

Update Reports 2



Planning Committee

Thu 22 Oct
2026
7.00 pm

Oakenshaw Community
Centre, Castleditch Lane,
Redditch

If you have any queries on this Agenda please contact

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Planning

Thursday, 22nd October, 2026

7.00 pm

Oakenshaw Community Centre

Agenda

Membership:

Cllrs:

Roger Bennett (Chair)
Simon Farmer (Vice-Chair)
William Boyd
Brandon Clayton
Andrew Fry

Bill Hartnett
Wanda King
Nicola Lloyd
Ian Woodall

4. Update Reports (Pages 5 - 6)

To note Update Reports (if any) for the Planning Applications to be considered at the meeting (circulated prior to the commencement of the meeting)

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Redditch Borough Council Planning Committee

Committee Updates

Update number 2.

22nd October 2026

23/01237/CPE 6 Moors Lane, Feckenham**No Updates****26/00950/FUL Redditch Play Council, The Children's Centre****No further Updates****25/00888/FUL Land at Wheaten Hill Farm, Astwood Lane**

An email has been received from Claire Bullivant of the Redditch Standard regarding fire safety matters associated with the proposed development. The correspondence requests that Members be made aware of further communications between the Redditch Standard and Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service (HWFRS) concerning the assessment of fire safety issues raised by objectors.

The correspondence raises concerns as to whether HWFRS has specifically reviewed a fire safety report submitted by an objector and whether the Fire Service has formally assessed a number of site-specific matters, including landscaping adjacent to the battery compounds, potential dust contamination, the proximity of overhead electricity transmission lines, nearby sensitive receptors and emergency vehicle access arrangements. The correspondent suggests that Members should be aware of what information has, and has not, been expressly confirmed by HWFRS prior to determining the application.

In the response from George Marshall, Area Commander and Assistant Director of Protection at HWFRS, he states that HWFRS is not a statutory consultee in respect of planning applications of this nature and confirms that the Service has provided consultation responses based upon National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) guidance relating to Battery Energy Storage Systems. He further confirms that HWFRS has recommended draft planning conditions which, if imposed, would require the applicant to satisfy the Local Planning Authority, in consultation with the Fire Service, that detailed fire safety proposals are acceptable.

Officers have reviewed the correspondence and note that it raises no new material planning considerations beyond those already assessed within the published Officer Report. The fire safety report referred to by the objector was emailed directly to HWFRS by the objector and HWFRS were subsequently reconsulted by the Local Planning Authority. Whilst no further formal written response has been received, HWFRS have not amended or withdrawn their previously stated position. All this correspondence has been added to the public access file.

Accordingly, the correspondence does not alter the officer recommendation.

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