

## WHITTLESEY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022 at Peel House, 8 Queen Street, Whittlesey, PE7 1AY

**Present:** Cllr Mason, Dorling, Mrs Windle, Munns, Wicks, Boden, Davies, Mockett, Gerstner, Nawaz

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

**Recording:** This recording is made as an aide memoir for the Town Clerk.

### **F47/22 To receive apologies from absent members and the reason for the apology.**

Cllr Mrs Laws, Mrs Mayor, Miscandlon & Whitwell

### **F48/22. To receive members' declarations of disclosable pecuniary, non-disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in relation to any agenda item.**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **F49/22 Street Scene Officer Report & CCTV report.**

The Street Scene report was received.

### **F50/22 Police Report**

Members asked when the 'Day of Action' on the A605 would be held as this was promised by Dale Preston and Joe Punton at the Meeting in November. The Clerk will chase this up.

### **F51/21. To confirm and sign the Minutes from the Full Council Meeting held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022.**

**Ratified:** The Minutes were approved and signed as a true copy.

### **F52/22 Presentation Mrs Nicola Speechley Handy Person Team Leader – Age UK Cambridgeshire and Sarah Thompson**

Ms Thompson presented the Services that AGE UK Cambs and Peterborough offer, she is the older people and resident's manager, the company are part of AGE UK but are their own charity. AGE charity shops are part of national AGE UK, they do a receive a little funding from AGE UK national division, they support older people to live at home safely and are advocates for them. Some of the services provided are listed below

1. Visiting support for benefits applications and access to health, need disabled facilities grant completed.
2. Community Warden Schemes, not yet one in Whittlesey, existing one covers Chatteris, March, Benwick and Wimblington, light touch support with free trial for two weeks 9.00 per week per one, or eleven per week for a couple to keep them living at home, this could be short- or long-term support .
3. Home support Service – to help people with household tasks and weekly shopping this has a charge associated with it.
4. Hospital support service – free community wrap around service, does help where people may not need hospital but could be a crisis point.
5. Social opportunities – 6-day services across the county, activities, hot meal, outings, allowing people to socialise
6. Sharing Time / telephone befriending – people who may not be able to get out, this keeps them socially in contact and not isolated. The sharing time is the same principal but with a home visit.
7. Friendship Clubs – usually look for volunteers take the lead on this after it has been set up

Ms Thompson then asked Mrs Speechley to give a brief overview of the Handy Person Scheme.

8. Mrs Speechley leads the 'Handy Persons' Service, they go out fit grab rails, (FOC from government), do small jobs for individuals this has increased in last quarter. Conduct wellbeing assessments, she did advise that engineers are also being trained so they can do assessments in home and sometimes do the work when they are there.
9. If they install exterior galvanised rail's, these are chargeable, they also assist with making additional steps, flat pack furniture, gutter cleaning on bungalows, small jobs they also work closely with hospitals in the county, especially if people are leaving hospital and need carers, they will FOC fit a key safe.

Cllr Gerstner – it would be nice if there could be a visiting support service in the library.

Cllr Boden – How much connectively is there with FACT. Sarah will see if they have the relationship with FACT to take people to the friendship clubs.

No agreed funding amount from AGE UK National, quite difficult to obtain funding.

Definition pensionable age or if they have a disability service can be offered, but most services can be offered to over 60's.

### **F53/22 Public Forum**

To allow any member of the public to address the council. Time allowed 15 minutes in total to be split equally between the total amount wishing to speak.

Four members of the public present, no one wished to speak.

### **F54/22 Agenda items for Discussion.**

1. Cllr Surgery – Cllr Mason  
Surgeries are held first Saturday of each month 9.30 – 10.30. Very few residents turn up, if they do continue should they be by appointment or just open door. Cllr Boden advised there does not seem to be the demand any more as residents come into the office and speak with the Clerk, who can pass on details and issues to the relevant councillor. Cllr Munns suggested appointment method is better. Cllr Mockett agreed with Cllr Munns but also suggested that a weekday would be beneficial. Cllr Gerstner suggested we remain the same until the next election where Cllrs may change. Cllr Nawaz suggested we offer assorted options, (face to face, zoom, email, telephone). Cllr Davies suggested we continue as we are now.  
Proposal to continue Saturday Surgery – Cllr Munns, seconded Cllr Nawaz with five in favour and one abstention. Proposal for pre booked appointments Cllr Munns seconded Cllr Mrs Windle with the majority in favour one abstention, one against. Members agreed 1pm on Friday as the cut-off point. Each appointment will be 15 minutes. This will start from 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in June. Cllr Mockett suggested further discussions about additional surgery days would be a good idea. The Clerk suggested that when residents book and appointment the details are passed to the Ward Councillor as they may be able to resolve this and save the resident having to come to the office.
2. Flagpole – Cllr Gerstner – Advised members that the Projects Committed had discussed the 4m angled wall mounted flagpole at a cost of £59.99, plus the cost of installation £200.00, Cllr Gerstner proposed the purchase, seconded by Cllr Boden with 6 in favour, 2 abstentions, and 1 against, Cllr Nawaz comments he was not happy as would wanted two vertical flag poles at a cost of £2200. The Clerk suggested purchasing three flags, Union Flag, flag of St George and the Armed Forces Flag.
3. Jubilee Bunting – Members were advised that the bunting and hand flags were £ 310.00, this was proposed by Cllr Mockett, seconded by Cllr Davies, with a majority vote in favour. There was one abstention.



