

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WOOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE WOOLSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB, HALL ROAD, WOOLSTON ON 31 OCTOBER 2018

Present: Councillor D Nowell (Chairman)
Councillors: M Banner, J Greenslade, MH Greenslade,
AJ Hill, B Maher, A McCarthy, M Pearce, S Rydzkowski,
P Wright

Apologies for absence: Councillors M Creaghan, D Hill

C59 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest
Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

No declarations were made at the opening of the meeting.

C60 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were noted from Councillors M Creaghan and D Hill.

C61 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolved,

That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2018 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

C62 Matters of report from previous minutes

No matters arising.

C63 Policing of Woolston – community liaison report

The Council received reports on the policing of Woolston as set out below:

October 2018 - Monthly Parish report

Beat Sergeant PS Stuart Gibbard

Beat Manager PC Simon Dadswell

PCSO Bethan Roberts

Anti-Social Behaviour

6 Reports of ASB – 3x youth related issues, 3x neighbour/environmental/personal issues

Burglary

2 Dwelling (1x attempt)

6 Other (5x Sheds – allotments; 1x substation)

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Criminal Damage

2 2x Coaches

Theft

0

Vehicle crime

1 Theft of vehicle (business)

3 Theft from vehicle (2 at same location)

OTHER

Halloween – visited shops to discuss restrictions of sale of eggs to youngsters. Trick or treat yes/no leaflets distributed Woolston Neighbourhood Hub (library), One Stop, Coop, and Warrington Sensory Centre. Leaflets can also be downloaded via the link below

<https://www.cheshire.police.uk/news-and-appeals/news/stay-safe-this-halloween/>

Shops – 2x shoplifters identified, responsible for a number of offences

Fires on Woolston Park & Woolston Grange – discovered during patrols and reports from County Fire regarding locations, will continue high visibility patrols whenever possible in key areas. Setting wheelie bins alight and aerosol cans which is incredibly dangerous for themselves and others.

<http://www.cheshirefire.gov.uk/public-safety/home-safety/wheelie-bin-fire-safety>

<https://www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-and-support/home-safety-and-security/>

<https://www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-and-support/children-and-young-peoples-safety/>

<https://www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-and-support/bicycle-safety-and-security/cycling-safety-and-training-for-children/>

Schools

Halloween, bonfire & firework safety inputs delivered various schools and after-school clubs St Peters RC – attended Health & Wellbeing week delivering inputs on internet and personal safety (included Halloween, bonfire safety). Also myself and PC Dadswell visited Foundation Stage and Year 1 to introduce ourselves and talk about role of police

Woolston CE – World of Work Week, classes visited

Woolston CP – Reception Class, did a meet and greet session to introduce myself

Primary & High schools visited and discussed bicycle safety, leaflet provided

Surgery

Rixton & Woolston PCSO Surgery at Woolston Neighbourhood Hub – 1 Nov 18:00, 9 Nov 11:00, 14 Nov 18:00

C64 Borough Council business

Borough Councillors Hill, McCarthy and Wright reported on matters under consideration by the Borough Council relating to the parish and on issues that the Borough Ward members had acted on for residents including:

- Environmental Health officers had confirmed that the Pit Stop Café had been licensed to serve food.
- The Borough Council had repaired the timber fence on the highway verge adjacent to Martinscroft Green.
- The Borough Council was to plant 3 tree saplings in spring 2019 to replace those damaged in the highway verge on Manchester Road.
- Four bus shelters had recently vandalised with similar damage to other shelters in the Borough. Police were investigating the incidents and Borough Council officers were considering repair work.
- Consideration had been given to planning applications from residents in Bowfell Grove to remove trees that were subject to Tree Preservation Orders.
- The access road from Gig Lane to the Grange Employment Area had been cleared. A request had been made for a metal chicane at the entrance from Gig Lane to replace the concrete triangular barrier.
- A complaint from a resident that the extension of the Holes Lane Surgery would result in a loss of parking spaces for staff and patients had been investigated. Additional spaces would be provided as part of the development.
- Residents of Poulton Crescent had made representations regarding the former play area. Officers were considering options for the future use of the land.
- Consideration was being given by the Borough Council to the use of the funding provided by the Government for repairs to pot holes and other highways maintenance.
- Representations from a resident at the delay by the Borough Council in determining a planning application for a household development had been investigated.
- Representations from residents had been investigated regarding the arrangements for the provision of flu vaccine to patients. This was understood to be caused by the National Health Service phased roll out of the vaccine nationwide that was planned to be completed by the end of December.

