

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WOOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 4 NOVEMBER 2020

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

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

Apologies for absence: Councillor A Hill

C40 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

No declarations were made at the opening of the meeting.

C41 Apologies for absence

The Council noted apologies for absence from Councillor A Hill through ill-health.

C42 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolved,

That

1. the minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 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;
2. the process at meetings of individual approval of matters involving finance be approved.

C43 Matters of report from the previous meeting

No matters to report.

C44 Policing of Woolston – community liaison report

The Council considered the report provided by the Police for October 2020:

Resolved,

That the report be noted.

(Please see appendix for report).

C45 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:

- Work was being carried out on improving cycle and path ways following the provision of additional funding by the Government.

- Broken fencing adjacent to the highway on north side of A57 Manchester Road (opposite junction with Weir Lane). Repair work was to be carried out but had been delayed.
- Maintenance was to be carried out to the path leading from the Hillock Lane Amenity area to the playing fields.
- The repainting of road markings in Hillock Lane had been delayed but was included in the programme.
- It was noted that, following the approval by the Planning Inspectorate of the planning appeal lodged in respect of the premises of Mincrete at Bridge Road, it was likely that this may lead to further development of the site.
- An update had been requested on the commencement of the Sainsbury's local store at Manchester Road/New Cut Lane.
- Officers were investigating a complaint from a resident at the flooding of their garden from Woolston Playing Fields.
- A request had been reported from a resident for fallen leaves to be cleared from the former play area at Poulton Crescent. It was noted that leaf sweepers had been working in the area. An update was to be requested on plans for the future use of the area.
- It was noted that noise nuisance from the premises of Mincrete at Bridge Road had reduced following action by officers in liaison with residents.
- The use of off-road motor bikes in the New Cut Lane/Bridge Road area had been reported to the Police.

Councillor M Greenslade reported her concern at the absence of a report from Councillor Hill, when unable to attend a meeting, on the matters that he was acting on as Borough Ward Councillor. Councillors McCarthy and Wright reported that the three Ward Councillors aimed to work together to cover matters relating to Woolston and would review the reporting of work to the Council meeting:

Resolved,
That the reports be noted.

C46 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 C34(1)(a) – 30 September 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. It was noted that the Club had sited their new goal posts, funded through grant aid, to the rear of the boundary with the Kings Leadership Academy as a temporary measure. 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 Chairman reported that the Project Coordinator for Hydropol had continued to provide updates to the Council and the administrator for the local Facebook site on the scheme.

The company had cooperated, where possible, in scheduling deliveries of material and equipment to the site to avoid disruption to traffic on Weir Lane and to services held at SS Peter and Michael RC Church.

It was noted that the company was in discussion with Scottish Power plc on the completion of the reinstatement works to the highway in Weir Lane and at the New Cut Canal viewing area:

Resolved,

That the report be noted.

(c) Battery Lane Allotment Site – action following inspection of plots

The Clerk reported further to minute C34(1)(e) – 30 September 2020 on action taken in respect of a plot where notices had been issued and no satisfactory improvement had been made. The tenant had submitted an explanation for the lack of cultivation and a work plan for returning the plot to a satisfactory condition. Following consultation with the Chairman of the Environment and Amenities Committee, the undertaking to maintain the plot had been accepted:

Resolved,

That the action taken be approved.

- (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) Annual Service of Remembrance 2020 – report on implementation of alternative arrangements during the Covid 19 emergency

The Chairman reported further to minute C34 (2)(b) – 30 September 2020 that he had laid the wreath at the memorial on behalf of the Council. Reverend Rebecca Roberts of the Church of the Ascension had attended together with the flag bearer as a representative of the Royal British Legion. The Government's Covid guidance had been followed during the proceedings. A submission was to be made by Rev Roberts to the local Facebook site. It was noted that other organisations and members of the public were expected to leave items of remembrance at the memorial in the coming days:

Resolved,

That the report be noted.

