

WHITTLESEY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes from the meeting of the Full Council on Wednesday 13th March 2019 at 7.30pm at Grosvenor House, Grosvenor Road, Whittlesey,

Present: Cllr Mrs Windle, Boden, Butcher, Mason, Whitwell, Mrs Jolley, Dorling, Miscandlon, Mrs Mayor, Bristow, (Cllr Connor CCC representative)

Officer in Attendance: Sue Piergianni -Town Clerk

Recording:

F41/19. To receive apologies from absent members and the reason for the apology.

Cllr Curtis (work), Wicks (holiday), Cllr Mrs Laws will be late. No apologies were received from Cllr Garratt.

F42/19 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 F60/19.

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 later.

F43/19 Presentation from Ann Dew Development Planning Manager and Ben Purdy Head of Technical Sales – Persimmon Homes.

Cllr Miscandlon & Cllr Connor – left the room.

- Reserved matters have been sent to FDC and WTC for 220 dwellings. This is late due to time constraints.
- Variation of condition was approved in January 2019
- S106 contributions for education, highways, waste, libraries, just under 1.7 million.
- The original outline consent was for 220 dwellings, the proposed mix will be 1,2,3 and 4-bedroom houses, overall 2% - one bed, 15% - 2 bed, 58% - 3 bed and 25% - 4 bed.
- All houses in flood zone 1 and all open space in flood zone 3
- 1.9hectares of open space
- Play area in flood zone 1, centrally located with a range of different play equipment.
- Detailed landscape scheme is available online
- 495 allocated parking spaces and 12 visitor spaces
- Only one phase for build, western half first, access from East Delph then gradually develop the rest of the site.
- Less than 1 in 1000 of flooding, all above 5.3m AOD, 4 attenuation ponds, which sit within flood zone 1.
- If washes are flooded, they can still discharge their site.
- Two water courses running through the site, they will improve them as part of the build.

Cllr Mrs Mayor expressed concern about existing properties and the flooding implications, as these are mainly bungalows and already have drainage problems. Who will be responsible for any further issues in this area? Mr Purdy advised the attenuation ponds should help with the flooding issue.

Cllr Mrs Mayor – revision B, shows removal of pumping station, Mr Purdy confirmed this is just a foul connection, so therefore not surface water. Cllr Mrs Mayor also expressed concern that there is a pond adjacent to the play area.



Cllr Boden agreed phasing of the development is better West to East and that all construction traffic will come from East Delph.

Cllr Boden was not happy with unadopted roads as these seem to be in the affordable housing area and will not be maintained. Mr Purdy advised that CCC will not adopt all the roads within the development anyway.

Cllr Boden – Pleased to see management company being put in place, resident’s management company to maintain the site, Anglian water will adopt all pipe systems and ponds, management company to maintain the existing ponds. Part of Teal Road is under 5m AOD, they need to create space within flood zone 3 to accommodate the extra water, anything done here will just further displace the water.

Cllr Boden suggested additional parking spaces, on the spare road space adjacent to the open spaces.

Cllr Mason - If the B1040 flooded how would the construction traffic get to site, Mr Purdy advised this would have to be reviewed.

20:05 Cllr Mrs Laws joined the meeting and Cllrs Miscandlon and Connor returned to the meeting,

F44/19 Police matters including CCTV Report

Cllr Butcher highlighted break-ins and cars being stolen in Coates, none of these incidents are in the February report. Is there anything on record about the recent troubles in Coates. The Clerk to ask Sgt Lugg.

F45/19 Street Scene Officer Report

The figures for the villages were not broken down – The Clerk to request this on future reports.

F46/19 To confirm and sign the Minutes from the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th February 2019.

Resolved: The minutes were signed as a true record.

F47/19 Public Forum

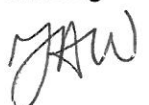
To allow any member of the public to address the council. Time allowed 15 minutes in total.

