

# WHITTLESEY TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 7.30pm at Grosvenor House, Grosvenor Road, Whittlesey**

**Present:** Cllr Butcher, Miscandlon, Mason, Whitwell, Mrs Laws, Wicks, Dorling, Mrs Jolley, Mrs Mayor, Bristow

**Officer in Attendance:** Mrs Sue Piergianni – Town Clerk & RFO

**Recording:** DS250154.ds2

## **F01/18. To receive apologies from absent members and the reason for the apology.**

Cllr Mrs Windle (holiday), Cllr Curtis (work), Cllr Boden (illness), Cllr Garratt

## **F02/18 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 F21/18**

- Approval of Confidential Minute F213/17 from December 2017 meeting.
- Land Ownership

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.

## **F03/18 Police matters including CCTV Report**

Members had no comments on the report.

## **F04/18 Street Scene Officer Report**

This will be emailed to all members.

## **F05/18 Presentation from – Cllr Steve Tierney – Area Champion Fenland representing CCC.**

This is part of the CCC Community & Partnerships Committee. To help the community work better together to handle things that happen in the community. Cllr Tierney does not currently have a budget, but that will change in the future however the project does have a budget. An example of this would be they may be able to help with the building the council are changing within the town, the County may be able to help with technical support, financial assistance, not his job to solve the problems, but to help the town council with the issues and offer support. Cllr Tierney quoted a project that has been very successful in Wisbech, it is called dancing for tots, and the children are small, however it is not only helping the tots, but helping with social isolation of mums.

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.

## **F06/18. To confirm and sign the Minutes from the Full Council Meeting of the Council held on the Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017.**

**Ratified:** The Minutes were signed and approved.

## **F07/18 Public Forum**

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

8 Members of the public were present.

Cllr Gerstner attended an executive meeting of the NHW forum, Inspector Hunt gave an in-depth presentation of the police review that has been driven by financial constraints. We are now back to a North and South region, Fenland falling under Peterborough. The Police wish to continue with Neighbourhood Policing, they are trying to encourage people to report crimes online. They are looking for trusted partners, eg NHW to visit victims in their home following domestic crimes. NHW in Cambs has 1625 coordinators. The Police review has promised 50 additional offices and consultations are out for the increase in the Police Precept, which would provide an additional 55 officers, therefore giving 105 officers.

National survey available for the levels of Nitrogen Dioxide and by placing a postcode would give a result of the levels expected.

Mr Gerstner expressed his thanks to Cllr Laws for getting the signs back up when the North bank was closed, he commented that there are three signs on the way from Thorney, however only one in Whittlesey which was not in place. As we are now in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we should have electronic signage in Whittlesey

The Chairman suspended Standing Order to allow Cllr Sutton to present and answer questions.

Cllr Will Sutton – advised members that paperless planning has been in place for several months and Cllr Sutton asked for feedback.

Members felt that sometimes map details were inadequate, but they may be just the snapshot of the area and not necessarily to do the with actual plans.

Cllr Bristow felt that the lack of paper has increased the length of the meeting as members viewed the plans during the meeting. Cllr Sutton advised that some Council's download everything to a flash drive prior to the meeting. The Clerk will investigate.

#### **F08/18 Information Only.**

- Jottings from Jimmy's

#### **F09/18 Invitations.**

- There are no invitations

#### **F10/18 Consultations**

- There were no consultations

#### **F11/18 To report the draft minutes from Finance & Policy on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

- The format for the reporting document for the new year was agreed.
- Policy Document updates are ongoing

#### **F12/18 To report the financial documents**

- To report the bank reconciliation – Members were given copies of the balance Bank reconciliations for all accounts.
- To report the list of payments & To report the list of uncashed payments –There were no uncashed payments and members received the list of payments.
- To report the year to date figures (2017/2018) – The Chairman advised we are 77.2% through the year against 53% spent, the prediction is we will be 33K under budget by the end of March allowing this underspend to be put into reserves.

#### **F13/18 To report the draft minutes from the Planning Meeting on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December.**

The Minutes were reported.

### **F14/18 To report the draft minutes from Community Projects on the 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018**

The Minutes were reported.

### **F15/18 To receive verbal reports from members who have attended meetings with outside bodies.**

Cllr Mason – Annual General Meeting of WEFA, where he was re-elected as Chairman, Brian Smithyman as Secretary and Sue Jennings secretary, this year they produced 52 food packs for Christmas for people in need.

Cllr Whitwell – Mud Walls meeting, they have finished surveying all the walls in Whittlesey, they will then produce a survey showing all the mud walls, additionally there is another document giving details of a walk showing all the mud walls. During the Month of January there will be a display at museum.

