

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WOOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE WOOLSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB, HALL ROAD, WOOLSTON ON 25 JUNE 2024**

**Present:** Councillor R Tynan (Chairman)  
Councillors: M Banner, H Klein, D Nowell, S Rydzkowski, L Sheridan

### **C30 Chairman's remarks**

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting.

### **C31 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **C32 Apologies for absence**

The Council noted an apology for absence from Borough Councillor Cooksey.

### **C33 Minutes of the previous meeting**

Resolved,  
That the minutes of the meeting held on 28 May 2024 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

### **C34 Matters of report from previous minutes**

There were matters arising.

### **C35 Policing of Woolston – community liaison report**

The Council considered the monthly report for June 2024. The Clerk reported that a Police representative was unable to attend the meeting for operational reasons:

Resolved,  
That the monthly report be noted.  
(Please see appendix for a copy of the report).

### **C36 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 – pothole in Weir Lane reported to the officers.

Councillor Tynan

- maintenance of trees in Gig Lane and Longbarn Lane reported to the officers.
- request from residents for 20MPH restriction on Gig Lane. Noted that this had been requested of the Borough Council along with other roads. Reported to the Chief Executive who referred the matter to the Director of Transport and Environment.
- Woolston swimming pool – complaint by resident about a damaged ceiling tile reported to the

Borough Council.

- a raised manhole covers in Bridge Road of concern to residents had been reported to the officers.

## 2. Matters raised with the Borough Council

2.1 Borough Council review of road safety on Holes Lane, Hillock Lane and Gig Lane – to consider future action on the response from the Director of Transport and Environment. Agreed that this matter continue to be pursued together with the roads adjacent to schools.

2.2 Lincoln Close – issues raised by residents relating to the operation of a private care home.

Councillor Tynan reported information from the Borough Council's Community Safety and Resilience Officer on a survey undertaken with Cheshire Police on 30 May 2024 of all residents in Lincoln Close.

This included delivery of a letter and information to each property and speaking to residents of 13 properties about their concerns. A new resident had been at the care home for the past two weeks and there had been no issues. The Council agreed to continue monitoring the situation.

Resolved,

That the report be noted, and the identified action approved.

## **C37 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 matters relating to public footpaths and on issues that had been reported to the Borough Council:

- Maintenance work had been carried out to clear the paths except for Path 31 (Woolston Weir to the Manchester Ship Canal). The Borough Council had treated areas to clear areas of Giant Hogweed. The Woolston Eyes Conservation Group were responsible for the wetland areas under their control.
- Path 1 Somerset Way to Woolston Park – several potholes had been filled in and some maintenance had been carried out to the car park.

The Clerk reported that a response had been made by the Public Rights of Way Officer regarding areas where concern had been raised about Giant Hogweed and Japanese Knotweed. Apart from the biannual vegetation cuts, which the Borough Council award after seeking quotes, there was no schedule of spraying of Public Rights of Way other than the paths leading to the transporter bridge leading to the Woolston Eyes. Whenever reports of Giant hogweed or Japanese knotweed on PRow, these were referred to the relevant officers to arrange for them to be sprayed. Anything adjacent to, but not on, the path would normally be the responsibility of the adjoining landowner. The Council's emails had been reported for appropriate action:

Resolved,

That

1. the report from the Parish Path Warden be accepted;
2. an assurance be sought that paths are cleared to ensure the safety of the path users from harm by overhanging hazardous vegetation eg Giant knotweed.

## **– Path 12 Nicol Avenue – request for path diversion**

Councillor Nowell reported on an issue raised at the Public Rights of Way Forum meeting relating to Path no.12 Woolston, from Nicol Avenue towards Juniper Lane that is obstructed by an earthwork. This matter had been raised previously and the view expressed that the path is not maintainable or beneficial to users on its current line. Moving over to the other side of the drainage ditch was considered to provide a substantial improvement whilst not remedying the earthworks problem.

A suggestion had been made to approach the opinion of the Peak and Northern Footpath Society (PNFS) for their opinion. The Public Rights of Way Officer had agreed that a diversion seemed a sensible option. However, the earthwork problem would also need to be addressed and this matter was to be considered with the Borough Council's planning officers. Contact was also to be made with the PNFS, as suggested, for their opinion. A further response would be made when this work had been completed:

Resolved,

That

1. the report be accepted;
2. the Borough Council's response in respect of the diversion of Path 12 be noted and kept under review.

## **2. Battery Lane Allotment site – maintenance of access track to the site**

The Council noted that the scheme was to proceed subject to comments received from the Borough Council.

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

### **1. Co-option of members**

The Clerk reported further to Minute C26 28 May 2024 that three applications had been received in response to the public notice:

Resolved,

That the applicants be invited to attend the meeting of the Council on 9 July 2024.

### **2. Notice of Vacancy – East Ward**

The Clerk reported the Borough Council had been informed of the resignation of Councillor PS Smith and public notice had been given of the casual vacancy following the procedures adopted by the Borough Council for parish councils in the Borough. The closing date for an election to be requested was 25 June 2024 and a report would be made to the next meeting on the procedure to be followed:

Resolved,

That the report be accepted.

### **3. Appointment of representatives**

Resolved,

That the following appointments be confirmed for 2024-25:

1. Friends of Woolston Park - Councillor Klein
2. Public Rights of Way Forum – Councillor Nowell

#### **4. Banking arrangements – appointment of authorised signatories**

The Council noted that the procedure to include Councillors Rydzkowski and Tynan as authorised signatories for National Westminster Bank had been completed.

