

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WOOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE WOOLSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB, HALL ROAD, WOOLSTON ON 18 OCTOBER 2017

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

Apologies for absence: Councillor A Hill, M Creaghan, B Maher

C64 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were noted from Councillor Creaghan on Borough Council business and Councillor A Hill who was away on holiday.

**C65 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest
Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012**

No declarations were made at the opening of the meeting.

C66 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolved,

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 September 2017 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

C67 Matters of report from previous minutes

There were no matters to report.

C68 Policing of Woolston – community liaison report

The Council received a report from the Police Community Support Officer on the policing of Woolston as set out below for October:

Anti-Social behaviour (ASB)

6 reports of ASB. 4 related to youths on park, 1 One Stop shop nuisance youths, 1 vehicle related (forwarded to the Borough Council). High visibility patrols of key areas including park and shops. Shop staff and Kings Leadership Academy staff had been spoken to. Liaised with colleagues from other areas in order to try and identify those involved through CCTV or being named by residents.

Burglary dwelling

3 incidents. Burglary team following up any lines of enquiry – 2 daytime.

Burglary others

1 business related.

Criminal damage

6 incidents. 2 vehicles, 3 fences/gates, 1 domestic related. Vehicle/fence incidents linked to ASB jobs, similar issues had been reported in other areas. Ongoing work with colleagues to identify those involved.

Vehicle crime

1 incident theft of trailer.

Other

Schools. Arranged inputs in coming weeks on Halloween/Bonfire Safety, St Peters RC Primary School – role of police introduction to Foundation Class for Health and Wellbeing Week; Kings

Leadership Academy made aware of ASB and criminal damage issues; will conduct assemblies on topics this week.

Shops. Visited with advice regarding sales of fireworks, eggs, flour etc.

Residents attended the meeting to report their serious concern at recent incidents of anti-social behaviour (ASB) by youths. The Council invited residents to give details of incidents in order to inform members and the police representative and to allow consideration to be given to future action. Examples were given of ASB, particularly at the shopping precinct at Dam Lane and the streets leading to this area. A report was given on two incidents of damage to fence panels at a property in Poulton Crescent adjacent to the path leading to Woolston Park. A report was also given on recent incidents in Woolston Park.

The view of residents was that the response from the Police had not recognised the seriousness of the problem and that the action being taken should urgently be reviewed.

Borough Ward Councillors undertook to contact the Borough Council's Youth Service with a request that the outreach workers give attention to the area and coordinate their action with the Police.

The Council agreed to make the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable aware of the concern expressed and to have an item on this matter on the agenda for meetings of the Council for the next six months to allow close scrutiny to be maintained.

C69 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:

- Repairs were to be carried out to the bus shelter on A57 Manchester Road adjacent to Weir Lane.
- Details had been supplied to members of a Waste Composition study of both refuse and recycling from approximately 200 properties from a random sample from the 6th November to the 17th November 2017. A list of the selected streets was provided including those in Woolston. A similar study had been undertaken in 2014 and the results had proved vitally important to the Borough Council in future planning. The study would look at waste in black and blue bins in Warrington. A company called Resource Futures was undertaking the research. The company were to survey a small sample of bins over a two week period on the residents scheduled bin collection days for black and blue bins. This waste will be taken away to be sorted and weighed at a secure location. All selected residents would receive a letter over the next week to explain what the council were planning to do and to give residents the option to opt out of the study. The findings from the research would be used to produce a report to be available in the New Year.
- Work was proceeding on the development of a scheme to improve the link road between Gig Lane and the Grange Employment Area. This would form part of the Local Transportation Plan.
- Discussions were taking place on the closure of the School Brow Depot and the move of these services to the depot at New Cut Lane.
(Councillor McCarthy left the meeting).

C70 Woolston Park

The Borough Council's Environment Services Manager attended the meeting to report on matters relating to Woolston Park, including the Rangers Cabin. This followed a request for information on proposals that members had been made aware of for future schemes that had not been reported to the Council or the Friends of Woolston Park group.

The Council were assured that consultation would be carried out with the Borough Ward members, the parish council and the Friends of Woolston Park group and users of the services on any significant proposals relating to Woolston Park and the Ranger Cabin. The details made known to members had arisen from a meeting with users of the park and did not form part of any scheme. The relevant Executive Board member had been made aware of the poor state of repair of the Ranger Cabin and officers were preparing options for consideration. This included a review of facilities on the Woolston Playing Fields and officers were aware of the parish council's involvement in the use of these facilities.

The Environment Services Manager was made aware of an issue relating to insurance cover for volunteers of the New Cut Heritage and Ecology Trail Group when undertaking work:

Resolved,

That the Environment Services Manager be thanked for his presentation and his assurance that the Council and relevant groups will be consulted on matters relating to Woolston Park..

C71 Presentation on the work of the East Neighbourhood Team

The Borough Council's Area Manager of the East and West Neighbourhood Team attended the meeting and gave an overview of the work of the East Neighbourhood Team. The Team works with council members, council officers, parish councils, partners (eg Police, Fire Service, National Health Service) and local residents to help build a strong and resilient community in East Warrington. The Team can:

- Support residents who want to turn a good idea into a reality, adopting a piece of land to keep tidy, starting an activity, running a community event or starting a residents' association.
- Support community groups and projects to apply for funding, particularly the community initiative fund.
- Visit community groups and events to provide healthy living messages such as Change 4 Life and Winter Warm, and organise campaigns to raise awareness of this. The Team can also train community groups to pass on these messages, and advise community cafes on healthy menus.
- Organise courses such as Ageing Well for the Over 50's, dementia friends, Scam awareness, U-Switch, Budget Boosting, Confidence building – including Connect 5 and Boost.
- Refer to Warrington Wellbeing.
- Provide information about what is on in your area.