Cllr Mrs Laws – Board meeting of Whittlesey Wash lands – the RSPB have designed and taken it upon themselves to request fencing be installed on some of the flood plains, they have commented the fencing has been installed on the South Barrier bank, but this is to prevent livestock damaging the bank. The RSPB wish to install small mesh fence to prevent foxes etc from attacking the bird, unfortunately this would cause problems with the mesh becoming blocked therefore preventing water flow, leaving a question as to who would maintain and keep it clean. The RSPB have been advised they need to work with the EA before moving forward, Cllr Mrs laws has asked for plans showing the proposed locations for the installation of this fencing

Cllr Dorling – Bus Fest on the 20<sup>th</sup> May, the same day Whittlesey Business Forum, the two organisations are trying to work together, FDC have offered the Manor free of charge, this will provide additional parking.

### **F16/18. To discuss any planning applications received from Fenland District Council for comment including: -**

To receive the list of planning application decisions.

### **F17/18. Agenda items for Discussion.**

- Community Road Watch / SIDD / Traffic Calming – Update AM – Cllr Miscandlon has organised a meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018, 12.00 at Whittlesey Town Council office, Cllr Bristow advised he would attend.
- Kings Dyke Crossing – Cllr Butcher advised some works will start in the Spring of 2018, but may not be finished until the end of 2019.
- Coates Conservation – Cllr Mrs Laws requested WTC offer £600.00 to FDC to allow the Coates plan to be. Proposed £600.00 Cllr Mrs Laws, seconded Cllr Miscandlon, unanimous vote in favour. Cllr Sutton will move the project forward, an invoice will be sent to WTC.
- Must Farm - AM/ED/DM – Cllr Mason, advised there will be a press release from CCC tomorrow. WTC have committed to funding £6k for the feasibility study, Cllr Mason has been in discussions with Cllr Tanfield who advised funding would be discussed by FDC in due course.
- Neighbourhood Plan – DL/ED – Article in Discovering Whittlesey (reduced slightly) and the full article in the 'The Fens', it gives details of what a Neighbourhood Plan is, also gives details of the Workshop being run by URBED with support by the Whittlesey Neighbourhood planning team. The workshop is 24<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at the Whittlesey Christian Church.



- Property working group update – Cllr Mason advised that Swann Edwards have started some designs, the contract papers are with WTC solicitor, the Clerk to chase this up.
- Community Governance Review – Cllr Mrs Mayor Proposed the wording, seconded Cllr Mrs Laws, unanimous vote in favour. The Clerk to send this to Fenland District Council.

### **F18/18 Ward Matters**

Cllr Mason advised before Christmas the residents meeting to discuss Church Street had taken place, 68 residents attended, plus Cllr Mrs Windle, Boden and Connor. Residents expressed concern about the Bridge over the Bower. CCC have agreed to commission structural survey from the river up and under the bridge at a cost of £7k. The Structural survey that was undertaken in June 2017 was not taken from under the bridge.

Cllr Laws & Miscandlon will both attend the LHI meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> January to promote their respective schemes.

Cllr Mrs Laws asked for thanks to be passed onto the PCSO's for all their help with the monitoring of the parking hotspots and the vandalism that has recently occurred.

Cllr Wicks advised members that WTC have written to Axiom regarding the play area at Bevills Pasture, the response received was not very helpful, the Clerk has sent a second letter asking for the outstanding points to be responded to as soon as possible.

Cllr Dorling – Very good support from the County and the District Councillors regarding parking issues on Broad Street, the police have been involved and meetings have been arranged and he would like to thank Cllr Mrs Mayor for her assistance.

Cllr Dorling – Pigeon fouling problem – area has been cleaned up for the Straw Bear – Cllr Mayor to investigate what we can do legally to rid the town of the vermin.

Cllr Mrs Jolley – parking on Crescent Road is still a problem, vehicles are parking on both sides people unable to pass. This needs to be reported again to March Neighbourhood Policing team – the Clerk has offered to do this for Cllr Mrs Jolley.

Cllr Bristow – Cllr Surgery on Saturday – Gentleman from Linley road expressing concern about the condition of New Road, with the support of Cllr Connor the highways officer has been out and looked at the road surface and they have expressed concern, Bellmans Grove also has issues the manhole covers are standing proud of the roadway. Cllr Bristow expressed his thanks to Cllr Connor.

### **F19/18. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

### **F20/18. Exclusion of the Public, including the Press.**

### **F21/18. To discuss those items previously agreed at agenda item F02/18**

- Approval of Confidential Minute F213/17 from December meeting.
- Land Ownership
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Meeting Closed: 21.15



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Cllr Ralph Butcher  
Mayor  
Whittlesey Town Council