

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WOOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE WOOLSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB, HALL ROAD, WOOLSTON ON 15 JULY 2025**

**Present:** Councillor C Wilcock (Chairman)

Councillors: M Banner, H Klein, D Nowell, G Rushby, S Rydzkowski,  
L Sheridan, D Warren

Apologies for absence: Councillors C Kilgannon, R Tynan

### **C39 Chairman's remarks**

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting.

### **C40 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest**

#### **Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **C41 Apologies for absence**

The Council noted apologies for absence from Councillors Kilgannon and Tynan.

### **C42 Minutes of the previous meeting**

Resolved,

That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 June 2025 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

### **C43 S 106 funding to improve sports facilities in Woolston**

The Planning Director, Barratt & David Wilson Homes North West, Mr A Taylor, attended the meeting to provide a summary of the sports package proposed for Woolston as part of a Sports Mitigation Strategy. This related to a proposed housing redevelopment at the former Padgate Campus site and involved the relocation of the sports facilities that had existed on the property for many years.

The proposed mitigation strategy for the loss of the existing facilities at Padgate Campus was

- Replacement of unusable sand based AGP by resurfacing two existing poor-quality sand based AGPs (Lymm High School and Priestley College)
- Replacement of small indoor 3G AGP with new full sized Rugby Football League (RFL) and Football Foundation (FF) compliant 3G AGP at Victoria Park (VP).
- Replacement of capacity lost on grass playing fields through provision of new full sized RFL and FF compliant 3G AGP at Woolston Playing Fields
- Provision of new 6-room community changing facilities at VP to support both the grass pitches and new 3G AGP
- Resurface of the 8 lane synthetic athletics track at VP

The key recommendations for Woolston Playing Fields are:

- improvement of pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regimes
- feasibility works to explore the potential to install drainage on site
- consideration of feasibility to provide 3G pitch on site to accommodate both football and rugby league.

It was anticipated that the main users of the 3G AGP will be the clubs that are currently based at the playing fields, specifically Woolston Rovers ARLFC (18 teams), Woolston Rovers AFC (around 53 teams) and Monk Sports FC (3 teams). Added to this, the RFL report that both Rylands Sharks (9 teams) and Culcheth Eagles (10 teams), who currently access the small indoor barn at Padgate Campus on an ad hoc basis are also likely to use the pitch if available. It was also intended that the pitch can be used during the day by the adjacent school – Kings Leadership Academy, who have limited on site sporting provision.

It has been agreed that the pitch will be managed and maintained by the Borough Council. As with other facilities included in this mitigation package, full contributions towards the maintenance of this pitch will be provided. This will ensure sustainability of the proposed facility for the next 25 years.

The parking requirements of the new AGP have also been assessed and agreed with the Borough Council and the sports bodies. It was estimated that 50 spaces should cover all eventualities (officials, coaches etc). Woolston Parish Council (WPC) land adjacent to the playing fields had been identified for the additional parking spaces. The intention was to provide the monies to WPC via a s106 agreement to deliver the parking works.

The Council noted that the scheme was subject to the approval of a planning application for a housing development on the former Padgate Campus site and that an application was soon to be submitted to the Borough Council. Members reported that the need for additional parking spaces for users of Woolston Playing Fields had been identified to reduce on-street parking on adjacent roads:

Resolved,

That

1. Mr Taylor be thanked for his presentation of the proposals;
2. approval be given in principle to the use of land on the Hillock Lane amenity area for additional parking spaces;
3. it be noted that a planning application for the scheme for Woolston Playing Fields may be required by the planning authority.

#### **C44 Co-option of members**

Further to Minute C28 - 25 June 2025, the Clerk reported that one application had been received, and the applicant had completed the form approved by the Council to provide details in support of the application for co-option. This included a signed declaration that the legal qualifications for becoming a parish councillor had been met.

The Council then invited Mr. Warren to speak in support of his application and answered questions from members, and it was

Resolved,

That

1. Mr. DG Warren be co-opted to the Council;
2. notice be given of the two remaining vacancies and applicants be invited to attend the next meeting of the Council.

*(The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was completed and Councillor Warren joined the meeting).*

#### **C45 Matters of report from previous minutes**

There were no matters arising.

## **C46 Policing of Woolston**

PCSO Roberts attended the meeting and reported on the monthly report for July 2025.

