

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WOOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2020

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

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

Apologies for absence: Councillor M Banner

C53 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

No declarations were made at the opening of the meeting.

C54 Apologies for absence

The Council noted apologies for absence from Councillor Banner because of attendance at another meeting.

C55 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolved,

That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2020 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.

C56 Matters of report from the previous meeting

No matters to report.

C57 Policing of Woolston – community liaison report

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting the new Beat Manager, PC Naomi Burnell and PCSO Bethan Roberts. The Council considered the reports provided by the Police for November and December 2020.

The Police representatives referred to the proposal by the Beat Sergeant, Sgt Gibbard to all parish councils in the Warrington East Division for a bid to be made to the new fund launched by the Police and Crime Commissioner. The fund was to allow community police officers, PCSO's and problem-solving teams to bid directly to work with local residents on projects to make their area safer. The proposal was to bid for funds to provide a Tru Cam speed enforcement device to be located at the new police office at Birchwood Fire Station.

It was suggested that a bid be made of £4000 by the police with the balance of the estimated cost of £9-10,000 being met equally by the six parish councils, resulting in a contribution of about £1000 each. The police received many complaints from parish councils and residents to investigate excessive speeding and a dedicated camera for the Warrington East area would enable these to be targeted swiftly.

It was noted that there was a deadline for submission of interest in the scheme in advance of the closing date of 18 January 2021 for formal applications:

Resolved,

That

1. the reports for November and December 2020 be noted;
2. approval be given in principle to support a bid for a speed enforcement camera subject to further information.

(Please see appendix for reports).

C58 Borough Council business

Borough Councillors 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:

- The broken fencing adjacent to the highway on north side of A57 Manchester Road (opposite junction with Weir Lane) had been repaired.
- The road at the junction of Riversdale/Manchester Road had been resurfaced and the road markings on this length and in Tarn Court, including waiting restrictions, had been renewed.
- The repainting of road markings in Hillock Lane had been delayed but was included in the programme.
- Further representations had been made to the Borough Council regarding determination of the request from Woolston Rovers JFC to site a new storage area on Woolston Playing Fields.
- The leaves on the former Poulton Crescent play area had been cleared.
- A report had been made regarding two broken drains in Hillock Lane.
- Report made regarding pot holes in roads.
- Complaints had been received regarding Spittle Brook being overgrown with vegetation.

Councillor Nowell reported on rubbish collected on two Sundays from the New Cut Trail by volunteers from the Community Litter picking in Warrington initiative supported by the Borough Council. Photographs had been published on the Facebook social media of the amount of rubbish collected:

Resolved,

That

1. the reports be noted;
2. the thanks of the Council be recorded to the volunteers for their work along the New Cut Trail.

C59 Committee matters

(1) Environment and Amenities Committee

(a) Woolston Playing Fields and Hillock Lane Amenity area – application for siting of storage equipment

Councillor McCarthy reported further to minute C46(1)(a) – 4 November 2020 that he had contacted officers requesting for action to be taken on the request from Woolston Rovers FC

for the siting of a new storage facility on the playing fields. Officers has been requested to contact the Clerk to progress this matter:

Resolved,
That the action taken be approved.

(b) Hydropol scheme, Weir Lane – update

The Council noted information provided by the Project Coordinator for Hydropol to the Council and the administrator for the local Facebook site on the scheme.

(c) Battery Lane Allotment Site
– annual rent for allotment year 2021/22

The Committee considered the setting of the annual rent of a plot for 2021/22:

Resolved,

That the rent for an allotment plot for 2021/22 be set at £21 (£10.50 for senior citizens and persons in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance) and the required notice be given to tenants.

– shared use of allotment plots by tenants and former tenants

The Clerk reported on discussions with Catalyst Choices to allow tenants and former tenants to share use of their plot. The aim was to provide an opportunity for tenants to assist with the maintenance and development of the plot. This would give former tenants the facility to maintain contact with the allotment site and give assistance to Catalyst Choices and their users:

Resolved,

That the proposal be supported.

