

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WOOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE WOOLSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB, HALL ROAD, WOOLSTON ON 15 OCTOBER 2024

Present: Councillor R Tynan (Chairman)

Councillors: M Banner, CA Kilgannon, H Klein, D Nowell, G Rushby, S Rydzkowski, L Sheridan, CS Wilcock

Apologies for absence: Councillor J Hunter

C79 Chairman's remarks

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting.

C80 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest

Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

No declarations were made at the opening of the meeting.

C81 Apologies for absence

The Council noted an apology for absence from Councillor Hunter.

C82 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolved,

That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 September 2024 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

C83 Co-option of members

Further to Minute C67(2) – 10 September 2024 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 their 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 Mrs Kilgannon to speak in support of her application and to answer questions from members, and it was

Resolved,

That

1. Mrs CA Kilgannon 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 Kilgannon joined the meeting).

C84 Election of Vice Chairman

The Council reviewed the making of an appointment of Vice Chairman for 2024-25 following the co-option of members:

Resolved,

That consideration be deferred to the next meeting.

C85 Matters of report from previous minutes

Councillor Banner reported that she was pleased that the Council had approved an application from the Church of the Ascension for grant aid to support the purchase of a Christmas tree and that the annual community carol singing was to be held (Minute C72(2) – 10 September 2024).

C86 Policing of Woolston – community liaison report

PCSO Roberts attended the meeting and presented the monthly report provided by the Police for September 2024. Members reported their concern at the results of speed monitoring on Hillock Lane records of 38 and 39mph on 8 and 13 September 2024 respectively. It was noted that previous monitoring by the Police had recorded most vehicles within the speed limit for the road. PCSO Roberts reported that it was the responsibility of the Borough Council to set the speed limit on highways.

Councillor Tynan reported the response from the Director of Transport and Environment to the further request for the introduction of 20mph speed limits on Hillock Lane and other roads used as access to local schools in the area. Surveys carried out had recorded the average speeds at three locations on Hillock Lane with the worst location identifying that 85% of all vehicles were travelling at or below 30.8mph. These speeds were within the tolerance of the posted speed limit. In the absence of injury collisions being recorded there was no priority for the Borough Council to be able to redirect resources away from other scheme deliveries that were targeting the reduction of injury collision incidents:

Resolved,

That

1. the monthly report for September 2024 be noted;
2. the intention of Councillor Tynan to raise with the Chief Executive the introduction of 20mph limits on roads serving local schools be supported.

(Please see appendix for a copy of the monthly report).

C87 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).

Reports from Borough Councillors

Councillor Sheridan – no items to report.

Councillor Tynan – no items to report.

Matters raised with the Borough Council

- 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. The Council noted that revised advice had been issued to local authorities on the introduction of 20mph zones on highways adjacent to schools. Noted that Councillor Tynan was to raise the response from the Director of Transport and

Environment with the Chief Executive.

- Lincoln Close – issues raised by residents relating to the operation of a private care home. No matters to report.

Resolved,

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

C88 Committee matters

The Council considered matters relating to the undermentioned committees:

(1) Environment and Amenities Committee

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:

Path 31 (Woolston Weir to the Manchester Ship Canal) continued to be obstructed by vegetation. There were signs that Giant Hogweed was growing back on areas previously cleared. The anti-slip measures to the path over the weir had been completed.

Nicol Avenue – some maintenance had been carried out but the path was not clear.

Resolved,

That the report be accepted.

Woolston Deposit Ground No.1 – status of development

Noted that there had been no response from the Borough Council to the representations made (Minute C72(1) – 10 September 2024).

Provision and siting of Christmas tree 2024

Further to Minute C72(1) – 10 September 2024 the Clerk reported that following the submission of quotations the supply and installation of the Christmas tree and lights was to be undertaken by the Borough Council:

Resolved,

That the action be approved.

Battery Lane Allotment site – maintenance of access track to the site

The Clerk reported on the maintenance works to the track and on a request for the Battery Lane Allotment Association to undertake similar work to maintain Battery Lane, a designated public right of way, that links to the track. A response had not been received from the Borough Council on works to Battery Lane.

The Association had supplied information on the methods intended for carrying out maintenance to the track and their insurance policy for undertaking work by their volunteers outside the allotment site. Advice had also been requested and received from the Council's insurers and liaison was continuing with the Association on a plan to allow maintenance work to proceed:

Resolved,
That the progress report be accepted.

