

## WHITTLESEY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7.30pm at Peel House, 8 Queen Street, Whittlesey, PE7 1AY

**Present:** Cllr Dr Nawaz, Miscandlon, Mrs Windle, Wicks, Munns, Boden, Whitwell, Gerstner.

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

**Recording:** The recording is made as an aide memoir for the Clerk

### **F17/2023 To receive apologies from absent members and the reason for the apology.**

Cllr Mason, Mrs Mayor, Mrs Laws, Mockett, Dorling & Davies (all personal reasons)

### **F18/2023. To receive members' declarations of disclosable pecuniary, non-disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in relation to any agenda item**

Cllr Miscandlon as substitute on FDC Panning may make comment but will reserve the right to change his mind should more information become available.

### **F19/2023. Street Scene Officer Report & CCTV report.**

The Street Scene officer report was received.

### **F20/2023. Police Report**

There were no police report due to the changeover of staff.

### **F21/2023. To confirm and sign the Minutes from the Full Council Meeting held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**Ratified:** The minutes were approved and signed as a true record, proposed Cllr Miscandlon, seconded Cllr Boden with a unanimous vote in favour.

### **F22/2023 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.

Five members of the public present

Stephen Hodson – Thanked the town council for supporting the refusal of the AW Jenkinson's application, secondly everyone should be wearing black armbands as we are not going to get the heritage centre. He asked the council to continue to pursue the heritage centre.

Mr Robert Windle – Friends of the Manor met on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023 to discuss ongoing issues, most crucially to arrange a meeting between FOM and Phil Hughes – FDC and Freedom Leisure. The next meeting is 11<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 6.30pm. The Big Bash will be held on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2023. Mr Windle advised that the flip book on the town council's website shows a calendar of events for the town this has also been sent to all Cllrs, if anyone knows of any new events or changes to existing events, could they email Mr Windle.

Mr Windle also advised that due to the lack of recent information a low turnout could be expected at the voting for the Neighbourhood Plan, he had invited someone to speak on the radio to advise why it is happening, however no one offered to attend. He ended by stating that residents do not know what this is about.

## F23/2023 Agenda items for Discussion.

1. Neighbourhood Plan – In Cllr Laws absence, Cllr Boden advised the referendum will take place on 23 February 2023, 7am to 10pm. Everyone entitled to should have received their polling cards. Unless there is something particularly controversial the percentage turnout is usually only about 12%, postal voters play a large part in the response as they do not have to turn out to vote. Cllr Boden advised if there was a vote against, nothing happens, we will have no local say over influencing on planning decisions made at FDC. We were only able to put this forward after it had been approved by an inspector providing it did not go against the Fenland Local plan. It is not taking place on the same day as the local elections, apparently it is not permitted. (to clarify it does not fall within the current legislation, FDC will be paying for the polling stations for the NHP vote).
2. Mayors Collar & Chain Update– Defer to the March Full Council Meeting.
3. Boiler - Cllr Boden advised some taps are radiators need replacing at a cost of £2677.00, Cllr Miscandlon proposed the works, seconded Cllr Wicks with a unanimous vote in favour.
4. Hanging Basket Watering – Defer to the March Full Council Meeting.
5. Kings Coronation – The Clerk confirmed the following events, Saturday – The Rag Dolls with support on Coates Green, the pubs will be open, however people can bring their own food and drink. Cllr Mockett is sourcing the generator. Sunday – Pure Queen with local support at the Manor. Colin Wilson from the Falcon will be on site with a bar and food area, and again people are invited to bring their own supplies. A further update will be given at the next Full Council meeting.
6. Heritage Centre – Cllr Miscandlon advised the Heritage centre project has not been cancelled, just presently suspended, a section of land has been put forward at the Manor as the preferred site. It has been tentatively agreed for a bid writer to assist once the land has been agreed, it is the land north of the tennis courts. Cllr Boden advised one of the issues is whether Freedom leisure feel this is in competition with them for business.
7. Civil Parking Enforcement – Cllr Gerstner asked for an update on this item. Cllr Boden spoke as a Town Councillor and not leader of FDC. Frustrating over 2 years ago the project was moving fairly quickly, however, CCC have given South Cambs priority and all other towns have been pushed back. Negotiations are continuing between Hunts DC, Fenland DC and CCC for those two authorities to have civil parking enforcement. To achieve this there needs to be a contractual agreement between the various authorities and a service level agreement. In his view CCC are trying to insist all the liability will go to the district council. FDC have resisted this and will not take on open ended liability. The first stage in this process is every single line and sign must be examined to ensure there are all legal in accordance with the Department of Transport, from the survey completed 86% of signs and lines in Fenland are unenforceable, the responsibility for the change is CCC. From the CPCA 400k has been set aside, plus an additional 150k from CCC to pay for their subcontractors to rectify this. CCC are behind, FDC have been told spring 2024, before CCC contractor gives the costs to complete the task and the 150K will not be enough, it could be 240K or more. CCC want FDC to sign a document to say whatever the excess is over 150K, FDC will pay. CCC also want the right to be able to stop any civil parking agreement after five years with one year's notice, and FDC will pay all the costs for them to take over the responsibility. 70% of enforcement officers would be spent on their roads and not the car parks and if any of the 70% were not working the additional officers would have to come from the other 30%. Dept of transport only accept applications in March and Sept. Cllr Gerstner – understand FDC views on CCC requests, is there not other models available. Cllr Boden – FDC contract with the individual responsible for civil parking enforcement in England. Fewer than 20 councils in the country who do not have civil parking. CCC do not have to follow other peoples model. Cllr Boden – the over inflated prices from CCC contractors. Milestone who are the CCC contractors sub contract to other



