

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WOOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE WOOLSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB, HALL ROAD, WOOLSTON ON 22 NOVEMBER 2017**

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

**Apologies for absence:** Councillor M Creaghan, S Rydzkowski

**C78 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were noted from Councillor Creaghan Councillor Rydzkowski.

**C79 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest  
Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012**

No declarations were made at the opening of the meeting.

**C80 Minutes of the previous meeting**

Resolved,

That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2017 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

**C81 Matters of report from previous minutes**

There were no matters to report.

**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 since the last meeting.

A report was given on cyclists riding without lights. It was noted that this was a road traffic offence and those under 18 years were told to push their bicycle.

**– action relating to anti-social behaviour by youths**

Further to Minute C68 18 October 2017 the Clerk reported a letter from the Police and Crime Commissioner in response to the representations made by the Council for action by the police to control anti-social behaviour by youths. The Commissioner had ensured that the Acting Chief Constable was aware of the concern and had also shared those details with the local Chief Inspector for the Warrington area as a matter of urgency so that an appropriate response could be considered.

A letter was also reported from the Inspector in charge of Neighbourhood Policing at Warrington on the action taken following the receipt of representations from the Council. Local residents were urged to report incidents to the police by using the non-emergency phone number 101 or 999 in an emergency. The Crimestoppers number 0800 555 111 was also available where any information regarding a crime could be reported anonymously.

A report was noted from the Police and Community Support Officer on preventative work relating to anti-social behaviour by youths. Councillor Wright reported that the Council's Youth Service had undertaken to carry out work in the community:

Resolved,  
That the information be noted.

*(Councillor Maher left the meeting).*

### **C83 Borough Council business**

Borough Councillors A Hall, 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:

- Officers had confirmed that financial provision had been made for a cycle and footpath route for the link road between Gig Lane and the Grange Employment Area.
- The bus shelters at A57 Manchester Road (Weir Lane) and Laburnum Avenue had been repaired.
- Officers had been asked to review park areas to consider what improvement works could be undertaken.
- Discussions had taken place on the responsibility of the Borough Council to repair the fence between Martinscroft Village Green and A57 Manchester Road.
- Reports had been made on street lighting faults.

### **C84 Committee reports and recommendations**

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

Councillor MH Greenslade reported on matters considered at the meeting held on 22 November 2017 and the Council gave consideration to the recommendations made:

Resolved,  
That

1. further details be requested from the Battery Lane Allotment Association in support of the application for grant aid for the provision of fencing;
2. details of the site meeting with the Borough Council and the Allotment Association regarding issues relating to the site be accepted;
3. the report on the development adjacent to the Thelwall Viaduct be noted;
4. the report of the Parish Path Warden be accepted;
5. further consideration be given by the Committee to the options for the development of the Hillock Lane Amenity Area;
6. approval be given to proceed with the height barrier to improve the security of the Hillock Lane Amenity Area car park entrance and the Clerk in consultation with the chairs of the Council, the Environment and Amenities Committee and the Finance and General Committee be authorised to proceed with the scheme;
7. the revised draft design for the “Old Billy” scheme highway sign be produced based on the comments made;
8. the report on action taken following storm damage to a tree at Martinscroft Village Green be accepted and consideration be given to the financing of this work;
9. approval be given to the request from the New Cut Heritage and Ecology Trail Group on the reallocation of the grant made.

#### **- Finance and General Committee**

Councillor McCarthy reported on matters considered at the meeting held on 22 November 2017 and the Council gave consideration to the recommendations made:

Resolved,

That the Management Accounts for the quarterly periods ending June and September 2017 be accepted.

### **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:

- New Cut Heritage and Ecology Trail Group – Councillor J Greenslade reported on the work of the group.
- Friends of Woolston Park – Councillor Pearce reported on the work of the group. The Friends group had a productive work day on Sunday 29 October. Several scouts attended with their parents and worked in the woods alongside the bridle path, generally tidying and clearing the overgrown pathway that weaves throughout the wood. Others litter picked. Some scouts worked along the bank behind the pond area and they were still there mid afternoon. They all did a fantastic job and deserve lots of praise. A few of the Friends worked hard in the Jubilee Garden and that's a never ending task, the ground is so hard and difficult to handle, it really needs a professional clear out or re-design, but of course that'll cost money. I spent most of my time clearing up lots broken glass that had been scattered all over the large play area and then litter picked. I believe more volunteers had removed glass from the other play areas too. We finished the day with a short meeting. Councillor Mary Greenslade brought the Friends up to date about the report from the Borough Council to the last Parish Council meeting regarding the Ranger Cabin.

