Contract & Committee Approval**

Dear Tim

Re: Place of Worship - Maltings Lane, Witham

With reference to the above Braintree District Council is prepared to transfer to you the freehold of the land allocated for a place of worship at Maltings Lane. The transfer is subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. **Parties** – Braintree District Council and Bethel Christian Fellowship.
2. **Purchase Price** – The land will be transferred at nil consideration.
3. **Premises** - The premises comprise the area as shown, for identification purposes only, edged blue on the attached plan. A revised plan will be provided further to confirmation of the specific areas from the planning officer.
4. **Restrictive Covenant** – The subject land shall only be used as a place of worship and community facility and shall be made available by Bethel Christian Fellowship or their successors in title to be used by other denominations, religious and community groups.
5. **Funding** – Within 1 year of the completion of the Section 106 agreement Braintree District Council will require Bethel Christian Fellowship to provide proof of funding, project plan and works commencement date for the new building. If Bethel Christian Fellowship is unable to meet the Section 106 requirements within 24 months of completion of the Section 106 agreement the site will be transferred back to Braintree District Council.
6. **Costs** - Immediately prior to the completion of the transfer, the Transferee shall pay the Transferor's proper and reasonable Legal costs and Surveyor's fees.

I trust that you will need to consider the above and look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Anna Blyth BSc (Hons) MRICS
Surveyor**

VE/AB/FZ3/221
Your Ref:
Miss A Blyth
01376 551414 xt 2923
Email: anna.blyth@braintree.gov.uk
Date: 23rd November 2007

Tim Jones
33 Armond Road
Witham
Essex
CM8 2HB

Without Prejudice
Subject to Contract & Committee Approval

Dear Tim

Re: Community Centre - Maltings Lane, Witham

With reference to the above Braintree District Council is prepared to offer a lease on the following terms and conditions:

- 1. Parties** – Braintree District Council (The Landlord) and Bethal Christian Fellowship (The Tenant).
- 2. Premises** - The premises comprise the area as shown, for identification purposes only, edged red on the attached plan. A revised plan will be provided further to confirmation of the specific areas from the planning officer.
- 3. Term** - The lease shall be for a term of 50 years commencing on a date to be agreed between both parties.
- 4. Rent** – The rent shall be at a peppercorn.
- 5. Stakeholder Meetings** – The Tenant will hold a minimum of 2 stakeholder meetings per year with members of the local community and the Landlord to discuss the management of the facility.
- 6. User** - The Tenant shall use the premises edged red as a Community Centre that is accessible by all members of the community.
- 7. Assignment** – The Tenant shall not assign the whole or any part of the premises. The Tenant shall not sublet any part of the premises without prior written consent from the Landlord; consent not to be unreasonably withheld.
- 8. Repair** – The Tenant shall keep the premises in good and tenantable repair at all times.
- 9. Condition** - The Tenant shall accept the premises in their existing condition and no guarantee of its condition shall be provided by the Landlord.
- 10. Alterations** - The Tenant shall not carry out any works, improvements, alterations or modifications to the premises without first having obtained written consent from the Landlord.
- 11. Harmful Products** - The Tenant shall not bring onto the premises, or keep on the premises any harmful or dangerous products.
- 12. Insurance Against Injury** - The Landlord shall not be liable for any injury (including injury resulting in death) or damage to or loss of property whatsoever which shall or may occur to or be sustained by the Tenant, their assistants, servants or agents or others entering onto the premises in the exercise or purported exercise of the lease hereby proposed excepted such injury or damage as may occur by reason of the neglect of the Landlord or their servants or agents acting within the scope of their authority and the Tenant shall indemnify and keep indemnified the Landlord from and against all claims and liability in respect of such injury or damage and all actions, proceedings, costs, damages and expenses in regard thereto and also from and against all other liability, claims, demands, proceedings, costs, damages and expenses in respect of injury to persons whomsoever (including injury resulting in death) and damage to or loss of property whatsoever which may arise out of or in consequence of the exercise or purported exercise of the lease hereby proposed except as mentioned above.

