

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2015 AT 7.30 AT GROSVENOR HOUSE, GROSVENOR ROAD, WHITTLESEY.

Present: Cllr Miscandlon, Boden, Bristow, Butcher, Curtis, Dorling, Garratt, Mrs Jolley, Mrs Laws, Mason, Miscandlon, Mrs Mayor, Whitwell, Wicks, Mrs Windle.

Officer in attendance: Mrs Sue Evans –Town Clerk & RFO

Recording:

F167/15 To receive apologies from absent Members and the reason for the apology.

There were no apologies

F168/15. Declaration of Members Pecuniary Interests, on items to be discussed later in the agenda and the Council to decide which items are to be discussed as confidential under agenda item number F185/15.

- Opening of Tenders WTC website.

Councillors Mrs Laws and Miscandlon as members of FDC Planning Committee advised that should planning applications be discussed they may comment, but reserve the right to change their minds should more information become available at a later date.

F169/15 Police matters including CCTV Report

- The police were unable to attend.
- Cllr Mrs Mayor advised members that she had raised an issue with parking on Commons Road too close to the junction, this is with PCSO Ian Moll who is dealing with the vehicles.
- Cllr Garratt asked for a note in the minutes commending the police on their work for Remembrance in both Whittlesey and Coates, a letter to thanks to be sent for the two events plus the 11th November 2015 work as well.

F170/15 Street Scene Officer Report

- Sally Mitchell Street Scene Officer for FDC advised that 12 businesses had been visited this month, one issued with a section 34 notice as they were unable to provide evidence on how they were disposing of their waste.
- Dog enforcement – Coronation Avenue, signage has been placed on the road, 2 lots of dog fouling removed, Patrols of the Manor Field produced 4 lots of dog fouling. The green wheel is looking pretty good with no complaints, there are now 2 additional litter bins on the Green Wheel. The team are continuing with their paw print spraying around the bins to show where people should be putting their dog waste.
- Abandoned vehicles – 2 abandoned vehicles have been removed, and a further one on Station Road has been moved off the highway onto a private drive by the owner.
- Fly Tipping – Long Drove is an area where there is quite a lot of waste being left, household waste, plastic sheeting, manure and various other items. Green Wheel a large amount of black bags than contained dead cannabis plants.
- ASB – An individual issued with a community protection warning it is a letter that tells them what they should do.

F171/15 – Mr Rob Litten – Executive Head Teacher – Whittlesey Learning Trust.

- Whittlesey Learning Trust includes New Road and Park Lane, Rob advised he has now been in post for 8 weeks. This is a multi academy trust and seen as an opportunity for schools to work together and have more control over their budgets..

- Rob has committed to 10 years being in this post to ensure the continued success of Park Land and ensure the imminent expansion of New Road school, this would be by adding a class every year, currently there are 90 pupils, they are hoping to increase it to 210 pupils.
- There would have to be additional mobile classrooms based on the field at New Road, the Whittlesey Childrens Centre located at New Road may have to be relocated.
- Cllr Mrs Laws asked if there was a break clause the Childrens Centre Contract, Cllr Bristow advised there was but it could only be exercised by the County Council. This would increase the school by two rooms and would be far cheaper than hiring or purchase of mobile class rooms. The Childrens centre could release the two rooms and they would still retain the two rooms that they currently use.
- Cllr Bristow believes that the catchment area for New Road is an additional 250 pupils, however New Road is not seen as a popular school, however with the expansion on the North side of the town, the 250 will have to come into New Road. AJS cannot be expanded, Coates caters for Coates and Estrea, the only two schools that can expand is New Road and Park Lane, Cllr Bristow would ask for Cllr Butcher and Boden support this, Cllr Mrs Laws suggested a letter go from WTC to Mr Litten and his executive committee to request that the County Council do the right thing. If the predictions are right they may need one mobile classroom, unless they have to build onto the school.

F172/15 To confirm and sign the Minutes from the meeting of the Council held on the Wednesday 14th October 2015.

Ratified: The minutes were approved with the following amendment noted F153/15 – Katie Macan should read Katie McAndrew one amendment.

