

WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIR: Cllr Ivor French

PLANNING COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Cllr Dick Jenkinson

DATE 1st July 2026



MINUTES

PL26:9 **Present from the Council:** Dick Jenkinson, Sue French, Ivor French, Gloria Creasey

PL26:10 **Present from the Public:** Two people

PL26: 11 **Open Public Forum Session (3 minutes per person):** Representing WM Library one member of the public stated that they have no problem with the two new rooms being added to the Medical Centre. They did have four concerns regarding the external appearance, which were: 1. The actual building will obscure part of the library from the car park. Could signage be installed? 2. The permanent access to the buildings will be very narrow 3. Access during building works will be difficult. 4. The loss of greenery on the space, will the Medical Centre be replacing planting and trees on the site or nearby the site?

PL26: 12 **Apologies for Absence: John Day**

PL26: 13 **Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda: None**

PL26: 14 **Proposal to approve the draft minutes of the Wickham Market Parish Council Planning Committee of 11th May 2026:** Dick Jenkinson noted that the planning application number needed to be added to the minutes, which was done; all present agreed the minutes were correct, and Dick Jenkinson signed them off.

PL26: 15 **Review and agree comments for DC/26/1943/FUL Construction of a single-storey flat roof extension/sunroom to the rear of the building. Site address: Wickham Market Library, The Wickham Market Resource Centre, Chapel Lane, Wickham Market, Woodbridge, Suffolk. Expiry date: 1 July 2026.** There were questions about ventilation, which direction it would face, and how many windows there would be. The drawings were looked at. Comment: We have no objection to the planning application, but we are concerned about the space's small size.

Signed: Dated:.....

PL26: 16 Review and agree comments for DC/26/1839/FUL. Single-storey extension and alterations. Site address: Wickham Market Health Centre, Chapel Lane, Wickham Market, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP13 0SB. Expiry date: 8 July 2026.

Dick provided a review of land ownership around the Medical Centre, noting that one parcel is owned by Wickham House. Two trees will be removed from the hedgerow if the extension goes ahead. Ivor French said he had no objection to what the Medical Centre wants to build; however, the paths need to be altered, as there is an area that a wheelchair or pushchair can't access. Disabled pedestrian access must be provided during construction and must remain after the new extension is completed. The correct permissions will need to be sought, as the path will cross Wickham House land. Photographs of the site were reviewed by the planning committee. The outcome was as follows:

The Planning Committee objects to the planning application because there are no plans showing how access to the Resource Centre, Library, Archive Centre, Wickham House, and Pightle will be maintained during construction. We also object to a pinch point on the access path at the north-east corner of the Medical Centre's new building, which won't be adequate for pedestrians, especially those using wheelchairs, mobility aids or pushchairs, once the extension is completed. The location of the extension will reduce the visibility of the Library and Resource Centre from the car park, and we recommend incorporating signage in the plan. As the Medical Centre is in the conservation area, we are concerned about the loss of the hedge and two trees, and a plan needs to be provided regarding new planting to mitigate the loss. We note that Cathena Healthcare, which owns Wickham House, has not been included in the neighbour consultations.

PL26: 17 Date of next meeting: TBC when there is another planning application.

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