- 13. Public Liability Insurance** - That in connection with the indemnity referred to above the Tenant shall immediately effect a public liability insurance policy for an amount of not less than £5,000,000 (Five Million Pounds) and produce the policy prior to entry upon the premises. The Tenant shall maintain the policy in full force and effect for the total period of its occupation.
- 14. No Alternative Accommodation** - For the avoidance of doubt, the Landlord does not undertake to provide the Tenant with alternative accommodation if, for any reason the lease is terminated.
- 15. Expiration of Lease** – On expiration of the Lease the Tenant will leave the premises in good repair and condition to the satisfaction on the Landlord.
- 16. Costs** - Immediately prior to the completion of the lease, the Tenant shall pay the Landlord's proper and reasonable Legal costs and Surveyor's fees.

I trust that you will need to consider the above and look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely

**Anna Blyth BSc (Hons) MRICS
Surveyor**

EXTRACT OF CABINET MINUTES OF 3RD DECEMBER 200779 **CCTV IN TOWN CENTRES IN THE BRAINTREE DISTRICT**

The Leader presented a report on the provision of CCTV in the town centres of the Braintree District with the following proposals

- To upgrade the CCTV monitoring system in Braintree from analogue to digital, including controls, plus an additional two cameras
- To upgrade and update the CCTV system at Witham from analogue to digital
- To install a four-camera scheme in Halstead town centre.

Councillor Butland advised that discussions had been held between officers, the Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Healthy Living, partners, Councillors and the local Police to provide the most effective and efficient way to supply CCTV in these areas.

The Leader was pleased to announce that Item 2 of the recommendations with regard to requesting a contribution of £26,000 from each Local Committee had been revised, and the Council are now able to provide funds centrally from the Capital Budget. Therefore, it would be with the Local Committee to decide whether they wish to dedicate further funding from their resources for improvements to CCTV in their local area.

Councillor Mrs Beavis, Cabinet Member for Community Support and Engagement, requested that officers formally advise Halstead Town Council, Witham Town Council, the three Local Committee Chairmen, and the local Town Strategy Panel/Group, of the decisions on CCTV and to clarify the situation in their area.

Councillor Walsh, Chairman of Braintree Local Committee, referred to an earlier email and the initial proposal of recommendation 2 to request contributions from each Local Committee on what was considered to be a central function. Therefore, Councillor Walsh welcomed the revised recommendation and the option for each Local Committee to provided additional funds on CCTV in their area.

Councillor M Gage stated that at no time had Halstead Town Council been consulted on CCTV, together with Halstead Local Committee, the Halstead Crime Prevention Panel and the Chamber of Trade. It was also noted that additional revenue costs (Page 3 of report) are the responsibility of the District Council – not the Town Council. The Leader stated that Halstead had the opportunity to develop the CCTV scheme further in their town centre.

DECISION:

- (1) That the CCTV monitoring system in Braintree be upgraded; a new system in Halstead be installed, and communications with the Witham scheme be upgraded.
- (2) That an additional sum of £78,000 is provided from the Capital Account towards provision of CCTV in the town centres of the Braintree District.
- (2) That financial regulations regarding competitive tendering be suspended, and a negotiated contract sum with the incumbent supplier be approved.
- (4) That the Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Healthy Living be given delegated authority to vary the proposals following further discussions with Witham and Halstead Town Councils.

ACTION POINT: That Town Councils, Local Committee Chairmen, and the local Town Centre Strategy Panel/Groups are advised on this issue.

LOCAL PRIORITY ACTION PLAN

Local Issues	Action	By Whom	By When	Outcome
Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour - particularly focusing on youth nuisance, town centres and urban areas.				
Anti-social behaviour, especially in Witham Town Centre at night.	Write to Witham Town Council to see what is already being done and invite them to put forward a proposal, including costings, for additional CPSO.	Locality Co-Ordinator	30 September 2007	Letter sent 19/09/07. Response received letter dated 11/10/07 Findings to be reported to ASB Action Group. Cost to BDC for jointly funded PCSO - £13,500 + £1,088 start up
Lack of high visibility policing [mainly night time]	Invite police representative to a future meeting of the Witham Local Committee if not present on 11 th September [an invite has gone out].	Locality Co-Ordinator	30 September 2007	Letter sent 24/09/07. Sgt Midwinter attended WLC 6/11/07 set out Police proposals.
Graffiti in the underpasses in Flora Road and Spa Road	Write to the Clean Team and ask them to make regular checks of the area if records show this to be a hot spot for graffiti and seek advice from them on the possibility of street art/mural.	Locality Co-Ordinator	30 September 2007	Response reported to ASB Action Group on 05/10/07. Added to hot spot list. Can be painted with anti-graffiti paint but there is a cost attached to this – around £2,000 to £3,000 based upon other areas.
Groups of youths drinking in and around Witham Rugby Club ground.	Liaise with Licensing Officer at BDC with a view to looking at initiative for identifying source of alcohol;	Locality Co-Ordinator	30 September 2007	Response reported to ASB Action Group on 17/10/07.
	Speak to representatives of the Youth Council seeking their views on reasons for congregating [lack of facilities?]	Locality Co-Ordinator	30 September 2007	Letter sent 24/09/07. Findings to be reported to ASB Action Group.
	Liaise with Clean Team regarding the litter problem.	Locality Co-Ordinator	30 September 2007	Response reported to ASB Action Group on 05/10/07. Added to hot spot list.