F173/15 Public Forum

To allow any member of the public to address the council. Time allowed 15 minutes in total.

F174/15 Information Only.

- There is no information

F175/15 Invitations.

- There are no invitations

F176/15 To confirm and sign the minutes from the meeting of the Planning Committee on Wednesday 23rd September and Monday 12th October 2015.

Ratified: The minutes were approved with a unanimous vote in favour.

F177/15. To confirm and sign the minutes from the meeting of the Finance & Policy Committee on Monday 28th September 2015.

Ratified: The minutes were approved with a unanimous vote in favour.

F178/15. To confirm and sign the minutes from the Community Projects Committee on Wednesday 23rd September 2015.

Ratified: The minutes were approved with a unanimous vote in favour. Cllr Garratt wished to thank Cllr Whitwell for all the work he has done on the contractor documentation.

F179/15. To receive verbal reports from members who have attended meetings with outside bodies.

- Cllr Mayor – Hereward Community Rail Franchise – as soon as Cllr Mrs Mayor has any further information members will be advised.
- Cllr Whitwell – Tour of Cambridgeshire Race for 2016 – the organisers admitted that the road closures and signage were not as clear as they should have been, they 2016 race will be better organised, they are doing 3 mail shots to effected residents, one end of October to advise when race taking place, one in March 2016 and the final one in May 2016. The road closures for 2016 and the circuit for the race will be split into 12 sectors and road closures will be controlled by each sector. Some of the problems

for this year were the race start took one hour longer than expected. The route is the same as last year, it will be the Benwick Road and Glassmore bank that will be affected the most.

- Cllr Dorling to advise the Whittlesey Business Forum about the 2016 route and also the changes for the 2017 route. This information will be put to the forum at their next meeting 18th November 2015 and Cllr Dorling will receive feedback from them. The business forum have asked as we are further down the road with their website, could they piggy back on the back of the town council's website. This will be discussed future by the council at a later date, once the WTC website is live.
- Cllr Butcher advised members that the recycling centre will certainly be there for another year.
- Cllr Bristow asked if Cllr Butcher or Miscandlon knew who had received any funding from Burnthouse Farm, Cllr Miscandlon advised the applications were very sparse from Whittlesey.
- Cllr Mrs Windle advised she had attended the latest Whittlesey Festival Meeting and would advise the Clerk of the date of the Festival for 2016.

F180/15. To discuss any planning applications received from Fenland District Council for comment including:- (these are applications that fall outside the normal meeting).

A copy of the planning decisions taken by Fenland District Council is attached – White Sheet

Members had also been given the monthly delegated decisions report, which is informative, however it does have it's shortcomings, Cllr Miscandlon advised that this form is now going to be sent to all Clerks and there may be some modifications ie making it easier to read, members suggested that a filter put on so the Clerks can just print the information for their areas.

Cllr Whitwell asked about the S106 report as it did not contain any information relevant to the villages on the report sent out by the Clerk which had been received from FDC, however on further investigation and drilling down on the menu's Cllr Whitwell advised that the villages are present. The Clerk to investigate further with FDC.

F/YR15/0920/CERTLU – Use of dwelling for working from home (ancillary use) at Manor House, 6 Manor View, Whittlesey.

Cllr Mrs Windle advised members she had been contacted by a number of residents of Manor View and Portland Place who have been adversely affected by the operating of a "high end" sound system business from 6, Manor View, she was aware of eight letters being submitted to Fenland in opposition of this application.

Cllr Mrs Windle gave members a copy of the information below to read prior to making a decision on the application.

OBJECTION STATEMENT FROM RESIDENTS OF MANOR VIEW AND PORTLAND PLACE

This statement is with regard to the application of a Certificate of Lawful Use (Existing) – use of dwelling for working from home (ancillary use) at Manor House, 6 Manor View, Whittlesey, PE7 1TF

We, the residents, object to this application for the following reasons...

This residential estate was built in 1999-2000, before then Portland Place was the only existing road. Our cul-de-sacs were joined and over the years we became a friendly, good neighbourhood. At this time the Manor House was divided into four apartments with four different families all with their own vehicles. It was a 'normal' residential estate part of it – including the Manor House – in a Conservation Area. There was the usual activity regarding vehicles and the families, and as time went on we all recognised each other and a good Neighbourhood Watch system was set up.