#### **5. Audit of Accounts 2023-24**

The Council considered: (a) the report of the internal auditor on the accounts for 2023-24; (b) the Annual Internal Audit report 2023-24 and (1) the Annual Governance Statements for 2023-24 and (2) the Accounting Statements for 2023-24:

Resolved,

That

1. the report and of the internal auditor on the accounts for 2023-24 be accepted, including the statement of accounts;
2. the Annual Internal Audit Report 2023-24 be accepted;
3. approval be given to (a) the Annual Governance Statements and (b) the Accounting Statements for 2023-24.

#### **6. Applications for grant aid**

Noted no applications to consider.

#### **7. Remembrance Sunday 2024 – event planning**

The Clerk reported on the arrangements for the annual Remembrance Sunday event to be held at Martinscroft Green. It was expected that an Event Plan would have to be submitted to the Borough Council and that the Church of the Ascension would again lead the service on behalf of all faiths:

Resolved,

That approval be given to the organisation of the event.

#### **C38 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  
Maintenance of Ranger Cabin  
The Clerk reported that there was no further information from the Borough Council on the issues raised regarding repairs to the Ranger Cabin.
- Public Rights of Way Forum – Councillor Nowell reported that no date had been set for the next meeting. It was understood that there was difficulty in finding a meeting room at the Council offices.

Resolved,

That the reports be noted.

#### **C39 Correspondence – consultation and information**

Noted no matters to report.

## **C40 Planning Applications and decisions**

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

Applications for consideration at the meeting

PLANNING APPLICATION	LOCATION	PROPOSAL
FULL PLANNING		
2024/00711/VARC	Land to the rear of 48-58 Cliftonville Road	Variation of condition 2 (Siting of storage containers for 5 years) on application 2022/41289.
PLANNING APPEALS		
None to report.		

Resolved,

That an objection be submitted to the proposed variation of Condition 2 on application 2024/00711/VARC.

## **C41 Business raised by Council Members**

### **– Peak and Northern Footpath Society**

Councillor Nowell requested that approval be given to the continuation of the membership of the Society given the benefits of the work of the organisation:

Resolved,

That the continuation of annual membership be approved.

### **– Carbon Literacy training**

Councillor Nowell reported on the availability free training on Carbon Literacy:

Resolved,

That details be obtained regarding the training that is available for members.

## **C42 Accounts**

Resolved,

That approval be given to the following payments

Cheque No	Date expenditure incurred	Payee	VAT not recoverable	Amount	Purpose	S137
4778	25/6/24	Woolston Parish Council Liquid Manager 35 account	0.00	10460.16	Charity account	
4779	26/6/24	Employee 1	0.00	462.43	M2 May 2024	
4780	26/6/24	David Webster & Son Ltd	0.00	1152.00	Martinscroft Green, installation of replacement knee rail	

4781	26/6/24	Warrington Borough Council	0.00	42.00	Room hire 24 April 2024	
4782	26/6/24	Costco Wholesale UK Ltd (Clerk)	0.00	10.99	HP Paper	
4783	26/6/24	Warrington Borough Council	0.00	£2342.40	Supply and install Old Billy Trail signage and interpretation	
4784	26/6/24	St Peters Lourdes Fund	0.00	350.00	Replaces cheque 4767 24/4/24 – Grant	Yes
4785	26/6/24	JDH Business Services Ltd	0.00	997.50	Internal Audit fees 2023/24	
4786	26/6/24	Employee 1	0.00	462.23	M3 June 2024	
4787	26/6/24	HM Revenue & Customs (Clerk)	0.00	346.60	PAYE months 1 to 3 2024-25	
4788	26/6/24	Amazon EU (Clerk)	0.00	73.21	Toner cartridge £58.22 and A4 ring binders £14.99	

### **C43 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 9 July 2024.

**APPENDIX**

**Woolston  
June 2024 - Monthly Parish report**

**Neighbourhood Sergeant PS Ryan Cunliffe  
Neighbourhood Officer PC David Reddington  
PCSO Bethan Roberts**

**Anti Social Behaviour**

**5** Youths (3), environmental (1), personal (1)  
Personal/environmental include neighbour, parking/traffic

\*\*\*\*\*

**Burglary**

**0** Dwelling  
**1** Other Business

.....  
**Criminal Damage**

**2**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Vehicle crime**

**0** Theft of vehicle  
**0** Theft from vehicle  
.....

**OTHER**

- Speed enforcement 06/06/24 – Gig Lane – range 17 to 29mph
- Speed monitoring 16/05/24 – Manchester Road – range 25 to 38mph
- Op Sceptre – knife crime week of action 13–19 May 2024
- [Police appeal for information following burglary in Warrington | Cheshire Constabulary](#)
- [Football fans encouraged to celebrate responsibly during Euros 2024 | Cheshire Constabulary](#)
- [Police continue to warn Warrington residents to be vigilant against courier fraud | 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>
- 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

.....

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>



WBC online reporting portal:-  
[Report and Apply | warrington.gov.uk](http://warrington.gov.uk)

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

<https://www.openthedoorcheshire.org.uk/>

.....  
**Schools & other events**

St Peters Primary – Summer Fair attended

Inter-schools cross country event

\*\*\*\*\*

**Surgery**

Rixton & Woolston PCSO Surgery at Woolston Neighbourhood Hub

Dates/times subject to change due to operational commitments

Face to face drop-in surgeries – 27 Jun 13:00 – 14:00; 11 Jul 18:00 – 19:00; 14 Aug 18:00 - 19:00

Mobile drop in surgeries are advertised on the Rixton & Woolston Police Facebook page

Chairman.....