Broken glass on Humber Road walkways and in the Spa Road underpass.	Write to the Clean Team and ask them to make regular checks of the area if records show this to be a problem area.	Locality Co-Ordinator	End September 2007	Response reported to ASB Action Group on 05/10/07. Added to hot spot list.
Vandalism to the play equipment off Spa Road	Write to Witham Town Council seeking latest position with regard to planned programme for replacement play equipment.	Locality Co-Ordinator	End September 2007	Letter sent 19/09/07. Response Awaited. Findings to be reported to ASB Action Group. WTC advised that funding allocated – its letter dated 5/12/07 Nick Day meeting WTC 5/12 to discuss plans will advise on the outcome of these.
Difficulty in placing a response call through to Essex Police Headquarters Duty Desk [long wait times on the phone].	Invite police representative to a future meeting of the Witham Local Committee if not present on 11 th September [an invite has gone out]. Give advance notice of questions likely to be asked.	Locality Co-Ordinator	End September 2007	Letter sent 19/09/07. Response Awaited. Sgt Midwinter attended WLC 6/11/07 set out Police proposals to improve communication.
Improving the appearance of the District				
Delay in obtaining a positive response from BDC to minor annoying issues such as weed growth at kerb sides on estate roads.	Liaise with officers from Street Scene/Estates to establish their response times and to see if there is a specific resource issue.	Locality Co-Ordinator	31 October	Awaited.
Street light failures around estates and schools.	Liaise with PR with a view to establishing the cost of publication/page in Contact setting out roles, responsibilities and contact numbers for reporting failures etc.	Locality Co-Ordinator	31 October	Awaited.
Parking on verges in Redwood Close.	Parking on grass verges is the subject of a report to the meeting of the Local Committee in November.	-	-	Report withdrawn from November meeting to be presented to February 2008 meeting.

Roads and Traffic				
Speed limits are ignored in some places and in Faulkbourne a 40 mph speed limit would be welcomed between Faulkbourne and Witham.	To be picked up by the R & T Action Group. The Action Group to seek the views of fellow local Members and then work on an action plan for dealing with this and other issues.	Action Group	31 October	Awaited.
Adoption of roads at Black Notley site.	As above	Action Group	31 October	"
The poor state of repair and lack of passing bays in Brockwell Lane, Kelvedon.	Speak to Linda Gore at BDC to seek whether there are any plans to repair this road.	Locality Co-ordinator	31 October	Findings to be reported to R & T Action Group now passed to GCH
Traffic Around Witham Station.	To be picked up by the R & T Action Group. The Action Group to seek the views of fellow local Members and then work on an action plan for dealing with this and other issues.	Action Group	31 October	Awaited.
HGV routing and signage through Witham	As above	Action Group	31 October	"
Potholes in Forest Road	As above	Action Group	31 October	"
Road safety over Chipping Hill bridge and cars making U-turns at mini roundabout at junction of Chipping Hill and Braintree Road to access Albert Road.	As above	Action Group	31 October	"
Hazards to pedestrians from youngsters cycling on pavements.	As above	Action Group	31 October	"

