

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WOOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 17 FEBRUARY 2021

This meeting was held remotely in accordance with the Coronavirus Act 2020, Section 78

Present: Councillor J Greenslade (Chairman)
Councillors: M Banner, MH Greenslade, A McCarthy, D Nowell, M Pearce,
S Rydzkowski

Apologies for absence: Councillor P Wright

C80 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

Councillor Banner declared an interest in an item to be reported from Culture Warrington CIC, by reason of being a trustee.

C81 Apologies for absence

The Council noted apologies for absence from Councillor Wright because of ill-health.

C82 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolved,

That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2021 be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record. The minutes, as approved, to be signed by the Chairman at the next physical meeting.

C83 Matters of report from the previous meeting

No matters raised.

C84 Policing of Woolston – community liaison report

The Council considered a report provided by the Police for February 2021. PCSO Roberts had submitted her apologies for not being able to be present at the meeting because of operational reasons.

Resolved,

That the report for February 2021 be noted and further information be requested on the following:

Anti-Social Behaviour

Are there any further details that can be provided relating to the incidents?

Speed enforcement

Is it possible to give details of the time of day and extent of time for the surveys on Hillock Lane and the location(s)?

What would be recorded as an activation?

Members noted that traffic flows will be affected by the current covid restrictions e.g., reduced number of journeys to and from schools and to work.

(Please see appendix for report).

C85 Borough Council business

Borough Councillor McCarthy 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 since the last meeting. (The Council noted that the report 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).

Details of matters since the last meeting:

- Fly-tipping at the junction of Redwood Close with Manchester Road. Borough Council had responded to a request to remove bin sacks of rubbish left on the highway verge.
- Response from the Borough Council regarding determination of the request from Woolston Rovers JFC to site a new storage area on Woolston Playing Fields. It was agreed that further representations be made to progress the scheme – awaiting a response.
- Representations had been made to the Borough Council following complaints from residents of Langton Green at the parking of vehicles on the grass verge and at the highway being obstructed – awaiting a response.
- A progress report had been requested on the scheme to change the parking area fronting shop units on Parkway to chevron parking – awaiting a response.
- Officers had been requested to provide a progress report on the resurfacing of the pedestrian route alongside Kings Leadership Academy to Woolston Playing Fields – awaiting a response.
- Flooding to the rear gardens of houses adjacent to Woolston Playing Fields had been reported to the Borough Council – awaiting a response:

Resolved,

That the report be noted.

C86 Committee matters

(1) Environment and Amenities Committee

(a) Woolston Playing Fields and Hillock Lane Amenity area – application for siting of storage equipment – Minute C73(1)(a) – 18 January 2021

No further information to report.

(b) Hydropol scheme, Weir Lane – Minute C73(1)(b) – 18 January 2021

The Chairman reported that Hydropol intended to provide public information boards at the site.

(c) Weir Lane viewing area

The Chairman reported further to Minute C73(1)(b) – 18 January 2021 on a site meeting held with officers of the Borough Council and Hydropol on matters raised regarding the surface of the viewing area. The Council noted that the two bodies were to liaise on remedial works.

- (2) Finance and General Amenities Committee

(a) conduct of council meetings and business during the period of the Coronavirus pandemic

The Council noted that the Government had announced that:

- (a) local government and other elections were to be held on 6 May 2021
- (b) the covid 19 pandemic regulations for remote meetings were not expected to be extended.

(b) Review of Standing Orders – draft update to follow the National Association of Local Council's (NALC) 2020 model

Further to Minute C59(2)(b) – 9 December 2020 the Clerk submitted a draft update of Council's Standing Orders to include recommendations in the NALC revised model:

Resolved,
That the revised draft be approved.

(c) Carbon Landscape leaflets for walks

Further to minute C77 – 18 January 2021, Jenny Griggs, Community Engagement Officer for the Carbon Landscape Partnership, reported on the digital leaflets giving guides for walks commencing in Woolston Park to: Paddington Meadows; Swithen Hill Wood; Latchford Locks and Risley Moss. These had been developed in liaison with Councillor Nowell and various bodies including the Borough Council. The Council was invited to accept the digital leaflets because the Carbon Landscape Partnership was to end in December 2021.

The intention was to make access to the guides available digitally through websites including at Warrington BC. The leaflets were to be published on the Carbon Landscape website and print-offs could go into Woolston Park immediately.