Members raised the following issues:

- Action taken on incidents of anti-social behaviour by youths – a number of methods were used in dealing with offenders including a warning letter to parents.
- Report of rough sleeping in a tent in Woolston Park – Police were continuing to assist the Borough Council on this matter:

Resolved,

That the report be noted and PCSO Roberts be thanked for her attendance.

*(Please see appendix for a copy of the reports).*

## **C47 Borough Council business**

The Council received reports from Borough Councillors on matters under consideration by the Borough Council relating to the parish and on issues that they had acted on for residents since the last meeting and other issues relating to responsibilities of the Borough Council. (The Council noted that the reports related to the parish council area and not to the wider area of the Rixton and Woolston Borough Ward unless there was an issue of interest to Woolston).

### **1 Reports from Borough Councillors**

Councillor Sheridan – the Interim Chief Executive had agreed to meet on site in August to allow him to be aware of current issues relating to Woolston Park and discuss options.

Members requested that other issues also be raised:

- The need for urgent action following the closure of the swimming pools at Woolston Neighbourhood Hub after the identification of repair works.
- The allocation of S106 funding for works in Woolston.

### **2 Matters raised with the Borough Council**

- Borough Council review of road safety on Holes Lane, Hillock Lane and Gig Lane – no further information to report.
- A57 Manchester Road – construction of a new pedestrian island on Manchester Road just to the west of the junction with Weir Lane (Minute C137 – 25 February 2025). Councillor Sheridan reported that he had requested the officers to remove the tactile surface from the dropped crossings on A57 Manchester Road on the grounds of road safety. These indicated a crossing point for persons with disabilities and the proposed improvements had not been implemented - no further information to report.

Resolved,

That

1. the reports be noted;
2. approval be given to the additional points being raised with the Interim Chief Executive.

## **C48 Committee matters**

The Council considered matters relating to the undermentioned committees:

### **(1) Environment and Amenities Committee**

#### **1. Parish Path Warden scheme – condition report**

Councillor Nowell reported on inspections made of public footpaths including:

- Giant hogweed had been identified and reported to the Borough Council.
- Moss Brow path – path overgrown and no further information on proposed diversion of the path from the Borough Council:

Resolved,

That the report be accepted.

#### **2. Ranger Cabin, Woolston Park**

The Council noted that there was no further information to report on repairs to the Ranger Cabin.

#### **3. Battery Lane Allotment Site – management matters**

The Council noted that monthly inspections were being carried out with a representative of the Association.

### **(2) Finance and General Committee**

#### **1. Banking arrangements – opening of new current account**

The Council considered the banking arrangements at National Westminster bank, and it was Resolved,

That approval be given full online banking access facilities at National Westminster bank.

#### **2. Applications for grant aid** **- New Cut Heritage and Ecology Trail Group**

Further to Minute C31(2)(5) – 25 June 2025, the Clerk gave a progress report on the provision of additional information requested from the Borough Council relating to maintenance works on public rights of way. This included the New Cut Canal towpath following the application from NCH&E Trail Group for the payment of a grant to replace maintenance equipment. A response from the Public Rights of Way section was needed to complete the information requested from the Borough Council:

Resolved,

That a further report be made to the next meeting.

#### **- applications for grant aid**

Noted no new applications to consider.

### **C49 Reports from members appointed to local bodies**

The Council received reports from members who were appointed by the Council or other organisations on local bodies including:

New Cut Heritage and Ecology Trail Group – Councillor Rydzkowski. No meeting held. Information was published by the group on their website.

Friends of Woolston Park group - Councillor Klein reported that the Chairman of the FoWP group had provided a report on work undertaken by the group. *(Please see Appendix)*.

Public Rights of Way Forum – Councillor Nowell. No meeting held.

Resolved,

That the reports be noted.

### **C50 Correspondence – consultation and information**

No items to report.