(c) request for enhancement of the website

The Clerk reported further to minute C34(2)(c)(1) – 30 September 2020 on the response from the website provider for enhancing the website. Details had been provided of features available on the system, but it was not possible to upgrade to provide features available on more advanced websites. The present system had been selected to meet the statutory requirements at the time of purchase:

Resolved,

That the report be noted, and a further report be made when the additional features have been evaluated.

(d) The Public Sector Bodies (Website and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018 – compliance with WCAG2.1 standard

The Clerk reported further to minute C34(2)(c)(2) – 30 September 2020 that the website provider had completed the work to achieve compliance of the website with The Public Sector Bodies (Website and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018 to meet the WCAG 2.1 AA standard. Members were asked to assist in identifying comments from users who should benefit from the upgrade of the site:

Resolved,

That the report be noted.

(e) Powers for the control of dogs in public places

The Council gave consideration further to minute C34(2)(d) – 30 September 2020 on the powers for the control of dogs in public places:

Resolved,

That the Council help, as necessary, in identifying the responsible body when issues are raised eg Cheshire Constabulary, Warrington Borough Council (Animal Wardens), the Royal Society for the Protection of Animals.

(f) Woolston with Martinscroft Poppy Appeal scheme – to report on progress by the group with arrangements for 2020

Further to minute C34(2)(e) – 30 September 2020, the Council noted that the group had successfully provided poppy emblems on lampposts along A57 Manchester Road from the M6 motorway roundabout to New Cut Lane including the area of trees on the triangle adjacent to old Manchester Road. It had been reported on the local Facebook site that the group had raised more than £1,000 for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. The Chairman reported that he had posted a message on the site congratulating the group for their effort:

Resolved,

That the thanks of the Council be recorded to the group for their initiative in raising funds for the national Poppy Appeal.

(g) Revised internal audit agreement

The Clerk reported on the revised terms from the internal auditor for the provision of the service to the Council:

Resolved,

That the terms of appointment of JDH Business Services Ltd be accepted.

(h) applications for grant aid

No applications to report.

C47 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 that no meetings of the group had taken place since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic. The group continued to update their website and Facebook site, including photographs of the area covered by the group.
- Friends of Woolston Park – Councillor MH Greenslade reported that the group continued to work (with suitable social distancing) in the park throughout the current Covid-19 pandemic. Many favourable comments had been made to the group, both in the park and on the POWP Facebook page, from residents, many who had enjoyed the park as their form of exercise during this time.
The Young Friends of Woolston Park had regrouped (with suitable risk assessments, supervision and required social distancing) and had recently been busy planting spring bulbs in memory of David Pearce (late husband of Parish Councillor Marian Pearce, who had donated the bulbs).
A request was submitted from the Chair and Deputy Chair of FOWP group for funding to purchase equipment for use by the volunteers.
- Public Rights of Way Forum – Councillor Nowell reported that no meeting had been held. The path along the canal from New Cut Lane to Bridge Lane had reopened following completion of maintenance work.

Resolved,

That

1. the reports be noted;
2. approval be given to a grant of £500 to the Friends of Woolston Park Group in support of their volunteer work in Woolston Park

(Councillor Nowell declared an interest in respect of item (2) by reason of being a FOWP volunteer).

C48 Correspondence – consultation and information
– Cheshire Constabulary – Stakeholder Update October 2020

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

– Warrington Local Plan update

The Council noted that the Borough Council was pausing work on its Local Plan, in response to the impact of Covid-19, along with the Government's proposed planning reforms and new housing calculation methodology. It was anticipated the Borough Council would be able to progress the Local Plan in the summer of 2021.

– Parish Council Liaison

The Council noted that the Borough Council had given notice that a Parish Council Liaison Meeting was to be held on 12 November 2020.