- (2) Finance and General Amenities Committee

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

No matters to report.

(b) Adoption of National Association of Local Council (NALC) revised model standing orders

The Clerk reported that NALC had published revised model standing orders for local councils. It was noted that the model did not make provision for the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) (England) Regulations 2020 that came into force on 4 April 2020 to allow local authorities to conduct meetings remotely until May 2021:

Resolved,

That the revised model be submitted to a future meeting for consideration including the adaptations previously approved.

(c) Annual Service of Remembrance 2020- review of alternative arrangements during the Covid 19 emergency

The Chairman reported that he had sent the following message to local social media:

The Chairman wishes to acknowledge the time and effort given by Reverend Rebecca Roberts of the Church of the Ascension and Tony O’Kell of the Royal British Legion, in the making of a video at the Martinscroft Green Memorial during the period of Remembrance. Also, important contributions from local school children, enabled residents, prevented by the Covid-19 restrictions from attending a commemorative service, to view the compilation video on Social Media.

The Woolston Poppy Appeal created a poignant display along Manchester Road, reminding us of those who gave their lives in conflict. Over £1000 was raised as a contribution toward Royal British Legion funds.

The Parish Council wishes to acknowledge the community spirit that ensured our annual recognition was not disrupted.

Resolved,

That the action of the Chairman be approved.

(d) External Auditor Report and Certificate 2019/20

The Clerk submitted the External Auditor Report and Certificate for 2019/20:

Recommended,

That the report be accepted.

(e) Management Accounts 2020/21 – April to June and July to September 2020

The Clerk submitted the Management Accounts for the quarterly periods ending June and September 2020:

Recommended,

That the Management Accounts for the quarterly periods ending June and September 2020 be accepted.

(f) Parish Precept 2021/22 - Tax base and Borough Council timetable

The Clerk reported and the Council noted information from the Borough Council on the Tax base and timetable for the submission of the precept for 2021/22.

**(g) Applications for grant aid
– provision of speed monitoring camera**

The Council considered an application from the Police for assistance in the purchase of a speed monitoring camera for use in the Warrington East area of the Borough. Members reported on the approaches made to the Borough Council for assistance in trialling speed monitoring equipment on the highway to alert road users of the speed of their vehicle. This

approach may provide more assistance in improving road safety than use of a speed enforcement device:

Resolved,

That the submission to the meeting by the Police to the meeting in support of the proposal be noted and details be requested on the decisions made by the other parish councils.

– recognition of service by churches in our community

The Council considered making a grant to each of the three local churches in recognition of their continuing support and other services to the local community during the Covid-19 emergency:

Resolved,

That approval be given to a grant of £50 each to the Church of the Ascension, St Martin's Methodist Church and SS Peter and Michael RC Church.

C60 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 – no report.
- Friends of Woolston Park – Councillor MH Greenslade reported
Thanks received for recent Parish Council grant for equipment - to be purchased in New Year.
Individual members have attended Park for litter picking or weeding (Jubilee Garden)
Compliments and thanks from residents to the volunteers continue on social media.
Some strimming by the pond took place prior to last lock-down.
Young Friends of Woolston Park met prior to lock-down and planted approx 300 - 400 bulbs in various places in the park that were donated by Cllr Pearce in memory of her late husband David.
Work continues in the Community garden to open the space and so to discourage congregation of people, fire lighting and litter / broken bottles.
Another risk assessed meeting of Young Friends is planned
- Public Rights of Way Forum – Councillor Nowell reported that no meeting had been held.
Carbon Landscape may be interested in assisting in improvements to the length of path from Weir Lane to Woolston Eyes.
- Parish Council Liaison Meeting 12 November 2020 – the Council noted that the decision of the Development Management Committee on 11 November 2020 had been reported by officers to the liaison meeting to make those attending aware of the representations made by this council in respect of the procedure approved by the Committee in consideration of planning objections involving public rights of way.