4. Travelling Fair – The Town Council had been asked if the travelling fair could open for an extra day (Sunday), and leave Monday, previously they were open on a Friday and Saturday and leave on a Sunday. Cllr Nawaz proposed this be allowed, seconded by Cllr Mockett with a unanimous vote in favour. However, members did ask FDC to convey they would like them gone by 9.00am on the Monday.
5. Barr Street – Cllr Gerstner stated this is in a terrible condition, it is a short cut to Church Street & Ramsey Road and needs someone to inspect it immediately. He also stressed the A605 is not fit for purpose and needs to be surveyed correctly as there are several issues at Kings Dyke where the road is in terrible condition. Cllr Gerstner understands that A605 has no funding for repairs. Can WTC write to CCC and request they conduct a full survey on both these roads which should identify the need for repairs. (Whittlesey Cemetery Road to Kings Delph). Cllr Boden advised there is no money specifically for the A605. Highways have been out and marked various places in yellow. The gully cleaning on the A605 from Gravel House Corner to Horsey Toll is ongoing and CCC have finally accepted that more regular inspections should be conducted, and the drains cleaned out twice a year. Additional vehicle movements from Johnsons commence today, plus when bridge is open there will be more vehicular movements. CCC in 2021/22 had a seven million shortfall which has now been put into their reserves. Cllr Wicks advised members of a subsidence issue between Coates and Gravel House Corner. Cllr Dorling stated there has been no cycle race since 2016 as there was no bridge in place, now the bridge is in place, we now need a road that is fit for purpose and of a high standard. (Environment, sport, activity) Cllr Boden advised the data has been collated regarding Fenland Roads, this showed our roads were 10% worse than all other roads in the county.
6. Safeguarding Policy – deferred to F & P Meeting.

#### **F55/22. To receive Councillor & outside body reports.**

**Cllr Boden** reported that the LGBCE were complimentary about the helpful comments made by WTC regarding the ward boundaries for Fenland, they have agreed there is compelling evidence that Benwick is best placed with Doddington, a single ward for Lattersey, 2 Cllr wards 3 Cllr Whittlesey East and villages ward with a various of minus 8%

Cllr Mrs Windle – There will be no Whittlesey Festival this year, it is schedule for 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023, the existing committee is in transition, there will be an autumn open meeting to attract new members to be part of this event with an AGM later in the year. Mrs Windle advised the Big Bash will be taking place on the 26<sup>th</sup> of June 2022

Cllr Bob Wicks advised he had attended the Strategic transport plan for fenland.

#### **F56/22. Finance & Policy**

To report the draft minutes from the Finance & Policy meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and receive the Minutes from the 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2022.

Ratified: The Minutes from the Meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> of April 2022 were reported and the Minutes of the meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March were received.

#### **F57/22 To report the financial documents.**

- To report the bank reconciliation to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.
- To report the list of payments & uncashed payments. Voucher 321 – 351 £22,971.35 proposed Cllr Boden, second Cllr Wicks, unanimous in favour.
- To report the year-to-date figures (2022)  
Cllr Boden thanked the Clerk for all her hard work.
- To consider the following donations that were discussed at F & P on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022



Cllr Boden advised the donations will take just under one-third of our GPC budget

1. Scout Jamboree – 500.00 each (total 1000) – unanimous vote in favour.
2. Siblings Together – Approved but will not be paid until the main Charities bank details are received.
3. St Jude's Catholic church – deferred as information was not complete.

**F58/22. To report the draft minutes from the Planning meeting on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022.**

**Ratified:** The draft minutes were reported.

**F59/22. To report the draft minutes from the Community Projects meeting on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022.**

**Ratified:** The draft minutes were reported.

**F60/22 Information Only.**

There was no information.

**F61/22 Invitations.**

There were no invitations

**F62/22. Date of next meeting – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**Closed 9.02.**



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Cllr David Mason  
Mayor of Whittlesey