#### Donations

The Friends were asked for ideas as to what to purchase with the donations from Greencore and others so that we can keep them up to date and let them know their generosity is being put to good use in the park. Plenty of ideas were put forward and quotes are being sought ready for the next meeting.

#### Pond

There's concern about the pond and surrounding area being overgrown and the Borough Council are to be asked to attend the next meeting to discuss what can be done.

#### Schools

Currently just ideas but the Friends hope to be able to get some of the local schools involved with projects in the park during 2018 and perhaps call it the "Young Friends Group" The Woolston Church of England school have already shown an interest in the park. Members are looking into possibilities of involving organisations such as the Bat Association and RSPB for ideas, knowledge or guidance. A member who is a Scout Master already has most of the current qualifications required for working with children.

#### Birchwood Volunteers Event

On Saturday 4 November members manned a stall for the FOWP at Birchwood shopping centre and shared ideas with the other Conservation charities. We chatted with shoppers about the park, their views of the park and what we do. A great list of the ideas was developed that to discuss with the Friends. Several of these ideas could be achieved with the remaining donation monies.

#### Bat Information

The Friends had a meeting with a bat expert and an Ecologist on Monday 6 November to try to establish whether there were bats in the park with a view to arranging bat walks for the public in the near future. It appears the park is a haven for bats and lots of other wildlife. They thought the park was wonderful and has so much potential. These men were so knowledgeable and talked all the time as we walked along. Arrangements are being made for them to visit in the Spring to do a talk and walk with the Friends first to see how it goes.

A charge for this service but if the public were charged a donation would be accepted to cover expenses.

In the meantime the Friends will be making some bat boxes and fixing them to the trees (3 boxes facing west to each tree used) the bats swap from box to box depending on the weather. It's going to be very interesting.

#### Next Work Day & Meeting

1 December 2017

- Public Rights of Way Forum – the next meeting of the Forum was to be held on 7 December 2017.
- Other bodies
  - Councillor MH Greenslade reported on progress in arranging a meeting of members of the former East Neighbourhood Board.
  - Councillor Banner reported on a meeting organised by the Police and attended by 28 residents of members where matters relating to incidents of anti-social behaviour by youths had been discussed.
  - Councillor Banner reported that she had been unable to attend the Parish Council Liaison meeting with the Borough Council on 6 November 2017 because of another engagement. Details regarding Code of Conduct Training were to be supplied to members together with details of the Borough Council's procedure on the filling of a casual vacancy on a parish council.

### **C86 Correspondence – consultation and information** **– Warrington's Local Transport Plan**

The Council noted information from the Borough Council on events to promote the development of the Local Transport Plan.

### **C87 Planning applications and decisions**

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

2017/31345 – Co-op Supermarket Holes Lane – proposed discharge of conditions 3 (Noise) and 4 (Soundproofing) on previously approved application 2017/30035.

Resolved,

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

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

- **A57 Manchester Road and Hillock Lane – speed of traffic**

Councillor J Greenslade expressed concern at incidents of high speed of traffic on the above highways and suggested that consideration be given to the introduction of electronic speed warning signs as used in other parts of the borough:

Resolved,

That the offer of Councillor McCarthy to raise this matter with the Borough Council be accepted.

- **Website Poulton with Fearnhead Parish Council**

The Council noted that further to Minute C76 18 October 2017 details of the software used by this council had been supplied to the Clerk to the Council.

### **C89 Date of next meeting**

Resolved,

That the next meeting of the Council and committees be 17 January 2018 and the Recess Committee be authorised to determine any urgent items of business until that date.

### **C90 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>
4291	22/11/17	Employee 1	0.00	358.18	Month 8 November 2017	
4292	22/11//17	Office Outlet (Clerk)	0.00	54.98	Printing and stationery	
4293	22/11/17	WaterPlus Ltd (Clerk)	0.00	41.68	Allotment meter charge	
4294	22/11/17	Battery Lane Allotment Association	0.00	44.97	Grant allotment competition	Yes

Chairman.....