- Officers were working with the police on issues relating to anti-social behaviour.
- Residents had expressed concern at the recent traffic incident on Hillock Lane. A report from the police was awaited.
- A meeting was to be held with the Head Teacher of Woolston Community Primary School following the concern of residents at traffic issues.

The Chairman expressed his concern at the difficulty in accessing information relating to council committees. The Borough Council's website Committee Information Management System (CMIS) had been hacked and this had restricted access to information. It was noted that a list of committee meetings had been provided on the website as a temporary solution. Further representations were to be made to the Chief Executive on the restoration of the system.

Members considered the concern of residents at the traffic and parking congestion believed to be caused mainly by customers of the Co-op Food Store in Holes Lane. The view was expressed that waiting restrictions would not provide a solution to this problem and other options needed to be considered.

C65 Committee reports and recommendations

- Environment and Amenities Committee

Councillor MH Greenslade reported on matters considered at the meeting held on 31 October 2018 and the Council gave consideration to the recommendations made:

Resolved,

That the recommendations be approved and the proceedings be noted.

- Finance and General Amenities Committee

Councillor McCarthy reported on matters considered at the meeting held on 31 October 2018 and the Council gave consideration to the recommendations made:

Resolved,

That

1. the recommendations be approved and the proceedings be noted;
2. the report of the external auditor on the 2017-18 accounts be accepted together with the action relating to the Council Tax Support grant.

C66 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 J Greenslade reported on the meeting of the group held on 1 October 2018 and the work being carried out by the group. The main business had related to Paddington Meadows. Ideas had been invited for fund raising to assist the work of the group and an approach was being considered to the Community Fund. Litter picking took place every month. A discussion had also been held on an event to mark the completion of the area at the Woolston Lock. The next meeting was to be held on 26 November 2018.

Friends of Woolston Park – Councillor MH Greenslade reported that no meeting of the group had been held since the last council meeting. The 2018 Show had been short of the number of volunteer helpers needed and consideration may need to be given to paid help for some work in planning future shows. It was noted that a substantial area of reed bed had been cleared by

Carbon Landscape and FoWP volunteers around the pond together with some other vegetation clearance nearby. The need for repairs to the leaking roof of the disabled person's toilets at the Ranger Cabin had been reported to the Borough Council.

Public Rights of Way Forum – The next meeting of the Forum was to be held on 4 January 2019. Other meetings were to be held on 4 April, 8 August and 12 December 2019.

The Council noted that a letter of appreciation had been sent to Mr J Thorp on his retirement from the Borough Council for his work in Woolston over many years as the officer responsible for Public Rights of Way.

Other reports

Parish Council liaison meeting – The Chairman, Councillor Nowell and Councillor Banner reported on the meeting held on 1 October 2018. A copy of the slide presentation to the meeting on the effect on parish precepts from 2019-20 following changes to the Council Tax Support Allowance had been sent to all members. Councillors Nowell and McCarthy had attended the Code of Conduct Training held on 22 October 2018 provided by the Borough Council.

Lourdes report from members of St Peters' Youth Group – the Council received a report from Amy Lea on behalf of the group for the assistance provided to the volunteer helpers who attended Lourdes this year.

Tree planting ceremony – the council recorded their thanks to Helen Jones, Warrington North MP, for the gift of a tree to the people of Woolston, planted on a land at Runnymede, adjacent to Manchester Road, as part of Her Majesty the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy.