Then the Penska family moved in during 2011. The house had been converted into two houses and the family own and live in both of them, both houses have double garages. For those of you who are not aware of the position of the Manor House, it is within the houses of Manor View and the main thoroughfare to their front door is down Manor View, then into a small private drive – also known as Manor View – with three other houses in the cul-de-sac. Mr and Mrs Penska live here with their two daughters and they have four vehicles – none of them garaged. They have at least two employees who park on the hard standing in front of one of their garages.

Towards the end of 2011 our area was turned into a nightmare with large lorries, couriers and private cars all touring around the cul-de-sacs looking for a company called Analogue Seduction. This company was being run by the Penska's at the Manor House, and was formed in 2006, long before they moved to Whittlesey. The company sells high end audio equipment. We complained to Fenland DC about it and after failing to get planning permission, they were told to cease trading from the property. At the time we said we didn't mind anyone working from home as long as it was administration work, and the work didn't have an impact of any sort on their neighbours.

Since then they acquired a distribution warehouse in Station Road. The lorries ceased, however the couriers and strangers kept coming. It is claimed that Analogue Seduction is an on-line only business, but that is false as they also advertise in magazines. In their advertisements they say....

"Our showroom premises are a beautiful 15th century manor house located in the historic market town of Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, where we offer our customers a friendly, relaxed personal service, with the finest demonstration facilities. Free car parking. Demonstrations by appointment. Evening and weekend demonstrations are welcome." (See half page advert attached.)

Their customers come in their vehicles, wandering down the cul-de-sacs, knocking on people's doors down Portland Place as well as Manor View, even right down the other end of the cul-de-sac, enquiring where Analogue Seduction is. It is a regular occurrence and an annoying one. Then they usually park their vehicles in Manor View as there is no allotted parking for their customers. They buy directly from the Manor House as we have seen them loading their boxes in their vehicles. And still, the couriers continue their deliveries despite the company being told to cease trading by Fenland DC.

This isn't what we bought into 16 years ago, basically Analogue Seduction has a retail showroom in the Manor House, in the main house or no 6A (or both houses), and we object to them interfering in our lives. We're fed up with strangers wandering around our residential estate, and having to live with delivery vans, some which drive at high speed. Their business has totally made our Neighbourhood Watch system unworkable.

The Planning Statement which they have submitted is totally misleading and contains some untruths. Whoever submitted it has obviously never been down Manor View or indeed been to the Manor House(s).

In our opinion they should either move their business totally to the warehouse as they were told to do so in 2012, or they should rent a shop locally, pay the correct taxes, and help our "historic market town".

This is the situation now, it is obvious that Analogue Seduction will gradually grow and so will the traffic flow and disruption.

We request your support in this matter that you turn down their application for a second time, as originally instructed by Fenland DC Enforcement Officer in 2012.

End.

Cllr Windle commented as follows: Manor View and Portland Place are small residential roads and the business at 6, Manor View has had in my opinion a damaging affect on the quality of life for many of the residents of Manor View due to the high level of business deliveries.

The owners of the business also own business premises at 14-15 Springwater Business Park, Station Road, Whittlesey so their business activities could take place from the business address.

Cllr Mrs Windle recommended refusal, seconded by Cllr Mayor with a unanimous vote in favour of rejection of this application. Cllrs Miscandlon and Mrs Laws abstained due to their positions on Fenland District Council Planning Committee.

F/YR15/0925/F – Erection of 3 x 2 storey 3 bed dwellings – Site of former 50-52 Inhams Road, Whittlesey

The previous planning application for 50-52 Inhams Road for 4 x 2 bed properties was approved by this council but was refused by Fenland District Council. It was refused on the basis it was contrary to LP2 and LP16.

Cllr Mrs Windle believes the changes requested by FDC have now been addressed and the revised planning application of 3 x 3 bed properties is acceptable. Cllr Bristow and Cllr Windle have reviewed the plans carefully and see no good reason to refuse this application. Therefore they recommend approval. This was proposed

by Cllr Mrs Windle, seconded Cllr Bristow with a unanimous vote in favour. Cllrs Miscandlon and Mrs Laws abstained due to their positions on Fenland District Council Planning Committee.