12 Members of the public were present.

Mr Roberson – Willow Cattery – Under the new regulations, they have had to apply to FDC for a new licence and pay. Under the previous regulations, each area was measured, and advised they could board a certain number of cats, the new regulations are staff to animal ratio. They can now only hold 50 cats, 25 per person, their own cats must be included in the numbers, so they can only now hold 46 this would allow them to have a 5-star rating. This is not just them it is the whole boarding industry. They have been awarded a 5-star licence that is valid for three years.

Mr Hodson – Expressed concern that regular estate houses being sold on leasehold and not freehold, leasehold should only be for flats, ensure the Show field properties are not sold in this way.

Mr Bernard Essen-Gray – Wype Road by the old Chapel, vehicles parking on the left-hand side and drivers are now having to drive on the wrong side of the road, also when you exit Thornham Way, there are now vehicles parking on Wype Road just at the entrance to Thornham way, causing issue.



F48/19 Information Only.

War Memorials Bulletin – Available at the meeting

F49/19 Invitations

There are no invitations

F50/19 Consultations

- Revision of Local Validation Guidance List – CCC – Cllr Boden will work on this response
- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough combined authorities local transport plan – Cllr Mrs Laws has given the details of the local magazines and website to enable advertising of the plan and survey.

F51/19 To report the minutes from the Finance & Policy Committee on Monday 18th February.

Resolved: The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

FP18/19 from F & P 18th February 2019 – Cllr Mason suggested that to reduce the timings of the meetings any members that have attended meetings with outside bodies submit their reports to the Clerk who will send out to members, this will also assist the Clerk with the Minutes. Members agreed for the Chairman to suggest some wording to be sent to members to move forward with this proposal.

- To report the bank reconciliation – The Chairman confirmed all bank balances are correct and thanked the Clerk.
- To report the list of payments & list of uncashed payments – members approved the payments for vouchers 289 to 314 totalling 7956.46.
- To report the year to date figures (2018/2019) 94% of year at 85% spend
- To review the amended budget 2019/2020 Version 11 this was proposed by Cllr Dorling, seconded Cllr Miscandlon, with a unanimous vote in favour.

F52/19 To report the Planning Minutes from Monday 18th February and receive the Planning Minutes from Wednesday 6th February

Resolved: The Planning minutes from Wednesday 6th February were received and signed as a true record and the Planning Minutes from Monday 18th February were reported.

F53/19 – To receive the Community Projects minutes from Wednesday 6th February 2019,

Resolved: The minutes from the Community Projects Minutes were reported.

Cllr Dorling has asked that allotment fees are investigated as the budget has been exceeded in the last couple of years Cllr Whitwell requested that any investigations cover the past five years as the additional expenditure could not have been predicted.

F54/19 To receive verbal reports from members who have attended meetings with outside bodies.

- Cllr Whitwell Mud Walls meeting, they are looking to list some further mud walls.
- Cllr Dorling – attended the Hereward Community Partnership Meeting on 6th March 2019 and reported as follows:
 - Visitors were told that improvements to Whittlesey Station are expected to be delivered by the end of 2023 (10 years since the project was initiated) however neither a schedule

of works or identification of the contractor was provided. The officer indicated that a gap was developing between the ringfenced funds and the likely costs.

- Concerns were raised by visitors about the apparent lack of urgency in delivery of this project, we were told that progress is linked to another station project, and when challenged on why Whittlesey has been linked with the master plan when it could be commenced independently – the response centred around compliance with established working practices.

Cllr Dorling suggested the following actions:

- Exactly what the developments are and how they compare with the original costings.
 - The cost of the project.
 - A schedule of works and confirmation of the funding that has been ringfenced.
 - Who will pick up the slack if a gap in funding develops?
 - Receive monthly feedback that can be provided to all interested parties
- Cllr Dorling – Transport Strategy – a good presentation which showed people how they can get from A to B using alternatives.
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 - Hereward Rail Partnership – Cllr Bristow advised that on the night of the meeting, two trains were cancelled, people couldn't get home from this meeting.

