

**SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS TOWN COUNCIL
PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

MINUTES of a Meeting held on Tuesday 26th May 2026
at 7.30p.m.
at Champions Manor Hall

Present:

Councillor S Wilson (Chair)

Councillor A Shearring	Councillor D Thompson
Councillor I Roberts	Councillor P Price
Councillor A Cash	Councillor M Sismey
Councillor P Ferry	Councillor J Birch
Councillor K Bentley	

In attendance: Environment Officer

PE-26-437 Apologies for absence were **RECEIVED** and **ACCEPTED** from
Councillor D Eley

Absent Councillor M O Brien

Proposal: To suspend the meeting until Councillor A Cash was able
to assume her seat.

Proposed: Councillor D Thompson

Seconded: Councillor K Bentley

Vote: All in favour

PE-26-438 Dispensation Considerations

None received.

PE-26-439 Declarations of Interest

None received.

PE-26-440 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Planning and Environment meeting held on 28th
April 2026 were agreed as a true record.

Proposed: Councillor S Wilson

Seconded: Councillor A Cash

Vote: All in favour

PE-26-441 Public Questions

No public in attendance.

PE-26-442 Budgetary Position

The current budgetary position as of 20 of May 2026 attached to the
agenda was **AGREED** and **NOTED**.

PE-26-443 Previous Planning Decisions and Appeals

Committee **NOTED** planning decision differences from Chelmsford
City Council.

PE-26-444 Planning Applications

26/05086/TPO 14 The Bight

T10 Oak T10 - Oak - Fell. Reason - Proximity to road and property and tree is diseased.

The Planning and Environment Committee has **NO OBJECTIONS** to this application providing a replacement is planted from a suitable British species.

26/00488/FUL 2 155 Hullbridge Road

Single storey front extension.

The Planning and Environment Committee has **NO OBJECTIONS** to this application.

26/005089/TPO 13 Elronds Rest

T1 - Kashmir Birch - Reduce crown in height and lateral spread by approximately 2.5m, cutting back to suitable growth points and pruning to balance and shape. Reason: General maintenance to manage the size of the tree and ensure it remains suitable for its location.

The Planning and Environment Committee has **NO OBJECTIONS** to this application.

26/000330/REM Land North of South Woodham Ferrers Burnham Road

Application

PE-26-445 Bus 336 Sunday Service

Committee received an update on the grant application for the introduction of an enhanced Sunday service on Bus 336 as part of the Essex County Council Love Your Bus Grant Scheme.

Proposal: Town Clerk be authorised to sign the bus grant agreement between First Bus and South Woodham Ferrers Town Council, and to act on behalf of the Town Council in all matters relating to the agreement.

Proposed: Councillor S Wilson

Seconded: Councillor A Cash

Vote: All in favour

PE-26-446 Items to Note

Committee **NOTED** the following –

- Chelmsford City Council is preparing to submit its updated Local Plan to the Government for independent examination, with councillors being asked in May/June 2026 to approve the submission along with supporting documents such as the Regulation 22 Consultation Statement and the Schedule of Submission is expected in early June, after which a Planning Inspector will review the Plan, hold hearings, and determine any required modifications before adoption.

<https://citylife.chelmsford.gov.uk/posts/council-prepares-to-submit-chelmsford-slocal-plan-to-the-government-for-examination>

- It was reported that a damaged tree on the sponsored roundabout has been referred to Chelmsford City Council, who will arrange for an inspection to be carried out by their team.

PE-26-447 Garden of Remembrance

The Committee received an update report regarding the completion of the works required for the Pet Area at the Garden of Remembrance, with the exception of the installation of the gate sign.

Proposal: the Garden of Remembrance Pet Area be opened as soon as practicable, and that an official opening be undertaken by the mayor, with invitations extended to local veterinary practices and other guests as determined appropriate by the Town Clerk and/or the mayor.

Proposed: Councillor I Roberts

Seconded: Councillor P Price

Vote: All in favour

PE-26-448 Trinity St Marys Nature Walk

Committee considered a request from the school for a nature walk on the Fen. Request dated Thursday 2nd July 2026. Councillor volunteers required.

Proposal: the Committee supports the school nature walk initiative, with Councillor A Shearring participating, and Councillor A Cash also participating should the route be deemed accessible.

Proposed: Councillor S Wilson

Seconded: Councillor A Cash

Vote: All in favour

PE-26-449 Fen Report

Committee received an update report on the Fen with a report on the condition of the pathway up to the bridge and other areas.

Proposal: For the Clerk to arrange for the repairs to be made to the walkway and report back if under £3500, as per regulations.

Proposed: Councillor I Roberts

Seconded: Councillor K Bentley

Vote: Vote Carried 2 Against

PE-26-450 Report to Council

- Signing of the bus agreements and associated marketing
- Garden of Remembrance Pet Scattering Copse and Memorial Area
- Planned repairs to Fen Walkway

PE-26-451 Media Coverage

- Bus Service introduction once confirmed.
- New Garden of Remembrance Pet Scattering Copse and Memorial Area

PE-26-452 Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on 30 June 2026 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business to discuss the Chair closed the meeting at 20.28pm

Signed

Date: 30th June 2026