

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WOOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE WOOLSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB, HALL ROAD, WOOLSTON ON 14 DECEMBER 2016

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

Apologies for absence: Councillor S Rydzkowski

C90 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest
Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

No declarations were made at the opening of the meeting.

C91 Apologies for absence

The Council noted that Councillor Rydzkowski had submitted an apology for absence on the grounds of his attendance at a meeting in Manchester.

C92 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolved,

That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2016 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

C93 Matters of report from previous minutes

There were no matters to report.

C94 Policing of Woolston – community liaison report

The Council received a report from the Police Community Support Officer on the policing of Woolston. Details were submitted of the number and type of incidents in the parish since the last meeting and on action taken by the police. This included reports on:

- Burglary and theft of/from motor vehicles in domestic and industrial areas. Two arrests had been made. Residents had been reminded to lock car/home doors and windows and to keep keys safe and out of sight.
- Damage to vehicles during the overnight period on Longbarn Lane. Additional patrols were to be deployed in the area.
- Investigated complaints regarding parking obstruction in the vicinity of St. Peters RC School, Hillock Lane at the beginning and end of the school day. A report was to be made to the Borough Council on the introduction of no waiting restrictions. Councillor McCarthy reported that he had also made representations on this matter with a view to restrictions being introduced near to the junctions with Hill Top Road and Ryder Road.

Councillor M Greenslade reported that a suspicious item had been found during the volunteer litter pick held in Woolston Park and this was to be passed to the police. Councillor Nowell reported on discussions to identify a base in Woolston for the police to operate from over extended hours. It was noted that discussions were being held on other locations in the area.

C95 Borough Council business

Borough Councillors A 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:

- Agreement to a restriction on the use of illuminated signs in respect of an industrial unit on Chesford Grange for truck sales. It was noted that the Council had received a response from planning officers to the objection lodged giving other information.
- Following the site meeting held with the Specialist Transport Services Manager adjoining residents had been consulted on a draft scheme to provide a hard standing in the highway verge for the bus stop on Hillock Lane opposite St Peters RC School. No objections had been made and the Specialist Transport Services Manager had been informed of the support to proceed. He would inform residents who had requested this facility that the scheme was to proceed.
- Residents had been consulted in the Somerset Way/Wareham Close area on measures to control parking on the highway verge at the entrance to Woolston Park. Support had been given to the introduction of no waiting restrictions on the highway adjacent to the entrance and to the installation of a timber fence to prevent parking of the grass verge. The council agreed to support the scheme.
- A replacement shelter was to be installed at the outbound bus stop on the A57 Manchester Road opposite the junction with Greymist Avenue. This followed a collision with the shelter by a service bus.
- Representations had been received on the cleaning of the cenotaph at Martinscroft Green. It was noted that the parish council was to consider advice from a specialist contractor on any cleaning works required.
- Representations had been made regarding parking obstructions at the beginning and end of the school day at Bruche CP School which was within the Rixton and Woolston Borough Ward.

C96 Committee reports and recommendation

- Environment and Amenities Committee

Councillor MH Greenslade reported on matters considered at the meeting held on 14 December 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 the Borough Council is to give public notice of the proposed traffic calming scheme for Martinscroft Green from Croftside to Battery Lane;
3. the report on matters relating to footpaths from the Parish Path Warden be noted;
4. approval be given to the Borough Council supervising the installation of the replacement bus shelter at old Manchester Road with the type used by the Borough Council;
5. approval be given to the funding of the improvement and maintenance project submitted by the Friends of Woolston Park;
6. details be requested from the Borough Council on the final scheme for the refurbishment of the Weir Lane Play area;
7. approval be given to the development of an information sign to be sited on the A57 Manchester Road as part of the “old Billy” heritage scheme;
8. it be noted that arrangements are being made for an independent inspection of plots at the allotment site in the new year;
9. the report relating to the New Cut Heritage and Ecology Trail Group relating to issues in Woolston be noted.

- Finance and General Committee

Councillor McCarthy reported on matters considered at the meeting held on 14 December 2016 and the Council gave consideration to the recommendations made:

Resolved,

That

1. no changes be made to the standing orders of the council;
2. approval be given to the draft committee budgets being prepared for consideration at the next meetings of the committees and the council;
3. the report on progress in the development of the website be noted;

C97 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 on the meeting held on 28 November 2016. Business discussed included:
 - A presentation on Action Warrington.
 - A request had been made for keep fit equipment to be installed at an outdoor area in Woolston suitable for use by senior citizens.
 - An update had been given on the HS2 high speed rail project.
 - A presentation had been given on the indices of deprivation.
 - Information had been provided on social isolation areas.
 - Superintendent Cockcroft had been appointed as the new chairman of the 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 Annual General Meeting had been held on 28 November 2016. Councillor J Greenslade reported that the Group considered that the past year had been successful with a number of projects being progressed. It was noted that work was being carried out on the new picnic area. Councillor Nowell reported on a complaint from the Ramblers group about the speed of vehicles on Bridge Lane. It was noted that Bridge Lane and New Cut Lane adjacent to the entrance to the household waste site was not adopted highway. The Clerk reported that the Group had advised that future meetings were to be held at the Paddington House hotel.
- Friends of Woolston Park – Councillor MH Greenslade reported on the work of the Group. This had included a litter pick on 1 December, maintenance to the Jubilee Garden and cleaning of the toilets at the Ranger Cabin. The Borough Council had given an update to the Group on the progress of works in Woolston Park which included:
 - Installation of new notice boards
 - Planting adjacent to the Ranger Cabin.
 - Additional blue style direction signs.
 - A report on the ongoing works by Scottish Power.
 - Replacement of the speed humps on the entrance to the park with gaps provided for bicycles.

