

WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Environment & Town Committee held 1 September 2025

ET25/23 Present:Cllr S Maskrey (Chairman), Cllr P Taylor, Cllr A Pollock and Cllr S Thompson

In attendance:

1 member of public, Paul Jennings (Town Clerk)

ET25/24 Apologies for Absence: Cllr S Barker, Cllr F Rostron

ET25/25 Variation in Order of Business: None

ET25/26 Members' Pecuniary Interests in Agenda Items: none

Open Forum opened 6:35pm

ET25/27 Open Forum:

A member of Grass Roots Wirksworth provided an update on discussions and progress regarding closure of the EcoCentre..

Open Forum closed 6.50pm

ET25/28 Minutes: the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment and Town Committee held on 02 June 2025 were amended with a change to explanatory text for ET25/19.. **“~~this site~~ the Tarmac Estate (such as Middle Peak Quarry and Middleton Rd Development).“** with no change to the original resolution, then the minutes were confirmed as a correct record.

ET25/29 Neighbourhood Plan

Referred by Council for discussion by both committees (E&T and FB&P – Resolution C25/36), to consider what action might be taken in light of the recent decision by central government to withdraw funding for the preparation/updating of Neighbourhood Plans.

REC that given the potential costs of any update, given the uncertainty it is not felt that this necessarily delivers best value for residents, however an alternative would be to consider a Town Plan (non-statutory) which would provide an opportunity to consult with residents on the future development of Wirksworth.

ET25/30 Memorial Tree on Meadows

A request has been made to plant a Memorial Tree on the Meadows. The Town Council has no current policy to provide Memorial Trees. As part of the design for the Meadows, a number of areas were identified for additional tree planting, and 400+ saplings have been planted on site (largely during volunteer sessions).

REC that the Council adopt a policy of no Memorial Trees, however the Council will consider accepting the donation of trees (to be assessed on a case-by-case basis).

ET25/31 Memorial Bench on Meadows

A request has been made to install a Memorial Bench on the Meadows.

Before the commencement of Meadows Project, the Town Council accepted the donation of two replacement benches on FP110 (north path). At the time, as the final design was yet to be finalised, the donation was accepted with the condition that they would not be Memorial Benches (and also might be relocated on the site). Grant funding has also been secured to allow the installation of seating as part of the project design. This includes benches, picnic tables, as well as the structural Gabion benches.

REC that no additional benches are required on site at present; there are still 4 benches to be installed as part of the existing design. Once the works on site are complete, then it will be appropriate to reassess and determine if further seating is required.

**ET25/32 Planning Applications received
RES to receive the recent delegated planning decisions of this Council.**

1	25/00683/FUL	Flat roof dormer window to the rear of the property. 7 King George Street Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4AU
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
2	25/00715/FUL	Erection of 2 no. self build dwellinghouses Building To The South Of Wirksworth Hall Farm Wash Green Wirksworth Derbyshire
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
3	25/00711/FUL	Replace rear conservatory with single story extension with vaulted ceiling. Raise existing roof height by 1.7m and erection of front extension 1 Brooklands Avenue Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4AB
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
4	T/25/00088/TCA	Fell 2no. Ash trees due to Ash Die Back Field No 21111 Pratthall Lane Wirksworth Derbyshire
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
5	25/00652/FUL	Single storey rear extension and various other works including the alterations of openings and fenestration of the building including the erection of a canopy to the frontage. 45 Oakerthorpe Road Bolehill Derbyshire DE4 4GP
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
6	25/00729/FUL	Installation of solar panels 16 The Dale Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4EJ
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint.		

The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
7	T/25/00090/TCA	Reduce western stem of 1no Ash by approximately 2 - 4 metres. Land To Rear Of 37 Spring Close Wirksworth Derbyshire
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
8	25/00757/AGR	Agricultural building for the secure storage of implements Ash Farm Stoney Hill Bolehill Derbyshire DE4 4GR
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
9	25/00762/FUL	Proposed demolition of conservatory and erection of 2 storey rear extension with single storey garden room at 78 Yokecliffe Drive Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4EX
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
10	24/01118/FUL	Variation of condition 2 of application for Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 7 no. dwellings at Windward 62 Summer Lane Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4EB
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
11	25/00768/FUL	Proposed replacement of gas boiler and flue 2 Hammonds Court Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4DN
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		
12	T/25/00098/TCA	Reduce crown by 3-4 metres of 2no. Holly trees and reduce crown by 30% of 1no. White beam Holly Bank 6 Wirksworth Hall Gardens Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4GX
WTC - No comment, however, Wirksworth Town Council requests that any development or change seeks to reduce the carbon footprint. The Town Council's position will be that a building's impact on the environment should be of greater importance than the impact on the streetscape.		

ET25/33 Planning Decisions & Appeals

(decisions are only to be reported where the Town Council have objected to application.)

None to report

The meeting closed at 7:30pm

Chairman