Resolved,

That the reports be noted.

C61 Correspondence – consultation and information
– Cheshire Constabulary – Stakeholder Update December 2020

The Council noted the December 2020 edition of the Cheshire Constabulary Stakeholder Update.

– Footpath No 21 closure

The Council noted that the Borough Council had given notice of a temporary closure of Footpath No 21 from its junction with New Cut Lane to its junction with Bridge Lane. This was to allow repairs to be carried out to the existing footpath.

– Polling Station at Runnymede

The Council noted that the Borough Council had reviewed polling arrangements in the parish. Following comments from Borough Ward Councillors and the parish council the mobile unit at Runnymede was to be retained although changes may need to be made to access arrangements for voters having regard to the Covid-19 emergency at the time of any elections.

– Warrington Western Link

The Council noted details from the Borough Council on a public consultation exercise for the Warrington Western Link, a new link road connecting north and south Warrington. This had commenced on 11 November and would close on 23 December 2020.

– Government Guidance on volunteering during Covid-19

The Council noted advice from Warrington Voluntary Action on Government guidance relating to work by volunteers during the Covid-19 emergency.

C62 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: 2020/38174

11, MANCHESTER ROAD, WOOLSTON, WARRINGTON, WA1 4AE

Description of development: Discharge of Condition - Proposed discharge of Condition 5 (Service delivery and management plan) Condition 13 (Servicing and waste management strategy), Condition 14 (Cycle Parking) and Condition 15 (Electric vehicle charging point) on previously approved appeal application 2019/34391 (Change of use of existing building from car sales and repairs (Sui-Generis Use Class) to retail (A1 Use Class))

Application reference: 2020/38144
Location: FORWARD WORKS, BRIDGE LANE, WOOLSTON, WARRINGTON
Description of development: Discharge of condition - Proposed discharge of Condition 1 (i. Dust Mitigation, Acoustic and Visual Screening and Foul and Surface Water) on previous approved appeal application 2019/34923 (The construction of a concrete mixing plant with ancillary plant and a material changes of use of the land to B2 use class (general industry))

Application reference: 2020/38142
Location: ST PETERS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, HILLOCK LANE, WOOLSTON, WARRINGTON, WA1 4PQ
Description of development: Full Planning - Replacement of the existing boundary fencing

Application reference: 2020/38127
Location: 11, MANCHESTER ROAD, WOOLSTON, WARRINGTON, WA1 4AE
Description of development: Advertisement-Proposed 3m totem, internally illuminated

Application reference: 2020/37442
Location: OMEGA ACCESS NORTH, NEW CUT LANE, WOOLSTON, WARRINGTON, WA1 4AG
Description of development: Full Planning (Major) - Proposed demolition of existing modular office buildings and canopies and erection of new 2 storey office buildings and canopies and 2.4-metre-high steel palisade fencing.

Applications to approve action taken

None to report

Application reference: 2020/36797

Location: Moss Brow Cottages, Nicol Avenue, Woolston, Warrington, WA3 6DN
Description of development: Full Planning - Proposed demolition of 1 - 3 Mossbrow Cottages and the erection of 1 no. single storey detached dwelling, with associated access, servicing, and landscaping, including installation of package treatment plant.

Councillor Nowell reported that the S106 agreement relating to the development was understood to be £1500, a figure lower than suggested by the Wildlife Trust of £15,000. A copy of the agreement was to be supplied by the Borough Council when finalised:

Resolved,

That

1. the above applications be noted, subject to any further comments received from members;
2. the information supplied by Councillor Nowell be noted.

C63 Business raised by members

No matters to report.

C64 Date of next meeting

Resolved,

That the date of the January 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 meetings and the deadline of notifying the precept.

