

# WHITTLESEY TOWN COUNCIL

## FULL COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.30pm  
at Grosvenor House, Grosvenor Road, Whittlesey**

**Present:** Cllr Butcher, Miscandlon, Mason, Boden, Whitwell, Mrs Laws, Wicks, Dorling, Mrs Windle, Mrs Mayor, Bristow and Cllr David Connor (County Council representative).

**Officer in Attendance:** Mrs Susan Piergianni – Town Clerk.

**Recording:** DS250.DS2

### **F22/18. To receive apologies from absent members and the reason for the apology.**

Cllr Mrs Jolley (illness), Cllr Garratt (no reason)

### **F23/18 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 F41/18**

- Land Ownership – CB

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

### **F24/18 Police matters including CCTV Report**

#### **Report from PCSO Shane Green.**

Through the month of January local officers have been busy dealing with crimes and local issues within the community.

We have received a few reports from members of public in relation to how 'heron' foods have been conducting their deliveries and this is something we will look to contact the store to come up with a longer-term solution.

We had a short Speight of 'Theft from Motor Vehicles', Patrol plans and shift changes were put in place to reduce this issue.

There has been 3 Business Burglaries in the month and 2 Dwelling Burglaries.

A sexual assault occurred in the area during the month and this is an ongoing investigation being dealt with.

Two persons were found with drugs in area of King's Delph, Whittlesey whilst officers were conducting patrols.

Local officers are currently planning some road safety events with local schools and aiming to tackle the local parking issues outside schools.

Local officers will continue to work with schools and care homes doing some engagements and will also continue the engagements in the library. These dates can be provided upon request but will also be posted on our local Policing Whittlesey Facebook.

Hotspot patrols have been carried out acting upon local intelligence provided by councillors and Neighbourhood Watch members this has included drugs intelligence and dangerous driving. So, any intelligence you may have on these issues is much appreciated.

As I am sure you all appreciate we do have to manage risk and protect the vulnerable in our role, therefore we will be working towards all local parking issues reported to us by councillors/public & Neighbourhood Watch when time allows. We are meeting with some local councillors to discuss parking issues. You can report issues of this manner to us via our email addresses.

As always, any questions please get in contact. – PCSO Green

End.

Cllr Boden updated members on the meeting that had been held with the Management Team at Heron Foods regarding the issues with delivery. CCC highways officers and the Heron management team to discuss this issue and endeavour find a suitable solution.

### **F25/18 Street Scene Officer Report**

Members asked for a breakdown of the fly tipping and the 13 tickets that have been issued by Kingdom. The existing Street Scene Officer is now working part time, Cllr Mason has asked FDC staffing committee if these hours are going to be replaced.

### **F26/18. To confirm and sign the Minutes from the Full Council Meeting of the Council held on the Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018.**

**Ratified:** The minutes were signed and approved

F05/18 – the Clerk to ask Cllr Tierney for an update on the following point that was raised in the January Minutes ‘Cllr Bristow asked what the subsidy is that CCC would have to find to extend the bus service from Park Farm, Cardea to Whittlesey which is just over 4 miles. Cllr Tierney will speak to our County Councillors’

Cllr Bristow advised the reply from CCC to his letter stated there was to be no extra money for transport and they identified they had no intention of looking at an evening service for Whittlesey, however the powers that be will look at other funding streams.

### **F27/18 Public Forum**

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

10 Members of the public were present.

Bernard Gray-Esson – Coates

The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Street pride is this year and they have decided on a celebration piece which has been agreed with FDC, it will be a Beet Cutter and a raised Flowerbed on Grosvenor Road, he confirmed they have received 4K from the ‘Tesco bags of help’.

There is a new bench on the A605 near Queen Street Surgery, people are stopping to use this and eating in this area, but leaving rubbish, Street Scene have now secured a bin for this area.

Stephen Hodson

The Business Forum would back any campaign for a better bus service for Whittlesey and its villages, Mr Hodson expressed concern about the lack of affordable housing, he felt that developers are trying to get out of building them by resubmitting viability assessments, he would like the town council to consider this when looking at any planning applications.

Mr Brian Smithyman

Thank you for allowing me to share my experience regarding the Syrian Refugee issue, which I trust you will decide to support. When invited to be a part of this group, I have to say how impressed I was with the presentation made by David and Alex at that meeting. As I was impressed with the structure surrounding the re-settlement of the proposed two families.

Due to being approached by some of our congregation with a proposal we deliver supplies of various items to the camp at Calais. This resulted in me having to research the whole issue. It became very clear that the boat people type of camps, were a hotbed for cultivating terrorism, and uncontrolled infiltration into a nation, apart from being illegal. It is also well known that extreme Islamic terrorists groups such as isis use these situations to install their moles into a country waiting for the moment to be used to cause death and bloodshed. In the meantime they would spread their evil ideology. As sad as it was to understand what they had suffered, I ultimately felt it was not something we would be happy to get involved in.

