

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WOOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE WOOLSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB, HALL ROAD, WOOLSTON ON 23 NOVEMBER 2016**

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

**Apologies for absence:** Councillors M Creaghan, A Hill, D Hill, B Maher

**C77 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest**  
**Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012**

No declarations were made at the opening of the meeting.

**C78 Apologies for absence**

The Council noted that Councillor A Hill had submitted an apology for absence on the grounds of urgent business.

**C79 Minutes of the previous meeting**

Resolved,

That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 October 2016 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

**C80 Matters of report from previous minutes**

There were no matters to report.

**C81 Environment Agency – presentation on flood defence works**

The Council received a presentation from officers of the Environment Agency on the progress of the flood defence scheme for Woolston. The scheme was part of Phase 3B of flood defence works being carried out in Warrington. Construction works for Phase 3B (Westy Woolston) were planned from June 2016 to May 2017. Details were provided through the slide presentation of the work carried out. The length upstream from Weir Lane had completed the rock stabilisation work to the northern bank of the river. Steel sheet piles were now to be constructed with timber capping. A new path would be provided as a result of the works. A viewing area was also to be constructed at the point where the New Cut canal former lock was sited. Works had also been carried out downstream to the length adjacent to the Bridge Lane industrial estate. The Council noted the access arrangements for construction vehicles along Weir Lane and Bridge Lane.

An important element of the works was community engagement. This was being carried out through newsletters, drop-in sessions, scheme notice boards, local councillor engagements and meetings with community groups:

Resolved,

That

1. the officers be thanked for their presentation and for the efforts made in community engagement;
2. a copy of the slide presentation be provided for members.

## **C82 Policing of Woolston – community liaison report**

The Council received a report from the Police Community Support Officer on the policing of Woolston. There were no incidents to report in the parish since the last meeting. Members were invited to submit details of matters for attention by the police.

The Chairman reported on his attendance at the recent liaison meeting with parish councils in the borough held by the Police and Crime Commissioner. One topic raised had been the powers of Police Community Support Officers relating to parking, especially adjacent to schools at the beginning and end of the school day. The Council noted that the police worked with all schools to inform parents of the issues created by parking and sought cooperation in this matter. Enforcement was a matter for the Parking Wardens where waiting restrictions were in place. Action could also be taken where a house access was obstructed and prevented a vehicle entering the road.

## **C83 Borough Council business**

Borough Councillors 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:

- Pre-planning application consultation on the proposed use of an industrial unit on Chesford Grange for truck sales.
- A meeting had been held with Borough Council officers on the refurbishment of the Weir Lane Play Area. Funding of approximately £7k was available from the Section 106 agreement with David Wilson Homes. Additional works had been identified to improve the area subject to a contribution being made by the parish council.
- A site meeting had been held with the Specialist Transport Services Manager and a draft scheme was to be prepared to provide a hard standing in the highway verge for the bus stop on Hillock Lane opposite St Peters RC School. This would provide passengers with a surfaced area from the bus to the footpath and should have little impact on residents. Councillor A Hill was consulting with residents on the proposal.
- Residents were to be consulted in the Somerset Way/Wareham Close area on measures to control parking on the highway verge and pavement on days when matches were being played in Woolston Park.
- Representations had been received on the introduction of a £30 charge for the emptying of Green Waste bins from households.

## **C84 Committee reports and recommendation**

### **- Environment and Amenities Committee**

Councillor MH Greenslade reported on matters considered at the meeting held on 23 November 2016 and the Council gave consideration to the recommendations made:

Resolved,

That

1. the report on the development adjacent to the Thelwall Viaduct be noted;
2. it be noted that Borough Council officers are to be asked to advise on options for the development of the grassed area at the Hillock Lane Amenity area;
3. the response from the Families and Wellbeing Directorate on the management and use of the playing fields be noted;
4. the Borough Council be informed that the details below regarding the traffic calming scheme for Martinscroft Green from Croftside to Battery Lane are accepted as correct:

- The land on which the traffic calming is to be provisioned is owned and managed by Woolston Parish Council.
  - The provision of the traffic calming is commissioned by Woolston Parish Council.
  - Warrington Borough Council is assisting in the design and construction of the traffic calming to ensure they are to standard and fit for purpose.
  - Woolston Parish Council give Warrington Borough Council permission to undertake the provision of two traffic calming features on their behalf on Martinscroft Green as identified on drawing MW1617002-1200-01.
  - The monies being used to implement these traffic calming measures is secured through the Section 106 as provisioned by David Wilson Homes and are not provisioned through Warrington Borough Council budget allocation.
  - On completion of the works the ownership, management, maintenance and any future liability thereafter will be the responsibility of Woolston Parish Council.
5. the report on matters relating to footpaths from the Parish Path Warden be noted;
  6. the response to consultation be accepted and approval be given to the replacement of the bus shelter at old Manchester Road with the type used by the Borough Council and to the Borough Council arranging for its installation;
  7. the progress on the refurbishment of the Weir Lane Play area by the Borough Council be noted and that the result of the consultation being carried out is to be reported to the Committee;
  8. progress on the development of the “old Billy” scheme be noted;
  9. it be noted that arrangements are being made for an independent inspection of plots at the allotment site;
  10. the report relating to the New Cut Heritage and Trail Group relating to issues in Woolston be noted,

- **Finance and General Committee**

Councillor McCarthy reported on matters considered at the meeting held on 23 November 2016 and the Council gave consideration to the recommendations made:

Resolved,

That

1. the Management Accounts for the quarters ending June and September 2016 be accepted;
2. consideration be given to the provision of speed control signs as part of the 2017-18 revenue budget;
3. the report on progress in the development of the website be noted;