(2) Finance and General Committee

Banking arrangements – appointment of authorised signatories

Further to Minute C55(2)3. 9 July 2024 the Clerk reported that the procedure was proceeding for Councillor Tynan to be an authorised signatory using the automated procedure operated by the bank:

Resolved,
That the report be noted.

Annual Service of Remembrance Sunday 10 November 2024

The Council noted that work was proceeding with the Borough Council and the Woolston Church of the Ascension on arrangements for the Remembrance Sunday service at Martinscroft Green. The arrangements were similar to those for 2023. An event plan had been submitted to the Borough Council. A briefing was to be held at the Church of the Ascension on arrangements for the services at the Church and the Green.:

Resolved,
That the report be accepted.

External Auditor Report and Certificate 2023/24

The Clerk submitted the External Auditor Report and Certificate for 2023/24:

Resolved,
That the report be accepted.

Applications for grant aid

Noted no applications to consider.

C89 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 in person meeting held. Information was published by the group on their website. The group continued to be active in their work along the New Cut Trail and Paddington Meadows. Councillor Nowell reported concerns expressed at the action of the Borough Council in cutting back vegetation on areas of Paddington Meadows.
- Friends of Woolston Park group
Councillor Klein reported that there had been one expression of interest in attracting new members to the group. The Annual General meeting was to be held on 21 October and he would attend. Councillor Sheridan reported that the Borough Council was reviewing options to allow repair work to proceed on the Ranger Cabin.
- Public Rights of Way Forum – Councillor Nowell reported that a meeting was to be held on 14 November 2024.

Resolved,
That the reports be noted.

C90 Correspondence – consultation and information

- Climate emergency newsletter issue No 5

The Council noted receipt of the newsletter.

C91 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 – HOUSEHOLDER (HOUSEHOLDER DEVELOPMENT) | | |
| 2024/01231/FULH | 110 Cliftonville Road WA1 4BH | Proposed two storey and single storey rear extension. |
| | | |
| PLANNING DECISIONS | | None to report |
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| PLANNING APPEAL DECISIONS | | None to report. |

Resolved,
That no objections or representations be submitted in respect of the application.

C92 Business raised by Council Members – appreciation of service

Councillor Rushby reported the thanks of a resident to Councillor Sheridan for his work in supporting veterans of the armed forces.

– liaison with local schools

Councillor Rushby reported on undertaking initiatives with local schools to raise the awareness of children on the role and work of the parish council in the local community:

Resolved,
That views be obtained from schools on this initiative.

C93 Accounts

No accounts submitted.

C94 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 3 December 2024.

APPENDIX

**Woolston
September 2024 - Monthly Parish report**

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

Anti Social Behaviour

4 Youths (1), environmental (3), personal (0)
Personal/environmental include neighbour, parking/traffic

Burglary

0 Dwelling
1 Other Shed / out building

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Criminal Damage

3

Vehicle crime

0 Theft of vehicle
1 Theft from vehicle

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OTHER

- Speed monitoring Gig Lane 23/08/24 – range 19 to 30mph
- Speed monitoring Gig Lane 28/08/24 – no vehicles pass during observation
- Speed monitoring Hillock Lane 08/09/24 – range 24 to 38mph
- Speed monitoring Hillock Lane 13/09/24 – range 24 to 39mph
- Liaise County Fire
- Liaise Youth Workers WBC regarding Woolston Park and Dam Lane shops
- Licensing checks with WBC
- Joint agency bicycle marking and safety event on Woolston Park
- Joint agency bicycle marking and safety event on New Cut Path
- [Five men jailed for Warrington burglaries spree | Cheshire Constabulary](#)
- [Creamfields policing operation a success | Cheshire Constabulary](#)
- [Warning following thefts and illegal use of e-bikes and e-scooters | 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

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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/>

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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/>

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Schools & other events

St Martins Methodist Church – Holiday Club attended

Surgery

Rixton & Woolston PCSO Surgery at Woolston Neighbourhood Hub

Dates/times subject to change due to operational commitments

Face to face drop-in surgeries – 20 Sep 1100 – 1200; 24 Sep 1800 – 1900; 10 Oct 1300 - 1400

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

Chairman.....