55/19. To discuss any planning applications received from Fenland District Council for comment including: -

There were no planning applications.

F56/19 Ward Matters

- Saxon Pit – Cllr Boden – still waiting for update after six weeks, unable to get hold of the case officer at the building inspectorate in Bristol, he advised the appeal that was put back until 28th August 2019, site operator is seeking a further postponement, as one of their consultants is unwell.
- Parking – Cllr Boden – problems all over Whittlesey and its villages, no action can or will be taken by the police, the chief constable is not interested in any local initiative, we may be forced to go down the de criminalisation route.
- Coates Bus Shelter – Alex Miscandlon – resident got hurt as area totally flooded. CCC agreed drainage is in poor state and will action some remedial work to try and rectify this issue.
- Cllr Mrs Laws – assisted lady who had fell in co-op car park, we need to write to the car park owner. Cllr Mrs Mayor to write to the car park owners.

Cllr Connor reported as follows on the Pondersbridge LHI and Kings Dyke

- LHI for Pondersbridge, CCC will delegate an officer to devise a preferred scheme, 10k will come from CCC, 1k from WTC and 4k from underspend on previous LHI at Gravel House Corner. If any falls into Ramsey TC area, the Mayor will be invited to attend the site meeting and Cllr Connor stated they will make a contribution.
- Kings Dyke – site being cleared – terms and conditions are being finally agreed.

F57/19. Agenda items for Discussion.

Cllr Mrs Laws - Neighbourhood Plan - policy officer meeting 14th March 2019, should be able to put timeframe together to return details to consultant to achieve the public referendum

Cllr Mason – Property Working Group - At last month's Full Council Meeting approval was given in principle to engage NB Construction as main contractors for the refurbishment of the new council premises in Queen Street at a budget price of £260,000 which included a contingency sum of £29,000. Formal acceptance of terms and conditions were deferred pending receiving costs for installation of gas supplies for heating purposes.

Last Friday the necessary gas prices were received from British Gas for commercial boiler systems and associated adaptations in the sum of £17,400 with a further quotation of £9,460 for combi boilers to the flats above the premises. The total sum of £26,860 would have exhausted our contingency sums which was clearly undesirable.

Therefore, an emergency meeting between the Property Working Group, NB Construction and our agents, Swann Edwards was convened. The result of which is that further quotations from other gas suppliers will be sought. In the event of gas prices remaining constant a detailed analysis of the total cost of the project has been undertaken to reduce the total amount to allow gas installations to take place without detriment to our contingency sum which may be required elsewhere.

An alternative method of heating through generated solar power is also being considered.

Subject to satisfactory adjustment of costs within our original budget formal negotiations, subject to council approval, will be entered into with NB Construction for a start date in Mid-April and completion in July 2019.

Cllr Mason - Syrian Refugees – There was no update

Pondersbridge LHI - This has been covered earlier in the meeting by Cllr Connor.

Rights of Way – The Chairman advised that any rights of way that have not been notified to FDC/CCC by 2026 will be lost and therefore asked Councillors to check the maps in the Clerk's office to ensure all the known Rights of Way are clearly identified. Cllr Whitwell will endeavour to check all of them but will require assistance from other Councillors.

F58/19 Date of next meeting – Wednesday 10th April 2019

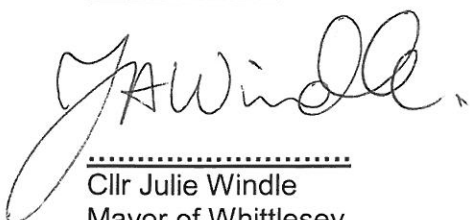
Cllr Whitwell gave apologies as he is on leave.

F59/19. Exclusion of the Public, including the Press.

F60/19. To discuss those items previously agreed at agenda item F42/19.

There were not items for discussion

Closed: 21.02


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Cllr Julie Windle
Mayor of Whittlesey

10/4/19.