**C85 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:

- East Warrington Neighbourhood Board – Councillor MH Greenslade reported that the next meeting was to be held on 28 November 2016. It was noted that the Borough Council had appointed Councillor Wright as their representative to the East Board.
- New Cut Heritage and Ecology Trail Group – Details of the work being carried out and other events supplied by the Group had been issued to all members. It was noted that the next meeting was to be held on 28 November 2016 including the Annual General Meeting. Councillor J Greenslade reported on a request from the Group for a letter of support to the Borough Council in respect of projects of interest to the area. It was agreed that support be given.
- Friends of Woolston Park – Councillor MH Greenslade reported on the work of the Group. The Borough Council had supplied details of work being carried out by Scottish

Power plc in providing a new cable through the park. The group had noted the effect on the land of the remedial measures including tree planting following the felling of trees. The Birchwood Scout Group had been thanked for their work in maintaining the Jubilee Garden. The Secretary had responded through the Woolston Courier to comments made by a resident relating to the Woolston Show. The Chairman reported that he had also provided information to the resident on the event. Details were noted of the arrangements for the monthly litter pick in December.

- Public Rights of Way Forum – the next meeting of the Forum was to be held on 1 December 2016.
- Liaison meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner – The Chairman reported on his attendance at the Police and Crime Commissioner’s meeting with parish councils in Warrington held on 27 October 2016. A note of the items and issues raised provided by the Commissioner’s office had been supplied to members. It was noted that a number of parish councils had raised issues relating to the service provided by the Police Community Support Officers. Members commented on the good standard of service that had been provided in this parish.
- Parish Council Liaison meeting – The Chairman reported on his attendance at the Borough Council’s liaison meeting with parish councils held on 31 October 2016. Items covered included the offer to be made to parish councils on shared training opportunities; an update of the Council’s budgetary process; an update of the role of the Standards Committee in dealing with complaints relating to parish council members; an update on the survey carried out by the Independent Remuneration Panel and the recruitment of members to the panel and on the process being followed in the closure and changes to library services across the borough.

#### **C86 – Consultation and information** **– Mersey Phase 3b – status of works at Weir Lane**

The Council considered an email from the Project Manager for the Environment Agency’s Mersey Phase 3b project that provided the following information. These were the activities planned for the period from 14 November over the following 2 – 3 weeks. The council and the public were invited to submit any questions to the Project Engineer. In addition the next ‘drop in’ session to be held on Wednesday 7 December from 4 to 5pm at St Peter’s Church.

- The stone placement for bank stabilisation works had been completed and the pontoon and barges had been removed from the river. A total of 12,500 tonnes of rock revetment had been placed for approximately 180 metres upstream from the New Cut lock.
- Site clearance had been continuing around the Weir Lodge and Lock Cottage properties in preparation for piling works which had commenced on 14 November 2016. These piling works would follow Weir Lodge’s boundary and continue up to Lock Cottage and were to be completed in the following week. This would be followed by preparing footings for the brickwork fascia to the sheet piling.
- When piling works were complete preparation for the embankment works to the rear of Weir Lodge would commence. This area would be made ready for the delivery of clay material that was to form the bulk of the embankment.
- Sheet piling upstream from the New Cut lock was to follow after the completion of the piling works at Weir Lodge/Lock Cottage. A smaller excavator with a specialist piling attachment would be used to undertake these works.

- During these works the Environment Agency would be in regular contact with the residents affected through the Environment Agency team and the contractor, GBV's team on site.

Resolved,  
That the information be noted.

#### **– Warrington Borough Council – Centre Park link update**

The Council noted an email from the Borough Council providing an update on the proposed new bridge across the River Mersey that was to connect Chester Road to the town centre via Slutchers Lane. Following the public consultation scheme in July and August 2016 the Council was in the process of considering all the comments received. It was noted that final plans were to be published in the New Year.

#### **– Warrington's Got Talent event**

The Council noted an email on the promotion by the Mayor, Councillor Rashid of a Warrington's Got Talent competition.

#### **– Police Audit and Ethics members**

The Council noted an email from the Cheshire Police Public Engagement Officer on the recruitment of members to the Ethics Advisory Panel and the Audit Advisory Panel.

#### **– East Neighbourhood Board event – Stay Well this Winter**

The Council noted an email on the promotion of an event at the Woolston Neighbourhood Hub on 23 November to provide an opportunity for the public to get some advice, help and tips on how to stay warm and well for the coming winter months. This was targeted particularly for those who may be vulnerable in the community.

#### **– Encampment on private land at Cranford Court, Hardwick Grange**

The Council noted an email from the Gypsy and Traveller Support Officer on action taken following an encampment at Cranford Court.

#### **– Cheshire Fire Authority – Making Cheshire Safer: Our plans for 2017/18**

The Council noted an email from the Cheshire Fire Authority providing a summary of their proposals for the service in 2017/18.

#### **C87 Planning Applications and decisions**

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

2016/28904 – 15 Chesford Grange – advertisement consent for fascia signs, totem pole and flag poles:

Resolved,  
That the objections made by the Borough Ward Councillors be supported in seeking to prevent illumination of signs throughout the night.

### **C88 Business raised by Members**

No items of business were raised.

### **C89 Payment of Accounts**

Resolved,

That approval be given to the following payments:

<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Date expenditure incurred</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>VAT not recoverable</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>S137</b>
4221	23/11/16	LiveWire CIC	0.00	33.60	Meeting room hire	
4222	23/11/16	Battery Lane Allotment Association	0.00	22.98	Grant – engraving trophies	Yes
4223	23/11/16	Employee 1	0.00	358.18	M8 November	
4224	23/11/16	Staples (Clerk)	0.00	56.52	Printing and stationery	
4225	23/11/16	Friends of Woolston Park	0.00	3000.00	Grant Woolston Show 2016	Yes

Chairman.....