Carbon Landscape were also involved in a project at Woolston Park. Printed leaflets were to go into Woolston CP School around June this year to allow time needed to put the British Cycling infrastructure into place. Woolston Park was putting a rubbings trail in place that could also be publicised. Carbon Landscape staff who are qualified to lead children cycling groups, will take the primary school children out to the trails in the park:

Resolved,
That

1. the thanks of the Council be recorded to Carbon Landscape and to Jenny Griggs for her presentation;
2. approval be given to accept the digital leaflets;
3. the offer from Carbon Landscape to provide a supply of printed leaflets to promote the walks in the Woolston Neighbourhood Hub and other local outlets be accepted;

4. it be noted that the Borough Council and other bodies are to be invited to publish the digital leaflets on their website.

(d) Road safety schemes – (1) speed monitoring signs; (2) introduction of 20mph speed restrictions

Further to minute C77 – 18 January 2021, the Clerk reported information obtained from parish councils on speed monitoring signs. The type of mobile sign used by Appleton Parish Council was no longer available from the supplier. Stockton Heath Parish Council had responded with recent information on speed indicator devices that had been investigated in association with the Borough Council:

Resolved,

That approval be given to approach the Borough Council for assistance in the evaluation of speed indicator devices.

(e) Applications for grant aid

No applications to report.

C87 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 – Members noted the receipt of information published by the group on their website to mark 14 February 2021 as the 200th anniversary of the opening of the New Cut Canal. The group intended to hold an event later in the year subject to consideration of covid 19 restrictions. Councillor Banner reported that Culture Warrington, as part of their outreach initiative, had offered to work with the parish council and other bodies on a project regarding “Old Billy”. Culture Warrington would provide access to interpretive material from their archives but the cost of information board(s) would need to be met by the parish council. It was agreed in principle to develop a scheme to be submitted to a future meeting of the Council and for Councillor Banner to provide a link with Culture Warrington. The Clerk was requested to contact the Archives and Heritage Officer at Culture Warrington.
- Friends of Woolston Park – Councillor MH Greenslade reported two examples of how our residents love their Park:
 - Bags containing a heart shaped stone with “hug in a bagx” written hung anonymously on trees around the park. Comments had been sent to the FOWP Facebook page about how they cheered people as they passed by.
 - A request from FOWP for old photos of how the Park looked years ago had resulted in a number being submitted, now posted on FOWP Facebook page.
 - Members noted the lack of progress by the Borough Council in making repairs to the roof of the Ranger Cabin. Councillor McCarthy agreed to contact the Executive Member and request that he contact Councillor M Greenslade with an update on the work.

- Public Rights of Way Forum – Councillor Nowell reported that no meeting had been held. A section of safety fence wire cut alongside a pool of water on Path 31 (Woolston Weir to Thelwall Lane) had been reported by the Public Rights of Way Officer to the owners, Peel Holdings for attention.

Resolved,

That the reports be noted, and the action approved.

C88 Correspondence – consultation and information – Police and Crime Commissioner – Police budget

The Council noted the Stakeholder Special 16 February 2021 edition on the budget for 2021/22.

– NALC Coronavirus updates

The Council noted updates from the National Association of Local Councils on its coronavirus information. Included was information on the possibility of the return of face-to-face meetings, suggestions to help prepare, risk assessment considerations, and help to manage remote meetings.

– Warrington BC website – Elections May 2021

The Council noted information from the Borough Council on the dedicated Elections page on the website that provided details of the candidates and agents briefing and other important election information. The information could be accessed by following the link – Elections URL – <https://www.warrington.gov.uk/elections2021>.

– Parish Council briefing sessions

The Council noted details from the Borough Council of briefing sessions being held on 23 February and 8 March 2021. These related to supplementary planning documents currently being consulted on for the Town Centre and House Extensions.

C89 Planning Applications, appeals and decisions

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

Applications for consideration at meeting

Application reference: 2021/38675

Location: 56, LINCOLN CLOSE, WOOLSTON, WARRINGTON, WA1 4LU

Description of development: Section 192 Lawful Development Certificate - Proposed change of use from Dwelling house to Residential institution

Application reference: 2021/38683

Location: 254, MANCHESTER ROAD, WOOLSTON, WARRINGTON, WA1 4DF

Description of development: Lawful Development Certificate (Section 192) - Proposed Single storey side extension, single storey rear extension and detached garden room

Application reference: 2021/38630

Location: SANDYCROFT, BROOK LANE, WARRINGTON, WA3 6DT

Description of development: Full Planning - Demolition of the existing outbuilding and stables, including removal of the Manege; Construction of a new residential property, to be used as supported living accommodation for 4 no. Children (Use Class C2) with associated garden and parking; and landscaping of the remaining site (in lieu of any remaining areas of hardstanding / Manege) to be used for associated horticultural use.