The East Area Coordinator had suggested a schools competition and a meeting was planned for 18 January. The litter pick was to be held on 12 January.

- Public Rights of Way Forum – the meeting of the Forum scheduled for 1 December 2016 was cancelled because of the lack of a meeting room and had been rescheduled for 5 January 2017.

C98 – 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 providing an update on the flood defence scheme works in the Weir Lane area:

- the large piling rig had now left site on completion of the installation of sheet piles around Weir Lodge and up to Lock Cottage.
- the aim was to complete the embankment to the rear of Weir Cottage before the break for Christmas. This involved the bringing in of clay material which would form the embankment from Thelwall by road. An earlier start on this operation earlier had been constrained by weather conditions. The recent cold spell had made moving and placing the clay very difficult and in addition the ground to the rear of Weir Lodge had been waterlogged. With temperatures set to rise and currently no forecast of rain it was intended to dig some trial holes in this area and prepare the ground for the import of clay. This work was due to be completed before Christmas.
- Information would be provided when this operation starts as there would be a significant increase of truck movements along Weir Lane. Traffic lights and marshalls would be in place to ensure the safe movement of vehicles and pedestrians. The entire operation to import the clay embankment material was likely to take a week.
- Piling upstream of the New Cut Lock was to commence after Christmas. These works would proceed with the footpath construction and reinstatement along this portion of the river embankment.
- A 'drop in' session was planned for Wednesday 7 December at St Peter's Church where updates on the programme and the traffic management to be put in place in the coming weeks would be given.

Resolved,
That the information be noted.

– Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) - consultation

The Council considered an email from the Borough Council giving details of consultation that commenced on 28 November 2016 and to end on 20 January 2017 on a proposed PSPO for an area of Warrington. This would allow the Council to introduce a range of measures to address anti-social behaviour issues and help improve public spaces in this area:

Resolved,
That consideration of the submission of any comments be deferred to the next meeting.

C99 Planning Applications and decisions

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

- 2016/29152 – Unit 9A, Centre 21, Bridge Lane – full planning – installation of a portacabin to provide rest room/lounge facilities for pupils.
2016/29370 – Heathercroft Nursing Home, Longbarn Lane – full planning – proposed single storey extension.

2016/29375 – River Mersey (between Woolston and Bridgefoot roundabout) (at Orford Road and from the Twiggeries to its confluence with the River Mersey) (Spittle Brook at Cinnamon Brow) and at Victoria Park, Black Bear Park, Knutsford Road and Weir Lane.

2016/29382 – 28 Holes Lane, - full planning for proposed two storey rear extension to form additional consultation rooms, meeting room etc with revised car parking

2016/29431 – 6 Bowfell Grove – Tree Preservation Order – Lime trees on rear boundary of 6 Bowfell Grove only – proposed crown lift to approximately 5.5 metres to crown break and proposed felling of 3 trees:

Resolved,

That no objections or representations be made in respect of the above applications.

C100 Business raised by Members

No items of business were raised.

C101 Payment of Accounts

Resolved,

That approval be given to the following payments:

| Cheque No | Date expenditure incurred | Payee | VAT not recoverable | Amount | Purpose | S137 |
|------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|--|-------------|
| 4226 | 14/12/16 | Warrington BC | 0.00 | 530.70 | Remembrance Service Cenotaph | |
| 4227 | 14/12/16 | LiveWire CIC | 0.00 | 16.80 | Grant – room hire New Cut Heritage and Ecology Trail Group | Yes |
| 4228 | 14/12/16 | British Telecom plc (Clerk) | 0.00 | 142.88 | 9481 phone services | |
| 4229 | 14/12/16 | Staples (Clerk) | 0.00 | 39.49 | Printing and stationery | |
| 4230 | 14/12/16 | United Utilities plc (Clerk) | 0.00 | 125.04 | Allotment site meter charge August – November 2016 | |
| 4231 | 14/12/16 | Employee 1 | 0.00 | 358.18 | M9 December 2016 | |
| 4232 | 14/12/16 | HM Revenue and Customs (Clerk) | 0.00 | 268.80 | PAYE months 7 to 9 2016 | |
| 4233 | 14/12/16 | Costco Wholesale (Clerk) | 0.00 | 16.78 | Stationery | |

Chairman.....