Parking restrictions in Kelvedon High Street and Feering Hill prohibit parking for one hour every morning. Residents would welcome a permit holder scheme.	Will be picked up as part of the topic of debate at the meeting on 6 th November.	Witham Local Committee	6 th November 2007	"Discussed at WLC 6 th November and to be picked up by parking working group lead by Bob Wiltshire.
Parking in Witham Town Centre	Will be picked up as part of the topic of debate at the meeting on 6 th November.	Witham Local Committee	6 th November 2007	" Discussed at WLC 6 th November and to be picked up by parking working group lead by Bob Wiltshire.
Poor condition of the road surface in the Powers Hall End road from Chipping Hill to the Spa Road roundabout.	-	-	-	This has since been resurfaced.
Improving pedestrian facilities, particularly in rural areas by improving and extending roadside footways and public footpath networks.	To be picked up by the R & T Action Group. The Action Group to seek the views of fellow local Members and then work on an action plan for dealing with this and other issues.	Action Group	31 October	Awaited.
Improving access by the public to information and services				
Opposition to the Children's Centre at Powers Hall School by residents of Powers Hall Road.				The planning permission has since been granted by ECC.
Fire to the house in Yare Avenue - cause not made known to residents who feared their houses may also be at risk.	Liaise with Witham Fire Brigade to establish the cause and invite joint initiative on publicity regarding free fire alarms and free house surveys.	Locality Co-Ordinator	End November 2007	Awaited.

Post Office Closures	Establish which Post Offices in the Witham locality are scheduled for closure and report findings to relevant Ward Members to enable them to lobby the Government.	Locality Co-Ordinator	Closures announced – email from Kitty Barrett to all Cllrs 14 th December 2007	Discussed at Council 5 th Nov and WLC 6 th Nov – Cllrs to lobby post office on proposed closures.
Other				
Extension of Witham town centre conservation area to include Collingwood Road and some nearby streets.	Liaise with Planning Services and ask whether a decision has been made on the request for an extension to the conservation area.	Locality Co-Ordinator	End October	Awaited.
Lack of investment in infrastructure in Witham generally e.g shops, leisure facilities [cinema]. No centre for youth activity.	Will be picked up as part of the topic of debate at the meeting on 10 th January 2008.	Witham Local Committee	10 th January 2008	Awaited.
	Liaise with Cabinet Member seeking reasons as to why feasibility study of Bramston Sports Centre needs to await the outcome of the application for academy status for the school.	Locality Co-Ordinator	End September 2007	E-Mail sent 19/09/07. No response and item deferred further and taken off Forward Plan.
	Liaise with Maltings Lane Forum to establish at what stage they are with planning permission.	Locality Co-Ordinator	End November 2007	Awaited.

28/11/2007

HATFIELD PEVEREL
PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council
Eric E. Windus

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18th December 2007

Mr David Triggs
Witham Locality Co-ordinator
Braintree District Council
Causeway House
Braintree
Essex CM7 9HB

Dear Mr Triggs

Witham Area Committee – Fund for Parish Projects

My Council understands that the District Council has allocated a sum of money to each of the Area Committees to be spent on projects in the parishes for the benefit of the local community.

When this Council and the residents carried out its Village Appraisal, one of the principal concerns was of speeding traffic through the village.

For many months, the Council campaigned for support from Essex Police for the introduction of Community Speed Watch. The County Council's speed surveys always based results on average speeds rather than on actual speeds, many of which were found to be over the limit. Because of this, the Police did not feel the need to target the village with speed cameras on many occasions.

However, subsequently the policy of Essex Police changed and permitted us to introduce Community Speed Watch. Local volunteers, trained by the Police, now regularly monitor traffic through the village at varying times. This has resulted in the Police issuing fixed penalties to persistent speeders and the fact that the Police recognise that there is a problem here.

It has been noticed that when Community Speed Watch is on duty, the speed of traffic does reduce but obviously the volunteers cannot be on watch on a continuous basis.

Solar-powered equipment is available to purchase which monitors the speed of approaching traffic and exhibits a visual display if traffic is exceeding the speed limit. This equipment is being used successfully in other counties and increasingly in Essex to combat speeding by reminding drivers to slow down.

HATFIELD PEVEREL
PARISH COUNCIL

It is possible to erect posts at various strategic locations (as agreed with County Highways), where speeding is a problem. The equipment can then be sited as appropriate and is capable of being moved from post to post as necessary.

This Council would therefore like to make a bid to the Witham Area Committee for a grant of £5,000 for the purchase and installation of a Traffic Speed Measuring Equipment.

Hatfield Peverel suffers from an excessive number of vehicles per day along the B1019 (Maldon Road) and The Street, with “rat-runs” along Church Road and Wickham Bishops Road. It would therefore be very beneficial to have equipment under this Council’s control to help reduce traffic speeds, thereby making it safer for all, but particularly for residents, including children and the elderly.

Yours sincerely

Eric E Windus
Clerk to the Council

Witham Local Committee – 10th January 2008

Briefing Note re Medical Facilities in Witham

In November 2007, an article was published in the Witham and Braintree Times from the Witham, Braintree & Halstead PCT, stating that the PCT would no longer consider providing any medical facility for Witham as they felt it was not a priority area.