### **C51 Planning Applications and decisions**

The Council considered the following planning applications submitted for comment by the Borough Council:

#### **1.Applications for consideration at the meeting**

PLANNING APPLICATION	LOCATION	PROPOSAL
FULL PLANNING		
2025/00797/FUL	11 Hickory Close, Woolston, WA1 4EQ	Retrospective change of use from garden outbuilding to barbers.
NOTIFICATION ONLY		
2025/00914/DISCON	Novelis Uk, Novelis Uk Thelwall Lane, WA4 1NN	Discharge of Condition No's 8 (Remediation Strategy) and 9 (Verification Report) attached to planning permission 2023/01562/FULM
2025/00856/CLDP	29 Walnut Close, Woolston, WA1 4HA	Section 192 Certificate - single storey rear and single storey side extensions
PLANNING APPEALS		
None to report		

## **2. Planning Application 2025/00614/FUL – land south of Bridge Road – to report further comments published on the Borough Council website and review the submission made**

The Clerk reported further to Minute C27 25 June 2025 Planning Application No. 2025/00614/FUL 25, that no further information had been published on the Borough Council's website relating to highway issues. The Borough Council had confirmed that representations made by a resident who had not received individual notice of the application would be considered and that comments from the Highways Authority were expected this week:

Resolved,

That

1. no representations be made in respect of the above applications submitted for consultation;
2. the report from the Borough Council be noted and Councillor Nowell be appointed as the Council's representative at the meeting of the Development Management Committee when application 2025/00614/FUL is determined.

### **C52 Business raised by Council Members**

No items to report.

### **C53 Accounts**

Resolved,

That approval be given to the following payments:

Cheque No	Date expenditure incurred	Payee	VAT not recoverable	Amount	Purpose	S137
4842	27/06/25	JDH Business Services Ltd	0.00	1052.00	Internal Audit fees 2024-25	
4843	15/07/25	Friends of Woolston Park group	0.00	1000.00	Grant works in Woolston Park	Y
4844	15/07/25	Warrington BC	0.00	32.00	Room hire 25.6.25	
4845	15/07/25	Warrington BC	0.00	168.00	Arrears LiveWire	
4846	15/07/25	Orangutan TM Ltd	0.00	360.00	Intouch membership 2025-26 (replaces 4827)	
4847	15/07/25	Employee 1	0.00	462.43	M4 July 2025	
4848	15/07/25	Yorkshire Local Councils Association	0.00	54.80	Allotment Management webinars 21&29 May 2025	

DD	15/07/25	British Telecom plc	0.00	291.56	Phone and broadband services	
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#### **C54 Date of next meeting**

The Council considered the day and time of the next meeting:

Resolved,

That the next meeting be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 16 September 2025.

## APPENDIX

### Woolston

#### July 2025 - Monthly Parish report

Neighbourhood Sergeant PS Ryan Cunliffe

Neighbourhood Officer PC David Reddington

PCSO Bethan Roberts

#### Anti Social Behaviour

10 Youths (3), environmental (7), personal (0)

Personal/environmental include neighbour, parking/traffic

#### Burglary

1 Dwelling

0 Other

#### Criminal Damage

4 1x vehicle; 1x window; 2x vehicles

\*\*\*\*\*Vehicle crime

2 Theft of vehicle

2 Theft from vehicle

#### OTHER

- Speed enforcement - Gig Lane 19 Jun, range observed 12 to 22mph
- Speed enforcement – Hillock Lane 14 Jul, range observed 16 to 38mph (1@ 38)
- Over 20 blades recovered during week-long county-wide effort to reduce impact of knife crime | Cheshire Constabulary
- Safer Internet Day 2025 Top Tips - UK Safer Internet Centre
- Residents urged to remain vigilant following courier frauds | Cheshire Constabulary
- Over £10m lost to investment fraud in Cheshire in 2024 | Cheshire Constabulary
- For further information and how to download the Hollie Guard App Cheshire Constabulary and The Hollie Gazzard Trust working together to keep people safe across Cheshire | Cheshire Constabulary
- To tackle nuisance off-road motorbikes we need the following information – detailed descriptions of the bikes and riders, where the bikes are kept (lock-ups, garage locations), names if possible. Please quote 'Operation Scrambler' when you call Cheshire Police on 101. We continue our patrols and appeal for anyone with information to help us identify these individuals to get in touch (Crimestoppers 0800 555 111)
- The new Warrington Youth Zone opened in Warrington town centre in July 2022, the website provides for further information about membership and sessions  
Website: <https://warringtonyouthzone.org>  
What's On - Warrington Youth Zone
- The Environment Agency have a 24hr hotline 0800 80 70 60 for members of the public to report matters such as flooding from rivers/streams, poaching/illegal fishing to them
- <https://www.gov.uk/report-an-environmental-incident>
- 24/7 mental health crisis lines free to call



North West Boroughs Healthcare has upgraded its existing 24/7 mental health crisis lines to Freephone numbers. This means they are now free to call from both landlines and mobile phones.

