

National Rural Planning Conference 2026

Thursday 1st October

The British Motor Museum, Banbury Road,
Gaydon, Warwick CV35 0BJ

A Time of Change for Rural Places





Conference Agenda.

TIME	DETAILS	SPEAKER
08.30	Registration	
09.10	Welcome	Sara Tucker FASAg, North & Letherby Ltd

SESSION 1 Opening the Gate: Why Rural Planning Matters More Than Ever

09.15	Opening Address & Session Chair	Baroness Minette Batters, Managing Director of Barford Park Ltd
09.45	State of the Nation Council Mergers, Strategic Planning and the Rural Voice a view from an elected member	Mr Andrew Brown JP LLM, Farmer, Chairman of Rutland County Council, T W Brown and Son and Fairchilds Holiday lets
10.05	Rural Planning Policy What's New? What's Changed?	More details to follow
10.25	Questions	
10.45	BREAK	

SESSION 2 When Rural Planning Gets Complicated Chair: Ros Trotman - Things LLP

11.15	When It Goes Wrong Lessons from Recent Rural Planning Disputes	Fred Quartermain, Things LLP
11.25	Environmental impact on planning	Sioned Davies, No 5 Chambers
12.00	Diversification keeping under the threshold	Ursula Bryers, Hazelwoods Accountants
12.20	Questions	
12.40	LUNCH & OPTIONAL VIEWING OF MUSEUM	

SESSION 3 Planning in Practice: Real Rural Scenarios

14.00	Tony Kernon FASAg, Kernon Countryside Consultants Sioned Davies, No5 Chambers Alex Madden FASAg, Hugh James Solicitors
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SESSION 4 The Evolving Landscape Chair: James Hobbs FASAg CEnv - JMH Farming & Renewables Ltd

14.30	Care Farming Agriculture, Education or Something Else?	Robin Hobson, Laurence Gould Partnership Ltd
14.50	The Opportunity for Renewables	Holly Hoban, Energy Analyst, Regen
15.10	Farming's Future Policy, Politics and the Rural Economy	Baroness Minette Batters, Managing Director of Barford Park Ltd
15.40	Questions	
16.00	Closing Address	Sam Franklin FASAg, Landscape Land & Property
16.15	CONFERENCE CLOSES	

Booking form.

How to book

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