However, my research also produced a completely different outcome when it came to the official Syrian refugee camps. The refugees are vetted and the numbers entering a country were strictly limited and helped to become integrated into the life of that community. resulting in them benefitting this country as much as this country benefitted them. I am personally impressed with the structure surrounding this, and would have no hesitation in playing whatever part we can to bring about a successful outcome. Housing them close to the church would really help us use our free provision for Pre-School children and Over 50's, plus our Cabin could be used for teaching English to the adults while the children are either at pre or regular school.

David Lewis

On behalf to the people who live on the entrance to the new estate behind Glenfields – traffic is getting heavier, and more dust being created, is there any way that District / County Councillors speak to the developer to try and control the articulated vehicles entering and existing the site.

#### **F28/18 Information Only.**

There was no information.

#### **F29/18 Invitations.**

- Talk by 'East Midlands Waste Ltd' the owners of Saxon pit to give an update on what's going on and what their intentions are. This presentation is by invitation only. The Clerk to furnish members with the full details.

#### **F30/18 Consultation**

- Whittlesey Moorings – Cllr Mrs Laws proposed we accept the 36 hours proposed by Fenland District Council, this proposition was amended by Cllr Bristow to 48 hours, seconded Cllr Whitwell, both proposals were subject to a vote, and the initial proposition of 36 hours was agreed unanimously.

#### **F31/18 To report the draft minutes from Finance & Policy on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018.**

The draft minutes were reported.

#### **F32/18 To report the financial documents**

- To report the bank reconciliation – members received the balanced bank reconciliation.
- To report the list of payments & To report the list of uncashed payments – There was one uncashed payment that being the cheque for the licence to Fenland District council.
- To report the year to date figures (2017/2018). The Chairman advised we are 86 % through the year and 59% spent.

20.30 – Cllr Curtis joined the meeting

#### **F33/18 To report the minutes from the Planning Meeting on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018 and the draft minutes from Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018.**

Ratified: The draft minutes from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018 and Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018 were received.

**F34/18 To report the draft minutes from Community Projects on the Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

The draft minutes were received

Cllr Bristow asked why the item regarding sponsorship was deferred from this meeting, Cllr Whitwell advised that certain members were against asking for sponsorship, hence why this item has been deferred. Cllr Curtis suggested sponsorship could work in two ways, firstly it could reduce the council spend or it could allow the council to organise additional events. Members were advised this will be discussed further at the next Community Project meeting.

**F35/18 To receive verbal reports from members who have attended meetings with outside bodies.**

Cllr Miscandlon – meeting with Jason Ablewhite and other Cllrs, it was pointed out that ‘Roadwatch’ the company who carried out the data capture for us are not recognised by the Police, however they do take the data obtained seriously, they do have an officer who specialises in this and works with an affiliated Speedwatch team, a further meeting will be arranged. Cllr Whitwell brought up the issue of parking, Jason Ablewhite reported that the county council have powers to decriminalise parking which will allow a third-party agency like Kingdom to be responsible for monitoring and issuing parking tickets, they have done this in Cambridge City but nowhere else in Cambridgeshire.

Cllr Mrs Laws – further to the meeting she attended with Whittlesey Wash Lands in January, she has requested the plans several times since this meeting and is still chasing.

Cllr Wicks – Following the Straw bear brush up meeting 9 plus licencing offices are being reduced to 6. It was very positive by all the emergency services and the way the stewards conducted themselves when the incident at outside the ‘The Black Bull had occurred.

Cllr Dorling – Training session GDPR coming into force on the 28<sup>th</sup> May 2018 the Chairman, Cllr Whitwell and the Clerk to work on policies and look at the information the council hold.

Cllr Dorling – Stand available at the Business Forum Fair for the Must Farm delivery team to maximise the impact this will have on the town

**F36/18. To discuss any planning applications received from Fenland District Council for comment including: -**

To receive the list of planning application decisions.

**F37/18. Agenda items for Discussion.**

**Must Farm - DM**

Cllr Mason reported as follows: ‘I am delighted to report that funding of £25,000 has been agreed to enable a Feasibility Study to commence on the siting of a new Visitor Centre at Kings Dyke to house Must Farm artefacts, to create a Heritage Centre to record the history of Brickworks in Whittlesey and to provide further educational facilities for local schools on the adjoining Nature Reserve. It is also hoped that in time the Whittlesey Museum may wish to extend their operation at the proposed Visitor Centre.

The funding has been provided by contributions of £5,000 each from Whittlesey Town Council, Fenland District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council with a further £10,000 from the Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Combined Authority.