C65 Payment of Accounts

Resolved,

That approval be given to the following payments:

Cheque No	Date expenditure incurred	Payee	VAT not recoverable	Amount	Purpose	S137
4518	13/11/20	Employee 1	0.00	406.48	M7 November 2020	
4519	13/11/20	Amazon.co.uk (Clerk)	0.00	122.00	Printing toner and stationery	

**APPENDIX
MONTHLY POLICE REPORT**

**Woolston
November 2020 - Monthly Parish report**

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

Anti-Social Behaviour

19 Youths (10), environmental (7), personal (2)

Personal/environmental include neighbour, parking/traffic, domestic related, Covid issues.

Burglary

0 Dwelling

0 Other

Criminal Damage

4 3x property/vehicle; 1x injury

Vehicle crime

3 Theft of vehicle (On business premises)

0 Theft from vehicle

OTHER

- Operation Treacle running over the Halloween and Bonfire period, additional patrols to target key hotspot areas and respond to the increased ASB demand at this time of year
- Shops visited to request refuse sale of eggs to teenagers, relevant poster provided for display. Despite this there were still eggs thrown at properties. Some individuals have been identified, parents and school contacted. A youth did return to apologise
- Patrols continue covering various parks, shops, Woolston Hub Car park, Woolston Eyes & New Cut Canal Path.
- Dam Lane Shops – continue to liaise with the management team who own the parade. The area continues to be patrolled and monitored, and link in with shop staff.
- Woolston Park & Industrial Estate – Patrols continue at varying times of the day and different days, we continue to link in with County Fire and other colleagues to support us particularly as Bonfire Night approaches
- WBC Community Safety Team continue to conduct youth outreach work across Warrington with Woolston included on their areas to patrol and engage with youngsters regarding behaviour – including drinking alcohol. Warrington Youth Club staff seen on Woolston Park too during work across Warrington whilst coronavirus restrictions on the youth centre
- Speed enforcement – 21 Oct Hillock Lane – 164 vehicles monitored, 163 travelling at 30mph or less (max 31mph)

- Speed monitoring – 10 Nov Cliftonville Rd – 15 vehicles in 20min, max 25 (11@20mph or less)
- 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://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report/>



Useful Links offering advice and information: -

Online safety and advice

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

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Schools & other events

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

St Peters Primary pupils have been out on their bicycles with Bikeability learning to be cycle safe and confident

Schools – sent roads safety posters for colouring; Anti-Bullying presentations emailed

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

Surgery

Rixton & Woolston PCSO Surgery at Woolston Neighbourhood Hub

Cancelled – until further notice

Woolston
December 2020 - Monthly Parish report

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

Anti-Social Behaviour

6 Youths (1), environmental (5), personal (0)

Personal/environmental include neighbour, parking/traffic, domestic related, Covid issues.

Burglary

0 Dwelling

2 Other Business premises – linked incidents

Criminal Damage

3 2x vehicle; 1x no damage reported

Vehicle crime

0 Theft of vehicle

1 Theft from vehicle from business vehicles

OTHER

- PC Burnell has taken over a Beat Manager from PC Edwards, who worked together for a handover period
- Sgt Gibbard has emailed all Clerks for the parish councils across Warrington East with a proposal regarding the Community Police Fund for their consideration
- Patrols continue covering various parks, shops, Woolston Hub Car park, Woolston Eyes & New Cut Canal Path.
- Dam Lane Shops – PC Burnell has been in touch with the management team who own the parade. The area continues to be patrolled and monitored, and link in with shop staff.
- Woolston Park & Industrial Estate – Patrols continue at varying times of the day and different days, particularly the industrial areas as it gets busier in the run up to Christmas
- Speed enforcement – 1 Dec Hillock Lane – 104 vehicles monitored, all travelling at 30mph or less
- Speed – 4 Dec Cliftonville Rd – 12 vehicles/15min, max 25 (9@20mph or less)
- 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).

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Schools & other events

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King’s – WBC Sustainable Travel Team recently provided bike lights which were distributed to those pupils who ride to school
Schools – sent roads safety posters for colouring; Anti-Bullying presentations emailed
Patrols when other commitments permit in vicinity of schools start/dispersal times

Surgery

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Cancelled – until further notice

Chairman.....