An example of this in Woolston was the support being given to the drop in sessions being held in the Woolston Neighbourhood Hub. It was noted that the parish council had been encouraged by the number of people attending these sessions and that the Finance and General Committee had recommended that financial support be given to help the group to become established.

Resolved,

That the Area Manager be thanked for her presentation.

C72 Committee reports and recommendations

- Environment and Amenities Committee

Councillor MH Greenslade reported on matters considered at the meeting held on 18 October 2017 and the Council gave consideration to the recommendations made:

Resolved,

That

1. the report on activity at the development adjacent to the Thelwall Viaduct be noted;

2. the form circulated to all members continue to be used to assist the Committee in the development of a scheme for the Hillock Lane Amenity Area;
3. costing be obtained for a height barrier to improve the security of the Hillock Lane Amenity Area car park entrance;
4. the revised draft design for the “Old Billy” scheme highway sign be produced based on the comments made;
5. approval be given to the grant of a tenancy to the applicant following a report on extenuating circumstances;
6. approval be given to a site meeting with Borough Council officers to consider issues raised by the Allotment Association relating to the maintenance of the track leading to the site and the height of trees on the southern boundary and a representative of the Allotment Association be invited to attend.

- Finance and General Committee

Councillor Banner reported on matters considered at the meeting held on 18 October 2017 and the Council gave consideration to the recommendations made:

Resolved,
That

1. the report of the external auditor on the accounts for 2016-17 be accepted together with any action arising
2. the policy relating to the media be amended as recommended to include social media;
3. approval be given to a grant of £50 being made to St Peters RC Church in support of the provision and maintenance of a defibrillator that is available for use by the public.

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 – Councillor J Greenslade reported on the work of the group. Members noted details of the next meeting to be held at the Paddington House Hotel.
- Friends of Woolston Park – Councillor Pearce reported on the work of the group. It had been a fairly quiet month after the hustle and bustle of the show. The Friends had met on 22 September to discuss the positive and negative thoughts about the show and to see how it can be improved upon for next time. Several of us had listed our own personal pros and cons and these were distributed around the room. There was also some interest about a possible summer music night in the park. It's just an idea at the moment that no doubt will be discussed again at future meetings. Scottish Power had finally started working on the park replacing the mains cable running right through the park. Last weekend the Friends had planted about 200 daffodil bulbs in front of the cabin and behind plus some more to go in the nearby woodlands. A group member had kindly donated the bulbs. More may be planted in the woodlands. Councillor Pearce reported that she had been privileged together with Vice Chair of the Friends to be invited to attend the Woolston Church of England School to present the awards for the artwork on display at the Woolston Show. The Vice Chair talked to the Head Teacher about involving the children together their parents to do something in the park in the future. This was to be discussed with the Friends shortly to arrange what's best for the children to learn about, natural habitats, types of bats, birds, hedgehogs, trees etc. The Head Teacher was in favour of it. It was clear to see that it's a very good school, extremely well run and organised with lots of encouragement and reward in everything they do.

- Public Rights of Way Forum – the next meeting of the Forum was to be held on 7 December 2017.
- Other bodies – no reports.

C74 Correspondence – consultation and information
– use of community buildings for performances involving children

The Council noted guidance issued by the Borough Council with regard to performances involving children under 16 that may take place in parish halls.

- Transport Summit – Warrington Local Transport Plan

The Council noted details of events planned by the Borough Council to assist in the development of the Local Transport Plan.

- proposed diversion of Mersey Way public footpath

The Council gave consideration to a proposal by the Borough Council for the diversion of the public footpath. Following discussions with the landowner the Council proposes to resolve the issue of the collapsed river banks effect on the Mersey Way footpath by diverting it slightly inland as shown on the plan submitted. The diverted length was about 380 metres north-east of the Thelwall Viaduct. The diverted footpath would have a width of 2 metres and it was intended to waymark it and mow it twice yearly to define its route on the ground:

Resolved,
 That support be given to this proposal

C75 Planning applications and decisions

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

2017/31187- Crystal Rubber 22 Kingsland Grange – full planning proposed new access to vacant land including security gates and fencing to be used for storage with a separate storage container on site.

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

C76 Business raised by Members

- **99 Hillock Lane**

Councillor Wright reported on representations received regarding land on the amenity area to the rear of the property:

Resolved,
 That consideration be given to the matter raised.

- **Poulton with Fearnhead Parish Council**
- **website**

Members reported that the parish council was considering developing a website and had requested details of the software used by the council:

Resolved,
That approval be given to details being supplied.

- **Litter Warden service**

Members reported that the parish council was considering support for the Litter Warden service:

Resolved,
That details be awaited of this matter.

C77 Payment of Accounts

Resolved,
That approval be given to the following payments:

Cheque No	Date expenditure incurred	Payee	VAT not recoverable	Amount	Purpose	£137
DD	18/10/17	British Telecom plc	0.00	43.20	Broadband service 4828	
4288	18/10/17	Employee 1	0.00	358.18	Month 7 October 2017	
4289	18/10/17	Office Outlet (Clerk)	0.00	101.98	Printing and stationery	
4290	18/10/17	BDO LLP(Clerk)	0.00	240.00	Review of Annual Return 2016-17	

Chairman.....