Subsequently, in the Times Past section of the W & B Times (5th December issue) there was an item from December 1976 that relates to a 1000 signature petition to have some kind of local medical facility provided in Witham.

I feel that a 40 year wait is long enough and I am endeavouring to get the PCT to reconsider their recent decision.

I have spoken to Priti Patel the Parliamentary Candidate for the 'new' Witham constituency who supports this action and I have also spoken to Ryan McCarthy from the W & B Times who is hoping to raise awareness of this issue.

Witham has a population (including the surrounding villages) approaching 30,000 and it is felt that a "Minor Injuries Clinic" or "Walk-In Centre" is required. Such a facility would relieve the pressure on Broomfield A & E, negate the need to call 999 for a minor injury, reduce the long waiting time at Broomfield if attending outpatients for a minor injury and enable treatment to be gained without having to drive to Broomfield.

In addition, an out of hours pharmacy could be included for when local GP surgeries are closed.

The PCT has a building in Spinks Lane in Witham which could be converted for this proposed local facility or it could be provided by using an empty town shop.

I would like to ask the PCT to clarify its statement that "Witham is not a priority" and to ascertain what medical provision they foresee for a growing populated area.

Cllr. Bill Rose

Witham West Ward

AFM/ /07

Forum: Mid Essex Area Forum

Date: 13 November 2007

AREA FORUM BUDGET

Report by: John Symonds, Area Co-ordinator for Mid Essex

Contact: Tel. No.: (01245)430097 **or e-mail:** john.symonds@essexcc.gov.uk

1. Purpose of Report

To consider the process for allocating the £50,000 Area Forum budget for 2008.

2. Background

The Area Forum again has £50,000 to allocate to projects in the next financial year. This follows £72,000 in 2005, £50,000 in 2006 and £50,000 in 2007. The projects which have been supported by the Forum over the last three years are listed in the **Annex** to this report.

3. Proposals

The Chairman of the Forum and the Area Co-ordinator will discuss possible projects with colleagues in the three districts and boroughs in Mid Essex. Options and proposals will be brought forward to the Forum in March 2008.

MID ESSEX AREA FORUM BUDGET PROJECTS IN 2005 – 2007

2005

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| • Anti-social Behaviour in the Braintree District – for facilities for young people in rural areas experiencing some forms of anti-social behaviour. | £20,000 |
| • Flooding in Braintree District – for a study of flooding hot spots which had not yet been addressed. | £10,000 |
| • Chelmsford Youth Bus Project – to provide a mobile facility for young people and youth workers in the rural parts of the Borough. | £25,000 |
| • Melbourne Park Youth Drop-in Centre – for a drop-in facility in an area experiencing some problems. | £5,000 |
| • Empty Homes in Maldon – for a research project into the extent and nature of empty homes in Maldon District and to develop an effective strategy and action plan. | £12,000 |
| | <hr/> £72,000 <hr/> |

2006

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| • PARC – provision of a permanent building for the play and resource centre for disabled children and their families at Great Notley Country Park. | £33,000 |
| • A contribution towards the provision of a new skate park in Promenade Park, Maldon. | £14,000 |
| • Preparation of a classroom area for the new NVQ Level 1 course in horticulture to be provided in Maldon as the first part of the Vocational Training Centre initiative. | £3,000 |
| | <hr/> £50,000 <hr/> |

2007

- **Inspections and safety certificates for lamp posts** in Braintree, Halstead and Witham to enable hanging baskets and Xmas decorations to be mounted. **£1,500**
 - **Braintree Community Transport** was funded to purchase a multi-purpose passenger vehicle for the fleet which will carry up to four passengers plus one wheelchair. The vehicle will be available for self-drive hire by families, groups or individuals with a wheelchair, and will give the BCT fleet more flexibility in how it is used. **£8,500**
 - A contribution to the refurbishment of the **Chelmsford and Essex Museum** in Oaklands Park, Chelmsford, to allow the new Essex Regiment Museum to house and display materials relating to the Essex Yeomanry. **£30,000**
 - **Youth Shelter Althorne.** The community has identified a need for a youth shelter as a meeting place for young people. This shelter will provide a safe weather proof environment and reduce anti-social behaviour within these communities. Consultation has taken place with young people and residents from this village. **£10,000**
-
- £50,000**
-