

# WTC Meeting – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December #1

**Disclaimer:** These observations are not the 'official' minutes of the meeting, these are supplied by Whittlesey Town Council, normally (1) month following the meeting and can be viewed on their website.

Council observations:- The agenda for this evenings meeting was published on this Web-Blog on the 06<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Members of the public present :- 7  
Members of the Council present :- 10  
Apologies from :- Cllrs Bristow, Mayor, Miscandlon & Wicks



WTC Cllr Lang-Whiston

Camb/FDC Cllr Connor

FDC/WTC Cllr Laws

A short presentation by Annabel Tighe from FDC update on the Councils littering enforcement contract with 'Kingdom' she explained that the contract (in parallel with Peterborough Unitary Authority) will not be renewed, due to Peterborough not renewing their contract and P'boro will be administering in house from next year.

'Kingdom' state it would not be viable to continue on a part time basis in Fenland.

Various options from all Town & Parish councils were being asked for.

During the Q&A – I commended FDC for supporting 'Street Pride' through-out all of Fenland and especially our own Whittlesey Street Pride Group, who have been collecting other people's litter and rubbish, along with Fly-Tipping for over 11 years and have removed a vast amount of rubbish from our environment.

**Stats and reports from The SP Co-ordinator and Environmental Services are published here monthly.**

We will have to wait and see what transpires and whether other Councils are prepared to part fund some similar initiative after 'Kingdom' contract comes to an end.

**Public Forum:** Mr Peter Baxter gave a very good talk on 'Wyndham Thomas - Wyndham was head of the Peterborough Development Corporation which turned Peterborough from



a market town into a flourishing city with attractions including Queensgate Shopping Centre and Nene Park. Among his triumphs was the creation of Nene Park (including Ferry Meadows), the parkway system and Queensgate, which opened in 1982 with a flagship John Lewis store.

He also engineered the arrival of former travel giant Thomas Cook into the city. The development corporation, before it was shut down by the Government, created 26,000 new houses, 25,000 new jobs and 26 miles of a new parkway system.

(©PT)

**Kings Dyke Crossing:** Cambs County Councillor David Cllr Boden & FDC Leader Chris Boden Updated that the 'scheme' was still ongoing – The '1<sup>st</sup> Part' of the Tendering process had gone out to the initial sift of 6 interested companies.

**The 'earliest' that these would be considered would be April 2020**

**Pondersbridge LHI:** (See last month's report)

The traffic calming project for Pondersbridge is back on track – with a commitment from the 'interim' PCC Ray Bisby funding a substantial part of the project.

**Property Working Group:** Cllr Mason stated that one office of Peel House had been rented and that there had been two enquiries for the other (2) offices.

The recent power disrupted was hoped would not re-occur. I asked whether there may be a need for a UPS (Uninterruptable Power Supply) if this occurs again.

**Young Technicians:** (See last month's report on background)

Cllr Dorling gave a good presentation as to supporting this group. The debate was of the opinion that Peel House/Council Offices, should seek commercial rental income, this was the original plan.

Although most Councillors (including myself) wished that 'Young People' are supported – this was not the scheme to do so. (I later spoke with Cllr Dorling, offering any professional assistance I might be able to give the group).

A proposal was made however there was no seconder and therefor did not go to a vote.



**Inter-Active Signage – B1040 – Thorney Road & North Bank.**

I had this brought onto the agenda – as for many years now 'we' are all somewhat disappointed in the information we get from the 'Man-Powered Signage' that is put out, many a time out of date and time I have lost count the number of occasions when the 'sign' says North Bank closed when it is actually open, conversely open when should read closed.

With good support from Cllr Mrs. Dee Laws – she is in discussion both at Cambs Highways/CCC and Peterborough City Council to 'try' and get everyone onboard

to have something better than we have at present – my frustration as with many, is that 'again' nothing will happen very quickly.

If you have or are being inconvenienced by B1040 (Cambs CC) or the North Bank (Peterborough CC) then the more who complain – the more weight we will have to get something done....

**Cllr Boden commented 'That (when) the Kings Dyke Bridge is being constructed there could be 12/15 months of 'disruption' to traffic on the A605.** This will of course impact on other routes to/from Peterborough/Whittlesey/March/Thorney/Pondersbridge.

**Whittlesea Railway Station:** If improvements were to be accelerated – then the option to lengthen the platforms would have to be dropped. The general opinion was that this was not a good option, as trains are longer and are not always that 'smart' to stop at certain carriages. There was robust comments made about the cancellation of services and the various excuses made by Greater Anglia – It 'appears' they are not interested.

**Other Topics:** The Whittlesey Concert Band are asking whether the Council building could be used as their practice area and storage for their equipment/instruments, they have been looking for new premises for some considerable time – The conscientious was that the sound levels would not be acceptable either for residents above or others meeting at the premises. Two new 'Grit Bins' for the Villages was approved.

### **Reminder:**

There is to be a Residents meeting of St Andrews & St Mary's Wards North + South – on issues and concerns re Traffic/HGV's and Parking along Ramsey Road & Church Street  
On :- Tuesday December 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm St Andrews Church Hall.

### **I am Roy Gerstner.**

The Independent Councillor for St Mary's Ward South - Whittlesey Town Council.



Primarily I report on Council meetings & business to keep the electorate informed on both what I am actively involved with and in part other interests that I believe the electorate within Whittlesey & District may also wish to be informed. My Web-Blog is community based and I report and comment on many other subjects.

I occasionally make a mistake and am more than happy to correct this if it pointed out to me.

If you have any issues or concerns outside of the St Mary's Ward South, please contact your own local Councillor. If you contact me – I am more than happy to forward onto them.

**May Connie & I wish you all a very 'Merry Christmas'  
'A Healthy & Prosperous New Year'**

**We are reducing the number of Christmas cards we are sending this year and have donated in lieu to  
3 Local Charities/Community Groups.**

**We have sponsored 100 sustainable Tree's as part of  
The Woodland Trust replanting scheme.**



**The date of the next full Council meeting will be :- Wednesday 08<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7:30pm**