This is seen as an important step in the growth of Whittlesey as a tourist attraction and having been part of a selection panel held in Grosvenor House recently I can announce that consultants Fourth Street have been appointed to carry out the Feasibility Study and their material is available for public inspection this evening.



The Chief Executive of Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council, Gillian Beasley has expressed her eagerness in working with Fourth Street to secure a successful National Heritage Lottery Fund grant'.

### **Neighbourhood Plan - DL**

Cllr Mrs Laws advised there is a workshop on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at the Christian Church. She has a conference called booked on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> with the Locality team to obtain free of charge assistance with a 'Site Specific' masterplan.

### **Property working group update – DM**

Having cleared the small print with our solicitors on the proposed move to new council offices on the site of the old police station in Queen Street our architects, Swann Edwards have carried out last week a detailed survey of the premises and will be bringing their suggested project design to the Property Working Group on 23 February prior to a presentation to the Full Council.

Now our solicitors are also advising the Town Clerk on our options when considering a move out of Grosvenor house later this year.

### **Community Rail Partnership – AB**

Cllr Bristow advised the next stage of the station masterplan is to hold a public consultation in April, the date to be confirmed (possibly 20<sup>th</sup>), commencing at 6.30am at the station, then 9am on the market square, followed by a meeting at Grosvenor House which the public are welcome to attend. There is also an option for a public meeting again there is no confirmed date. Mr Alan Neville - representative from Greater Anglia has offered to come to a meeting to answer any questions members will have, Cllr Bristow has suggested May and will speak to Mr Neville to request he attend the Full Council in May

### **Potholes – AB**

Cllr Bristow wished it would be minuted that he would like to thank CCC for the work that has been done on New Road.

### **Syrian Refugees – DM**

Syria has been embroiled in a civil war for the past eight year rendering countless families homeless. Many of us will recall the newsreel flashed across the world of the small boy sitting in a state of shock covered in rubble after his home had been bombed and destroyed wondering no doubt what had happened to the rest of his family.

Those pictures inspired the Anglican churches in Whittlesey to donate the proceeds of their 2016 Christmas church services via The Red Cross to assist in the relief of stricken families in Aleppo.

The UK Government have pledged to grant refugee status to a limited number of Syrian families and to accept them in this country with full British citizenship. This process has now begun with Peterborough City Council being amongst the first to support the scheme.

In turn, Fenland District Council have been asked by central government to repatriate two families and because of the proximity to Peterborough and I believe the genuine sympathy of local people along with a successful Emergency Food Aid scheme operating in Whittlesey I have volunteered myself as a champion to their cause and wish to oversee a pilot scheme in Whittlesey

All funding for this scheme, including housing costs in the private landlord sector for five years will be met by the International Aid Fund operated by central government. There will be no social housing considered and therefore there is no cost to the community of Whittlesey to facilitate the scheme. As a Christian and as a human being I look upon this as my duty and I seek the formal support of Whittlesey Town Council support in this mission.

Cllr Bristow asked about child places and was advised by Cllr Mason that with full British Citizenship the children would be entitled to school places in the same manner as any other child moving into the area. To facilitate the issues with the language. ESOL (English Speaking Other languages) specialist training would be organised through Whittlesey Christian Church

### **Ramsey Road – CB**

Cllr Boden expressed concern that the start date for the resurfacing has been delayed.

### **F38/18 Ward Matters**

Cllr Miscandlon – the LHI for Coates corner is out for consultation.

Cllr Mason – purchase order for two additional pieces of equipment for children at the Manor Play area,

Cllr Boden 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb CGR goes to FDC to be passed to go to the next stage, he is unable to attend so would hope another Cllr could attend.

Cllr Whitwell – trying to obtain better play equipment at the Tower Play equipment, there have been over 400 responses, that will enable FDC to go apply for grants.

Cllr Wicks – put in

Cllr Dorling – thanked the district and County councillors for the assistance with the Windmill Street and surrounding streets for yellow lines, public notices will go up tomorrow the closing date for comments to CCC will be 9<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

Cllr Mrs Windle – confirmed the wooden footbridge over The Bower has now been completed and has disabled access both sides. Golden Age – posters The Clerk chasing

Cllr Mrs Windle – Double yellow lines in front Park House have still not been installed, apparently

Cllr Butcher – Play area at Bevills Pasture, Axiom have fenced this off and will not be carrying out any remedial works, Cllr Wicks will take this up with Phil Hughes at Fenland DC.

21.25 – Cllr Mrs Mayor left the meeting.

### **F39/18. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

### **F40/18. Exclusion of the Public, including the Press.**

### **F41/18. To discuss those items previously agreed at agenda item F23/18**

- Land Ownership

Meeting Closed 21.30



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Cllr Ralph Butcher  
Mayor of Whittlesey