C67 Parish Path Warden report and update on the Carbon Landscape partnership plans

Councillor Nowell reported on the work of the Carbon Landscape project of which he was a volunteer. Carbon Landscape is a £3.2M project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and has three broad objectives:

- Restoration – to continue restoring a derelict landscape connecting wild areas to offer a better chance for wildlife;
- Access – to reconnect people to the land;
- Understanding – to raise awareness and remind local residents that this is their landscape.

The project area covering Wigan, Salford and Warrington includes former coalfields to the north and west and mosslands and riverside environments to the south, providing a combination of peatshaped and brownfield sites. Three core zones have been identified: the Flashes; the Mosslands; and the Mersey Wetlands Corridor. The project relies on volunteers for the delivery of schemes and training is provided by the project.

In Warrington there was a partnership of 14 members including the Woolston Eyes Group, LiveWire, Cheshire Wildlife Trust and the Lancashire Wildlife Trust and the area has an Engagement Officer. One scheme under consideration was to link the nature reserves.

Councillor Nowell gave details of matters reported to the Borough Council relating to public footpaths:

Path 25 new gravel surface covering for approximately 20 yards along the paddock fence line from Battery Lane Green space.

No current interference with path 20 which crosses New Cut Lane by construction work on Woolston Community Recycling Centre.

Matter reported for information. Wooden goalpost removed from Timberscombe Gardens and disposed of in the New Cut canal alongside path 23. Retrieved by Warrington BC.

Resolved,

That

1. the matters reported to the Borough Council be noted;
2. Councillor Nowell be thanked for the awareness briefing on the Carbon Landscape Project and the Engagement Officer be invited to attend a meeting of the Council to report on the work in Woolston and the surrounding area.

C68 Correspondence – consultation and information
- Warrington East Phase 2 – project news and update

The Council noted details received from the Borough Council in Issue 6 October 2018 of the bulletins on road works being undertaken on Birchwood Way.

C69 Planning Applications and decisions

The Council gave consideration to the following planning application submitted for comment by the Borough Council:

2018/33602 – 8 Bowfell Grove – TPO – proposed felling of 5 Lime trees covered by Tree Preservation Order 346

2018/33604 - 7 Bowfell Grove - TPO – proposed felling of 5 Lime trees covered by Tree Preservation Order 346

2018/33624 - 9 Bowfell Grove - TPO – G1 Lime x14 proposed crown thin by 20%, reduce side laterals by 2-3 metres from ground level predominantly laterals superseding the remaining crown to achieve overall balance appearance. Crown lift to 5 metres from ground level.

2018/33632 – 80 Dam Lane – change of use - proposed change of use from Beauty Salon (sui generis) to Tattoo Studio (sui generis)

Resolved,

That

1. representations be made for the continuation of the Tree Preservation Orders in respect of applications 2018/33602, 2018/33604 and 2018/33624;
2. no comments or representations be made in respect of application 2018/33632.

C70 Business raised by Members – Mill Lane

Councillor McCarthy on action taken regarding a report of knotweed on Mill Lane.

C71 Payment of Accounts

Resolved,

That approval be given to the following payments:

Cheque No	Date expenditure incurred	Payee	VAT not recoverable	Amount	Purpose	S137
4374	31/10/18	LiveWire CIC	0.00	33.60	Room hire 5 September 2018	
4375	31/10/18	LiveWire CIC	0.00	67.20	Butterfly room – weekly community event	Yes
4376	31/10/18	LiveWire CIC	0.00	84.00	Butterfly room – weekly community event	Yes

4377	31/10/18	PKF Littlejohn LLP	0.00	240.00	Limited assurance review of Annual Governance & Accountability Return year ended 31 March 2018	
4378	31/10/18	Timpson (Clerk)	0.00	10.00	Keys – notice board	
4379	31/10/18	Office Outlet (Clerk)	0.00	45.74	Printing and stationery	
4380	31/10/18	Employee 1	0.00	358.18	M7 October 2018	
4381	31/10/18	Royal British Legion	0.00	40.00	Wreath – Remembrance Sunday service	
4382	31/10/18	Friends of Woolston Park	0.00	3000.00	Grant – Woolston Show 2018	Yes

Chairman.....