F/YR15/0928/F – Erection of a single storey side extension and porch to front of existing dwelling involving the demolition of existing garage – 223 Station Road, Whittlesey.

The Town Council have no objection and therefore recommend approval, proposed Cllr Butcher, seconded Cllr Whitwell with a unanimous vote in favour. Cllrs Miscandlon and Mrs Laws abstained due to their positions on Fenland District Council Planning Committee.

F/YR15/0933/F – Erection of 3 no dwellings comprising of 1 x 2 storey 4-bed with detached garage and 2 x single storey 2/3 bed involving demolition of existing dwelling – 42 Stonald Road, Whittlesey

The Town Council have no objection and therefore recommend approval, proposed Cllr Whitwell, seconded Cllr Mrs Mayor with a unanimous vote in favour. Cllrs Miscandlon and Mrs Laws abstained due to their positions on Fenland District Council Planning Committee.

F/YR15/0949/F – Erection of 6 x 2 storey, 3 bed dwellings involving demolition of existing buildings within a conservation area – Land at Church Street, Garage, Church Street, Whittlesey.

The Town Council have no objection and therefore recommend approval, proposed Cllr Mason, seconded Cllr Bristow with a unanimous vote in favour. Cllrs Miscandlon and Mrs Laws abstained due to their positions on Fenland District Council Planning Committee.

F181/15. Agenda items for Discussion.

- Tender Documents for Grass Cutting on B1040, The Bower, The allotments hedge, The planting of hanging baskets and the maintenance of hanging baskets – Cllr Whitwell as requested following the F & P meeting has made a few changes to the contract paperwork. The Bower is being further looked at on the weekend and a decision made as to whether this requires its own contract or could be incorporated within the grass cutting and maintenance contract. Cllr Whitwell advised that all the contracts would run from the beginning of April 2016, however due to the planting of hanging baskets, the nurseys would need to start the seeding now, it would be inappropriate for the tenders to start April 2016, the tender for the hanging baskets will start October of each year. The projects committee wanted a 4 year contract, however F & P preferred for a 1 year contract. Following in depth discussions Cllr Curtis proposed a four year contract, this was seconded by Cllr Laws, members voted as follows: 9 in favour, 1 abstention, 3 people against the Mayor choose not to vote.
- Cllr Whitwell and Cllr Garratt will go and measure up the Bower towpath and then put a document together that will be sent to CCC, FDC and Middle level to request contributions for the maintenance of this, the letter to state percentages and not actual monetary figures. Cllr Boden stated that we should not give impression that we are happy to take responsibility and other agencies should definitely be involved.
- Cllr Mrs Mayor has produced a press release for Discovering Whittlesey, the Peterborough Telegraph and Cambs Times advising that the documents will be available after the 8th December 2015.
- Cllr Whitwell reported on the Tour of Cambridgeshire Cycle Race, the minutes are below:-

Notes of the Meeting of Councillors to discuss the Tour of Cambridgeshire Cycle Race held at 7.00 pm on Thursday 22 October 2015 at Grosvenor House, Whittlesey

- **Present:** Cllrs C Boden, R Butcher, S Garratt, Mrs R Jolley, A Miscandlon, Mrs K Mayor, R Whitwell, R Wicks, Mrs J Windle and Tom Caldwell (Vericool Sports Ltd)
- **Apologies:** Cllrs A Bristow, M Curtis, E Dorling, Mrs D Laws and D Mason
- **Notes taken by Cllr Mrs Mayor**
- Cllr Whitwell (REW) opened the meeting and introduced Tom Caldwell, Vericool Sports Management Organiser Tour of Cambridgeshire.
- REW reminded Cllrs that an email had been received during August 2015 regarding the plans for the 2016 Tour of Cambridgeshire Cycle Race; plans are now underway and contact and comments were welcomed by the organisers regarding any changes. REW had met with Tom Caldwell (TC) and had discussed the possibility of the race taking in Whittlesey or parts of the Town. This meeting had been reported back to Whittlesey Town Council and as a consequence this evenings meeting had been

arranged. During the initial meeting between REW and TC a suggested route had been as follows: The race starts in Peterborough – along North Bank, - B1040 into Whittlesey – junction of A605 (Kellyvision Roundabout) – East along A605 through Eastrea and Coates – south towards Turves; It had been previously noted and was confirmed that this race requires a full road closure – this had raised some concerns.