contractors, and example being the mess made on St Mary's street, quality and quality control is not very good. Milestone arrangement with CCC is very high.

**F24/2023. To receive Councillor & outside body reports.**

Cllr Dorling – Represents WTC at the Cambridgeshire Climate Leaders Group monthly meeting on 7/2/23.

In local updates, the Whittlesey QE2 Platinum Jubilee Wood community project initiative was warmly welcomed. Other representatives set up groups to set up events covering environmental-themed activities and information sharing. Hardwick has introduced rental 3-bikes as a trial. St Ives has a repair shop. Another gained access to thermal imaging cameras to track down heat loss in buildings. Others are working with their district councils on reducing the use of pesticides and herbicides to protect insects.

Groups enjoy 'make do and mend', recycling initiatives and sharing information on energy efficiency. Reducing waste and reducing litter combines many community benefits.

**F25/2023. To report the draft minutes from the Finance & Policy Meeting on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and receive the minutes from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

1. Solar Panel update – Cllr Boden advised they are working and generating however the battery charger is dead, this was not registered when installed, the contractor is trying to seek a replacement for us. The usage details on the solar panels can be read on the screen but not on computers as WTC are waiting for the internet provided to change one of the SSID codes. There will then be a password and login to allow all councillors to view the data
2. EV Point update – The points have been removed and the cables securely boxed on the front of the building should there be a requirement to install them in the future.
3. Rural CAB SLA – Cllr Boden requested ratification from the council to enter into a three year SLA with the Rural CAB, with a 4% uplift each year, this will finish in 2026. Members were advised that at the recent open day organised by WTC and the CAB, only three residents attended, but the CAB have obtained a total of £38,000 in benefits for them.
4. Cricket club donation of £750.00.

**F26/2023 To report the financial documents.**

- To report the bank reconciliation to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023 - Members received the balanced bank reconciliation.
- To report the list of payments & uncashed payments. Vouchers 257 – 277 totalling £23588.84 were reported.
- To report the year-to-date figures (to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023) – Members received the figures.

Cllr Boden suggested that all items under F25/2023 and F26/2023 were approved on block. This was proposed by Cllr Miscandlon, seconded Cllr Wicks with a unanimous vote in favour.

**F27/2023. To report the draft minutes from the Planning meeting on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and receive the minutes from Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023.**

**Ratified:** The draft minutes from Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023 were reported and the minutes of the meeting on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 were received.

