

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WOOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE WOOLSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB, HALL ROAD, WOOLSTON ON 10 SEPTEMBER 2024

Present: Councillor R Tynan (Chairman)

Councillors: J Hunter, H Klein, D Nowell, G Rushby, L Sheridan, CS Wilcock

Apologies for absence: Councillor M Banner, S Rydzkowski

C63 Chairman's remarks

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting.

C64 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest

Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

Councillor Wilcock declared a non-pecuniary interest in Planning Application 2024/007117/FUL by reason of being associated as a customer of the applicant.

C65 Apologies for absence

The Council noted an apology for absence from Councillors Banner and Rydzkowski by reason of their attendance at other meetings.

C66 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolved,

That the minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2024 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

C67 Co-option of members

Further to Minute C55(2) 2.- 9 July 2024 the Clerk reported that no applications had been received by the closing date of 6 September 2024. An expression of interest had been received after that date. Consideration was given to the procedure for filling the vacancies:

Resolved,

That

1. the procedure adopted by the Council be continued;
2. notice be given of the vacancies and applicants be invited to attend the next meeting of the Council.

C68 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.

C69 Matters of report from previous minutes

There were no matters arising.

C70 Policing of Woolston – community liaison report

The Clerk reported that a Police representative was unable to attend the meeting for operational reasons. The Council considered the monthly reports provided by the Police for July and August 2024:

Resolved,

That the monthly reports for July and August 2024 be noted.

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

C71 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

- storage units had been broken into on Longbarn Park and a similar attempt had been made at Woolston Park.

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. Councillor Tynan reported that he had raised this matter with officers and would request a response.

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

Councillor Klein reported on information supplied to the company operating the care home on alternative premises available in the town centre that may be more suitable than the present location.

Resolved,

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

C72 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 Clerk reported a response from the Borough Council that contractors were to clear the path. It was noted that previously the Borough Council had cleared the path on the zigzag route of the path after crossing the weir with Peel Holdings being responsible for the remainder of the route.

Moss Brow – awaiting a response from the Borough Council.

Resolved,

That the report be accepted.

Woolston Deposit Ground No.1 – status of development

Councillor Nowell reported that the approval to extend the operating life of Woolston Eyes Bed No.1 for depositing inert building waste was decided by the Borough Council in 2022.

The extension was for 3 years and understood to expire in June 2024. There was no information publicly on the related Section 106 agreement and limited information on the planning portal:

Resolved,

That information be requested from the Borough Council regarding the current status of this development.

National Federation of Women's Institutes – clean river campaign

The Council noted details of action being taken by the Woolston Women's Institute on 20 September by organising an event in support of the national clean river campaign.

Provision and siting of Christmas tree 2024

The Council considered options for the provision and siting of a Christmas tree having regard to the arrangements made in December 2023 when a private contractor had been appointed. Quotes were to be considered from the Borough Council and the contractor appointed in 2023:

Resolved,

That

1. a Christmas tree continue to be sited on the A57 Manchester Road adjacent to the junction with Weir Lane;
2. the Clerk be authorised to appoint a contractor for this scheme having regard to cost and the carrying out of the works in the highway verge, with consultation with the Chairs of the Council and the Environment and Amenities and the Finance and General Committees as necessary.

A57 Manchester Road – notice of structural maintenance works

The Borough Council had provided information on structural maintenance works to be carried out on the A57 Manchester Road from east of Redwood Close to east of Riversdale. The information plan was to be sent to nearby residents and businesses and published on the Council's website. Notice boards would appear on the highway nearer to the start date to inform motorists of the works.

The road would be closed from 30 September 2024 from 7.00pm to 1.00am for up to 8 weeks. The scheme was to include the reconstruction of the existing pedestrian island on Weir Lane

and constructing a new pedestrian island on Manchester Road just to the west of the junction with Weir Lane. Details were provided of the signed diversion route and of the possible effects on local roads of this not being followed:

Resolved,

That the information be noted.

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

The Clerk reported on the response from the Borough Council regarding carrying out 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:

Resolved,

That the report be noted.

(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.

Applications for grant aid

Noted no applications to consider.

Review of Social Media policies

The Council reviewed the following policies:

Media policy – relating to contact by the media with the Council or individual members.

Social media and Electronic Communications Policy – relating to the use of digital and electronic communication to enable the Council to interact in a way that improves communication both within the Council and between the Council and the people, businesses and agencies it works with and serves:

Resolved,

That the existing policies be continued.

Borough Council review of Gambling Policy

The Borough Council had produced a draft revision of the Statement of Principles for gambling for licensed premises in accordance with requirements of the Gambling Act 2005 to undertake a review every three years. The closing date for responses was 11 October 2024:

Resolved,

That the information be noted.

Carbon Literacy training and Climate Action webinars

The Council considered information about (1) Carbon literacy training to parish councils being provided in partnership with the Borough Council that is accredited through the Carbon Literacy Trust and (2) Climate Action webinar series for North West town and parish councils on climate action funded by the NW NetZero Hub.

Resolved,

That

1. the applications by Councillors Nowell and Rushby to attend the training provided in partnership with the Borough Council be supported;
2. details of access to the website seminars be noted.

Applications for grant aid

The Clerk reported an application from the Church of the Ascension for grant aid to support the purchase of a Christmas tree to be sited on the open space adjacent to the church at Warren Lane. An event was organised each year including community singing and the provision of light refreshments:

Resolved,

That approval be given to a grant of £150.