- Cllr Butcher (RB) remarked that the 2015 race had caused enormous problems in the area covered – especially the Pondersbridge and Benwick areas – RB is both a CCC and FDC Cllr for these areas as well as a Whittlesey Town Councillor. The road closure signs had caused huge problems and the residents had not been consulted with. TC accepted the comments and remarked that lessons had been learnt from last year's race especially the lack of notification and the incorrect road closure notices. TC offered to discuss with RB.
- TC informed the meeting that plans for 2016 race are now well underway and there is no possibility of including Whittlesey in those plans. The earliest this could be considered would be for 2017. During discussion TC also advised that Chatteris has also shown an interest in being included.
- TC further advised that the Tour of Cambridgeshire is a qualifying round for the Amateur World Championships. There will be approximately 6,000 participants and the race attracts international riders and TV coverage. Circa 3,000 participants live within a 30 mile radius of the event. Further the race gives profile to The Fens and approximately £460k is spent with local contractors.
- The County Safety Advisory Group (SAG) oversees the event and Cambridgeshire County Council is very keen to support it.
- TC explained there are some downsides – because of the scale of the event, safety is paramount and they have no choice but to close roads. The organisers accept that the event was put in place last year within a very tight timescale and there was poor communication. There is a meeting scheduled to take place on Thursday 29 October at Elton Furze Golf Club for an exclusive short presentation to Public Authorities about the 2016 Race. Several local members have been invited and REW has been asked by Cllr Miscandlon (Mayor of Whittlesey) (AM) to attend to represent Whittlesey Town Council. REW has agreed to attend; this does not exclude any other local invitee from attending.
- TC advised that every household on the route will receive a mail shot with a further two mailshots later in the year. There is also a website: www.tourofcambridgeshire.com - and there will be a poster campaign. The route has been agreed with CCC.
- Cllr Garratt (SG) raised concern about the length of time the roads would be closed – last year notices stated 12 hours. REW read out an email received from Cllr Dorling (ED) – copy attached – regarding the need to close the roads for the length of time notified. TC reiterated that lessons had been learnt from last year but emphasised that in reality the roads would need to be closed for three to three and a half hours. TC confirmed that there are procedures and provisions in place for emergencies.
- Cllr Boden (CB) queried the date of the event – first weekend of June – and discussion took place around the benefit to the Community and the Town and the probability of what could be arranged to tie in with the event.
- Discussion took place about the cancellation of the Circuit of the Fens race which took place in 2013 and 2014 but was cancelled due to lack of sponsorship for 2015. Cllr Mrs Windle (JW) questioned whether the two events could at some future date be combined and requested confirmation whether either or both events would be at any cost to Whittlesey Town Council. TC confirmed that no money/funds would be required from Whittlesey Town Council. JW also suggested that the new Business Forum should be consulted about the cycle race coming through the town and the pros and cons for local businesses.
- Cllrs Garratt and Whitwell on behalf of everyone thanked Tom for his attendance.
- Members agreed to discuss the matter at the next Town Council Meeting.

End.

- Members discussed the minutes above and felt that if it was routed through Whittlesey, it was a closed road race, ie if the route was from Kellyvision to Coates and through the villatges, the A605 would be closed for approximately 4 hours the B1040 would also be closed for this period of time as well. Cllr Whitwell suggested that a poll is undertaken and residents asked for their comments, this would need

to be undertaken in early 2016. Cllr Garratt suggested that this be taken forward by the Community Projects Committee. This was a unanimous decision for the Projects Committee to take this forward.