Application reference: 2021/38626

Location: 5, DAM LANE, WOOLSTON, WARRINGTON, WA1 4HH

Description of development: Householder - Proposed single storey rear and side extension, garage conversion and new silicone render finish to all elevations

Application reference: 2021/38629

Location: 4, ABSTONE CLOSE, WOOLSTON, WARRINGTON, WA1 4NQ

Description of development: Householder - Proposed Garage conversion

Application reference: 2021/38533

Location: 2, ACACIA AVENUE, WOOLSTON, WARRINGTON, WA1 4EN

Description of development: Ground Floor Side Orangery

Application reference: 2021/38514

Location: 18, SUNCROFT CLOSE, WOOLSTON, WARRINGTON, WA1 4DQ

Description of development: Householder - Proposed Two Storey Side Extension

Applications to approve action taken

None to report.

Further to minute C76 – 18 January 2021 the Council noted information regarding prior approval planning application for Class O conversion from Office to Residential from the Borough Council's planning website for the following application:

Application reference: 2020/38397

Location: WILLIAMS TARR CONSTRUCTION LIMITED, BRIDGE ROAD, WOOLSTON, WA1 4AU

Description of development: Class O Prior Approval - Proposed Change of use from Offices to 20 Apartments.

Resolved,

That

1. a comment be made in respect of application 2021/38630 regarding the safety of pedestrians using Brook Lane in view of its status as a public right of way.
2. no comments be made in respect of the other applications listed, subject to any further comments received from members.

C90 Business raised by Council members
– Spittle Brook – clearance of vegetation

Councillor Nowell reported, and the Council noted the adverse comments made at the severe cut back of vegetation in areas alongside Spittle Brook by the Borough Council.

C91 Date of next meeting

Resolved,

That the date of the March 2021 meeting of the Council be notified by the Clerk, following consultation with the Chairman, when information has been obtained from the Borough Council on the dates of committee meetings.

C92 Payment of Accounts

Resolved,

That approval be given to the following payments:

Cheque No	Date expenditure incurred	Payee	VAT not recoverable	Amount	Purpose	S137
4531	26/01/21	Battery Lane Allotment Association	0.00	169.79	Grant communal insurance allotment site 2021/22	Yes
4532	26/0//21	Battery Lane Allotment Association	0.00	26.50	Grant allotment competition 2020	Yes
DD	26/01/21	Water Plus Ltd	0.00	50.16	Allotment site meter charge 9/8/20 to 8/11/20	

**APPENDIX
MONTHLY POLICE REPORT**

**Woolston
February 2021 - Monthly Parish report**

**Beat Sergeant PS Stuart Gibbard
Beat Manager PC Naomi Burnell
PCSO Bethan Roberts**

Anti-Social Behaviour

20 Youths (6), environmental (8), personal (0)

Personal/environmental include neighbour, parking/traffic, Covid issues

Burglary

1 Dwelling Attempt

0 Other

Criminal Damage

2 1x vehicle; 1x reclassified not damage

Vehicle crime

1 Theft of vehicle Business vehicle

3 Theft from vehicle

OTHER

□

- Patrols continue covering various parks, shops, Woolston Hub Car park, Woolston Eyes & New Cut Canal Path
- Dam Lane Shops – The area continues to be patrolled and monitored, and link in with shop staff
- Woolston area – 2x arrests for drug driving related offences in and around Woolston (separate occasions)
- Woolston Park – Police & Fire attended on evening 8/01 regarding vehicle on fire near Rangers Cabin. Once their enquiries were completed WBC were contacted to arrange for its removal. Anyone with information regarding the vehicle fire can

contact police quoting IML890952 (101, online via Cheshire Police website or anonymously through Crimestoppers)

- Speed enforcement – 20 Jan, 25 Jan, 4 Feb, 5 Feb Hillock Lane – No activations

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>
- 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).
- Coronavirus Pandemic – Up to date guidance/advice on social distancing and social interactions is available on the Government website: - <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
- 24/7 mental health crisis lines now 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 3253 for people living in Wigan
- 0800 051 1508 for people living in Halton, Knowsley, St Helens, and Warrington

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. However, calls made to the original numbers will be charged.

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/twitter/email

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

Useful Links offering advice and information:

Online safety and advice

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

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

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

Schools & other events

Keeping in contact with our schools – whilst observing social distancing measures

Schools – Primary schools have resumed While You Are At Home communications which are emailed out each week - include safety messages (e.g., roads, stranger, online). Safer Internet Day presentation sent to schools

Patrols when other commitments permit in vicinity of schools start/dispersal times

Surgery

Rixton & Woolston PCSO Surgery at Woolston Neighbourhood Hub

Face to face surgeries cancelled until further notice, in meantime host virtual surgery

Chairman.....