C49 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: 2020/38013

Location: 206, MANCHESTER ROAD, WOOLSTON, WARRINGTON, WA1 4HJ

Description of development: Full Planning - Proposed 5-bedroom dwelling within the curtilage of existing property and access.

Application reference: 2020/37944

Location: ST PETERS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, HILLOCK LANE, WOOLSTON, WARRINGTON, WA1 4PQ

Description of development: Full Planning - Replacement of the existing site boundary fence and gates.

Applications to approve action taken

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.

Further to Minute C37 – 30 September 2020 the Borough Council had been asked to supply, when determined, a copy of the related Section 106 agreement and the map showing the approved route of the public right of way through the development. The Borough Council had agreed to supply a copy of the S106 agreement, when finalised. In

respect of the public right of way, the details would need to be obtained from the Public Rights of Way Officer following determination of the application.

**Appeal Decisions Land at Mincrate, c/o Flannery Plant Hire, Bridge Lane, Woolston
Appeal A:APP/MO655/C20/3246920 and Appeal B:APP/M0655/W/20/3247140**

The Planning Inspectorate on 13 October 2020 had made a decision to allow both appeals against the grant of planning permission and had quashed the enforcement notice in respect of Appeal A. The reasons for the decisions and conditions were published on the Planning Inspectorate's website.

Resolved,

That

1. Applications 2020/38013 and 2020/37944 be noted, subject to any further comments received from members;
2. the response in respect of application 2020/36797 from the Borough Council noted;
3. the decisions of the Planning Inspectorate be noted.

C50 Business raised by members – election of Mayor

Councillor Nowell reported on the recent election of former Parish Councillor Maureen Creaghan as Mayor of the Borough at the Annual Council meeting held on 2 November 2020:

Resolved,

That the congratulations of the Council be recorded to Councillor Creaghan on being elected as Mayor of the Borough.

C51 Date of next meeting

Resolved,

That 2 December 2020 at 7.00pm be approved as the provisional date for the next meeting.

C52 Payment of Accounts

Resolved,

That approval be given to the following payments:

Cheque No	Date expenditure incurred	Payee	VAT not recoverable	Amount	Purpose	S137
4510	15/10/20	Employee1	0.00	406.48	M7 October 2020	
4511	15/10/20	Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal (Chairman)	0.00	40.00	Donation to Woolston with Martinscroft Poppy Appeal Group for emblems at Weir Lane	Yes
4512	4/11/20	D&N Shotblasting Services Ltd	0.00	1224.00	Refurbishment of memorial	

4513	4/11/20	Amazon.co.uk (Clerk)	0.00	76.34	Printing toner	
4514	4/11/20	WHYPAY? Ltd (Clerk)	0.00	22.92	Conference system	
4515	4/11/20	InTouchNow Ltd	0.00	900.00	Website accessibility development work	
DD	4/11/20	British Telecom plc	0.00	153.36	Phone and broadband service 1 October – 31 December 2020	
4516	4/11/20	Royal British Legion	0.00	40.00	Poppy wreath	
4517	4/11/20	Friends of Woolston Park	0.00	500.00	Grant	Yes

**APPENDIX
MONTHLY POLICE REPORT**

**Woolston
October 2020 - Monthly Parish report
Beat Sergeant PS Stuart Gibbard
Beat Manager PC Alison Edwards
PCSO Bethan Roberts**

Anti-Social Behaviour

5 Youths (2), environmental (3), personal (0)
Personal/environmental include neighbour issues, parking/traffic, domestic related issues.

Burglary

0 Dwelling
0 Other

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Criminal Damage

3 1x property (windows); 2x Vehicle

Vehicle crime

1 Theft of vehicle (On business premises)
0 Theft from vehicle

OTHER

- 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. They have approved alterations/improvements for implementing at the parade, such as gating for the upper level. 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
- Burglary investigation team are continuing to investigate a series of Burglary with theft of high powered motor vehicle, liaising with other areas of Cheshire and force areas
- 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/>

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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

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

Chairman.....