The new dedicated phone numbers are:

- 0800 051 1508 for people living in Halton, Knowsley, St Helens and Warrington
- 0800 051 3253 for people living in Wigan

The crisis lines provide support 24 hours a day, seven days a week to people of all ages, including children and young people, who need urgent mental health support. You do not need to be known to our services to contact our crisis lines; they are available for patients and public.

Please be assured, anyone who dials the original local numbers will still reach our mental health crisis teams first time, without the need to be diverted

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Please advise people reporting an incident/crime to ring Cheshire Constabulary on 101 (999 in case of emergency) so it can be recorded correctly - not via Facebook/email

Online Reporting portal is available via the Cheshire Constabulary website to report certain crimes, incidents, issues:-

<https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report/>

#### **Useful Links offering advice and information:-**

Online safety and advice

<https://www.cheshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/fa/fraud/useful-contacts-for-fraud-cyber-crime-advice/>

<https://www.getsafeonline.org/safeguarding-children/>

Advice & information regarding risks of substance abuse available on FRANK

<https://www.talktofrank.com/>

Home/Business safety and security information

<https://www.cheshire.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/residential-burglary/>

<https://www.cheshire.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/non-residential-burglary/>

<https://www.cheshire.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/theft-from-a-vehicle/vehicle-safe-and-sound/>

Advice to help keep your bicycle safe

<https://www.cheshire.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/theft-of-a-bicycle/how-safe-is-your-bike/>

Whilst the majority of dog owners act responsibly, a few do not always pick up and bin their dog's mess. Residents can use the WBC online reports to provide them with information which could help to identify irresponsible dog owners

<https://www.warrington.gov.uk/dog-fouling>

[Leave only pawprints | warrington.gov.uk](https://www.warrington.gov.uk)

WBC online reporting portal:-

[Report and Apply | warrington.gov.uk](https://www.warrington.gov.uk)

If you or someone you know needs advice and support regarding domestic abuse

<https://www.openthedoorcheshire.org.uk/>  
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## **Schools & other events**

Woolston CE Primary Summer Fayre

St Peters Primary Summer Fayre

Woolston CE Primary / Woolston CP – Summer safety input arranged

Green Lane – Class Input

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## **Surgery**

Rixton & Woolston PCSO Surgery at Woolston Neighbourhood Hub

Dates/times subject to change due to operational commitments

Face to face drop-in surgeries – 15 Jul 1800 – 1900; 25 Jul 1800 – 1900; 31 Jul 1300 – 1400

Mobile drop in surgeries are advertised on the Warrington East Police Facebook page

## **FRIENDS OF WOOLSTON PARK GROUP**

### **CABIN UPDATE**

The disabled toilet remains much in need of its roof internally and externally needed some repair as there must be a hole in the roof which is causing internal mildew and water damage

Some of the members have been doing some external repairs by refitting new wood after some top wood had been weather damaged over the preceding years. It has also been undercoated and top coated

### **FOWP**

The 27th Warrington East Scout Troop completed their Foresters Badge requirements.

The Monday team continue to meet on a Monday morning doing litter picking, working in the Jubilee Garden, cutting back over-growing bushes

Two Beaver Colonies from the 27th Warrington East Woolston Group did an evening litter pick. Over 30 children who were accompanied by their Parents and Leaders did a marvellous job

We will be planning a session to build 20 bird boxes as agreed when we achieved CAWOS funding of £500 recently (Cheshire and Wirral Ornithological Society)

Dr Bike a WBC initiative event was held on Thursday evening 10th July from 3pm -7pm when members of the [public were invited to bring their bicycles in to be checked for roadworthiness

Another Company called Eurofins Forensics are hoping to arrange up to four volunteer days for their staff during August

Woolston 6th Form have now completed their final Wednesday session working on the park. They have sown seeds, weeded in the jubilee garden and done some planting and litter picks

All those that volunteer to work on our park are thanked for their input, which is greatly appreciated

### **YFOWP**

Two members of Lancashire Wildlife Trust are visiting the Young Friends on Saturday 12th July to accept a cheque of £100 from three of our young Friends. These young people organised a raffle, sold tickets collected prizes, drew pictures of animals and knitted wildlife animals to raise this money. We are all extremely proud of their achievements

Jon, Chair FOWP

Chairman.....