C73 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 – No meeting held. Information was published by the group on their website.
- Friends of Woolston Park group
Councillor Klein reported that he had met with the Chairman of the FoWP group and been briefed on their work. Currently there were 12 active members and given the higher age profile the Council were asked to support the promotion of the group to encourage the recruitment of members. The Borough Council supported the work of groups in parks and other open spaces to help maintain and develop the use of these areas. The poor condition of the Ranger Cabin was continuing to give concern and it was hoped that there would be an early decision on undertaking repairs.
- Public Rights of Way Forum – Councillor Nowell reported that no date had been set for the next meeting. Information had been requested on the Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan.

Resolved,

That

1. the reports be noted;
2. support be given to the promotion of members for the FoWP group.

C74 Correspondence – consultation and information

Noted no matters to report.

C75 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		
2024/00717/FUL	16 Bridge Road WA1 4AT	Rebuilding of existing warehouse gable, roof modifications, additional and replacement windows, doors and roller shutters, new wall and roof cladding, additional car parking spaces created at first floor level. Change of use to Flexible B2/B8 use class.
NON-MATERIAL AMENDMENT		
2024/01045/NMA	Novelis UK, Thelwall Lane WA4 1NN	Amend the wording of conditions 8 and 9 in relation to land contamination Application 2023/01562/FULM(Extension to existing used beverage UBC) production unit; new dross processing building;3No. baghouses and 3No. stacks (35m in height); relocation of existing sub-station; pump house and sprinkler tank; demolition of 4No. existing stacks (1 stack is situated inside another) demolition of 2 No. existing silos and erection of 4 No. silos).
PLANNING DECISIONS		
2024/00711/VARC	Land to the rear of 48-58 Cliftonville Road	Variation of Condition 2 (siting of storage containers for 5 years) Condition retained.
PLANNING APPEAL DECISIONS		
2022/41748	Mill Cottage, Manchester Road WA1 4HL	Appeal dismissed.

Resolved,

That

1. the following objection submitted in respect of application 2024/00717/FUL be confirmed:

The Council objects to planning application 2024/00717/FUL and requests that this application be referred to the Development Management Committee for determination.

The Council has consulted residents and is in support of the submission objecting to the application made to the Borough Council dated 14 August 2024 by Mrs. E Thomas. (It is

noted that this has not been published on the planning website at this time).
 The following points are made by the Council in support of the objection and in addition to those made by residents:

- The application form states that there is no intention to construct additional access to any public highway. Bridge Lane is not a highway maintained by the Highway Authority. This statement may therefore be disingenuous. As is the assertion in the supporting documentation that the road has a statutory 20 mph speed restriction.
 - The technical report refers to vehicle movements being split between Bridge Road and Bridge Lane. How would this occur if no access to or from Bridge Lane was planned or being sought? (From the current application site that is).
 - The report includes a schematic diagram/map with intended lines of access, including one from the currently vacant southern site. This site, not being part of this application, would not be considered as a relevant factor. In the same way it was discounted for the Bridge Road self-storage site.
 - The one additional vehicle movement per hour is clearly based on the small increase in the new buildings curtilage. Again a potentially disingenuous assertion.
 - Additional housing is planned and authorised in addition to the 19 flats at the former Williams Tarr office facility. If correct, these are not referenced.
2. no objections or representations be submitted in respect of the other planning applications;
 3. the appeal decision in respect of application 2022/41748 be noted.

C76 Business raised by Council Members – parking Fox Wood school

Councillor Nowell reported on the parking of vehicles in Somerset Way that had occurred during recent works at Fox Wood School:

Resolved,

That information be requested from the school on this matter.

C77 Accounts

Resolved,

That approval be given to the following payments:

Cheque No	Date expenditure incurred	Payee	VAT not recoverable	Amount	Purpose	£
4789	22/7/24	Employee 1	0.00	462.43	M4 July 2024	
4790	10/9/24	Royal Mail Group Ltd (Clerk)	0.00	424.20	PO Box delivery annual fee 2024-25	

C78 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 15 October 2024.

APPENDIX

**Woolston
July 2024 - Monthly Parish report**

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

Anti Social Behaviour

7 Youths (0), environmental (6), personal (1)

Personal/environmental include neighbour, parking/traffic

Burglary

0 Dwelling

0 Other

.....
Criminal Damage

3

Vehicle crime

0 Theft of vehicle

2 Theft from vehicle Business

.....
OTHER

- Speed enforcement 21/06/24 – Hillock Lane – range 21 to 29mph
- Woolston CE Primary – Yr 6 Holiday Safety input
- St Peters Primary – Yr 6 – Would You Risk It (multi agency input)
- Church of Ascension summer fayre visited
- Foxwood School Extravaganza visited
- Woolston CE Primary – summer fayre attended
- [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](https://www.warrington.gov.uk/report-and-apply)

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

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

.....
Schools & other events

St Peters Primary – Yr 6 Multi agency input – Risky behaviours

Woolston CE Primary – Yr 6 – Summer Safety input

Foxwood School – Summer Extravaganza attended

Woolston CE Primary – Summer fayre 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 – 18 Jul 13:00 – 14:00; 14 Aug 18:00 - 19:00; 13 Sep 19:30 – 20:30

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

**Woolston
August 2024 - Monthly Parish report**

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

Anti Social Behaviour

4 Youths (2), environmental (2), personal (0)

Personal/environmental include neighbour, parking/traffic

Burglary

0 Dwelling

2 Other Business premises

.....
Criminal Damage

3

Vehicle crime

2 Theft of vehicle Business

0 Theft from vehicle

.....

OTHER

- Speed monitoring Gig Lane 03/08/24 – range 18 to 30mph
- Liaise County Fire
- Liaise Youth Workers WBC regarding Woolston Park and Dam Lane shops
- [Local Policing Newsletters Summer 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](https://www.warrington.gov.uk/report-and-apply)

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

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

.....
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 – 23 Aug 18:00 - 19:00; 13 Sep 19:30 – 20:30; 10 Oct 1800 - 1900

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

Chairman.....