- Bus update – Cllr Mason advised members that he had submitted the findings from local residents to CCC, Cllr Mason has subsequently met with Paul Nelson from CCC to discuss the current situation and it was decided to try and source another bus company to also run from Whittlesey, Decker buses on Station road would be approached. They also agreed a late night bus from Peterborough to Coates would be useful, approximately leaving Peterborough at 8.20, and Stagecoach and Fact would be approached with regards to running this service. Agreement was made to also ask the buses to go via Bellmans and undertake the New Road route. Paul emailed Cllr David Mason tonight and he has not heard anything from Decker or Stagecoach, he had received a response from FACT with a cost of approximately £200 to run this service on a nightly basis. Cllr Mason and Paul were going to suggest to WTC a 3 month trial, effectively use it or lose it!. For any changes, there would need to be a consultation period which is 56 days. Cllr Boden suggested perhaps smaller vehicles could be used for this type of service and not the full size bus. Cllr Whitwell asked whether Peterborough City Council could be contacted as they want to reduce vehicles in the town centre, so perhaps an increase in the bus services to Whittlesey would help this and transport links could be improved to enable people to get into Peterborough. Cllr Boden requested that WTC make representation to Peterborough City Council a response to this consultation, Cllr Boden will also send a link to all Cllrs and ask Cllrs to respond individually to a part of the consultation.

Cllr Curtis also asked for a note to be included in the response a note about the Green Wheel from Peterborough to Whittlesey the path is crumbling and very poor and it would be beneficial to help with transport links. Cllr Curtis also advised that government are also looking at councils retaining the business rates that they collect, this would further encourage Peterborough.

- Update on legal advice for the Showfields – Cllr Curtis advised members that legal advice has been received and requested it was discussed in the confidential section of the meeting, members voted by majority to carry out this require.
- WTC Website – Cllr Dorling advised that a 14 point plan had been sent to 3 people asking them to quote, 3 domain names have been purchased and a further one is currently in the process of being purchased. Some of the points included easy navigation, contact information, ward information, security, use of copyright, potential for social integration at a later stage, mobile phone compatibility, 24 hour hosting, easy font's, FAQ, tracking data and updates to be uploaded by a professional. The Website and all content would be owned by Whittlesey Town Council. One Monday 3 people attended the offices to present to members on how they would run the WTC website. The three tenders A, B & C would be opened and discussed in the confidential part of the meeting.

F182/15. Ward Matters

- Cllr Mrs Windle reported the River bank at both East and West has been cut, the benches at the Bower will be painted in the spring.
- Cllr Bristow – bridge on New Road being inspected 3 monthly, the bridge is moving away from the bank but not the support which is sufficient. CCC still do not know who owns the bridge and it is with their legal department.
- Cllr Bristow asked Cllr Butcher if he had inspected New Road and if not could he do this, Cllr Butcher will undertake this task.
- Cllr Bristow asked for update on the Sainsbury, Cllr Mrs Laws advise as it is approved the next stage is sitting with Sainsbury
- Members asked if the planning application has been submitted by Taylor Wimpey – The Clerk to email as ascertain if they were going to submit and application.
- Cllr Bristow wishes to advise he is totally against the decision taken by the planning committee on the application for Linley Road and has received comments from residents to say how disappointed they are.
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F183/15. Approval of Bank reconciliation and Council payments.

Members approved the bank reconciliation there was one anomaly of £111.76, the Clerk explained that the difference was due to the fact that the bank had been reconciled, then a further invoice entered onto the system after this which showed the difference of £111.76 – this was a Frontier Voice and Data invoice.

The payment list was not present and Cllr Boden asked if the Clerk could advise as these had been approved at F & P did they need further ratification at Full Council – The Clerk to investigate and report back.

F184/15. Exclusion of the Public, including the Press.

Resolved that in respect of the following item of business, the public, including the press, will be excluded from the meeting, because of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, publication of which would be prejudicial to the public interest.

F185/15. To discuss those items previously agreed at agenda item F168/15

- 10.05 The Mayor suspended Standing Orders.

F186/15. Date of next full Council meeting – Wednesday 9th December 2015 at 7.30 at Grosvenor House,

Meeting ended 10.25.

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Cllr Alex Miscandlon
Mayor of Whittlesey.

DRAFT