

3 con't	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Architects/planners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Will Park reporting. ○ No new updates ○ Still no market for bigger projects ○ Planning system still causing delays. ○ Cost of reports making development too expensive on larger projects e.g. biodiversity reports (Chris Lacey interjecting and agreeing to say that was quoted £38,000 just for a BMG assessment on mitigating harm to ecology).
4.	<p>RETAIL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● JP reporting on Victoria Square and Wolsey Place- not many vacant retail units: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Footfall up 20% in February. ○ Supercuts open and is busy ○ Export house – let by Collaborate who have sublet to Cap Gemini ○ Export House – Hart Brown Solicitors have moved in. ○ Trend is for smaller space but higher quality (offices)
5.	<p>PARKING & NEIGHBOURHOOD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Richard Taylor having sent his apologies with no news; Richard Field of the Executive Committee sent a response from Councillor Will Forster regarding the continued closure of Victoria Way. Having spoken with Sir Robert McAlpine to share the experiences of Woking residents with them, Councillor Forster pursued the matter of compensation with them as well as pressing them on their timeline to reopen Victoria Way. Currently, they plan to reopen the road by Easter with a more permanent solution by summer; a timeline the Councillor found to be wholly unacceptable and will continue pushing them on.
6.	<p>PLANNING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● When sending his apologies, Tom Simpson reported that there isn't anything to update the committee on regarding Planning or other Council matters, as not much has happened since the last meeting.
7.	<p>MISCELLANEOUS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chris Lacey reporting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ His company completed the sale of his site to a national developer ○ May translate nationally and seems that Plc's are gaining confidence in housebuilding. ○ Raising awareness of the MEND fund ○ As trustee of the Lightbox pleased to report that they have succeeded in an application for a grant for repairing, modifying and improving the building. ○ There is also new cafe arrangement at the Lightbox and Chris would be grateful if members/ staff members can be encouraged to visit and provide feedback on the cafe (and, of course, the exhibitions if possible). ● Tariq reporting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Executive are seeking additional members and please could attendees consider joining. ○ Please spread the word about Woking Means Business on 7th November 2025. Stand sales are strong but we encourage more members to purchase stands.
8.	<p>NEXT MEETING: To be advised as soon as possible.</p>