Cllr Boden advised if there is planning application for 1 or 2 residential dwellings, it must be 6 residents who object to it if it could be called in by the district councillor of the ward or the adjacent ward.



**F28/2023. To report the draft minutes from the Community Projects meeting on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023 and receive the minutes from Wednesday 11 January 2023**

**Ratified:** The draft minutes from Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2023 were reported and the minutes from Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January were received.

Members were advised we are 90 ducks short, we do have about 30 spares, the Clerk will order the additional ducks which will be paid for from the Mayors Account.

**F29/2023. Consultations**

Consultation of the proposed 2023 revision of the Local Validation List for planning applications for the County Council's own development and for waste development

Cllr Miscandlon advised members the document is impossible to understand and therefore requested an email be sent to the county advising this.

**F30/2023 Information only.**

There was no information.

**F31/2023 Invitations.**

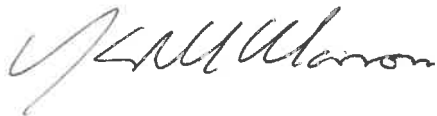
Reminder for the Mayors Dinner Dance Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

**F32/2023. Date of next meeting – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Cllr Boden thanked the Deputy Mayor for chairing the meeting,

**Meeting Closed: 8.26**

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Councillor Haq Nawaz  
Deputy Mayor  
Whittlesey Town Council



### Whittlesey Town Council PAYMENTS LIST

Voucher Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
257	09/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	Bank Charges / Interest	Barclays	E	10.00		10.00
276	17/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco		Office Electric	opus	S	532.67	106.53	639.20
275	17/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco		Phone & Internet	EVAD	S	68.94	13.79	82.73
259	20/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	ONLINE	Mayors Allowance	Dave Mason	E	900.00		900.00
260	20/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	ONLINE	Office 365 licence	The Computer Man	E	79.99		79.99
261	20/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	Rural CAB	Rural CAB	E	1,700.00		1,700.00
262	20/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	Window Cleaning	H2O Pure Cleaning	E	10.00		10.00
266	20/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	Donation	Whittlesey Christmas Lights (	E	2,500.00		2,500.00
264	20/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	MVAS Maintenance	Fenland Electrical	S	60.00	12.00	72.00
264	20/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	MVAS Maintenance	Fenland Electrical	S	180.00	36.00	216.00
264	20/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	MVAS Maintenance	Fenland Electrical	S	360.00	72.00	432.00
263	20/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	Website SLA	SG Computing Ltd	E	140.00		140.00
265	20/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	Window Repair to flat B	Peterborough Window Repair	E	160.00		160.00
273	20/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	Stationery	Peterborough Office Supplies	S	19.25	3.85	23.10
273	20/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	Stationery	Peterborough Office Supplies	S	10.38	2.08	12.46
273	20/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	Stationery	Peterborough Office Supplies	E	6.37		6.37
273	20/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	Stationery	Peterborough Office Supplies	S	19.98	4.00	23.98
258	23/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	ONLINE	Plant Room Boiler	Superior Plumbing Services	S	9,166.67	1,833.33	11,000.00
268	23/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	Clerks & Councils Direct	SLCC enterprises	E	52.30		52.30
267	23/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco		Office Cleaning	Clare Lynch	E	177.50		177.50
269	23/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	Window Cleaning	H2O Pure Cleaning	E	10.00		10.00
274	23/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco		Solar Panel maintenance	Willi Guy electrical Limited	S	1,142.92	228.58	1,371.50
277	24/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	Office Gas	Total gas and power	S	562.25	112.45	674.70
272	26/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	Tax & NI	HMRC	E	710.98		710.98
271	26/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	Pension	LGSS Pension	E	703.52		703.52
270	26/01/2023		Barclays Current Acco	online	Salaries	Staff Salaries	E	1,880.51		1,880.51
<b>Total</b>								<b>21,164.23</b>	<b>2,424.61</b>	<b>23,588.84</b>