

# WTC Meeting – Wednesday 08<sup>th</sup> January #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. Decisions and Voting at this meeting will be ratified and confirmed at the following months meeting.

Council observations:- The agenda for this evenings meeting was published on this Web-Blog on the 02<sup>nd</sup> January 2020

Members of the public present :- 3

Members of the Council present :- 12

Apologies from :- Cllrs Bristow, Davies.

**Public Forum:** Mrs Day spoke about the Whittlesey Town Council Website – Not being updated as regularly as might be, information out of date and that the public were having to rely on Social Media platforms (Facebook™) and that information is not always correct.



**Kings Dyke Crossing:** Cambs County Councillor/FDC & WTC Cllr Boden informed that there is a 'Steering Group' which meet weekly to be given any updates. April this year is still the target for the initial 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the tendering process.

Cllr Boden also mentioned that within the scope of the KD Crossing could be 'Interactive Signage' which is being covered by Cllr Mrs Laws later in the agenda and he hoped that all interested parties would be talking with one another.

**Property Working Group:** Cllr Mason stated that there was still Offices to rent at Peel House/Council Offices – Maybe the need to outsource to a Letting Agency will have to be considered.



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

Cllr Mrs. Laws gave a comprehensive update of meetings she has had with Peterborough CC, Cambs CC, Highways & The Environment Agency. She seemed very positive that some progress is being made in the respect that – agreement that there could be better information relayed to the public. That said there is up to date information both on The WTC Website and elsewhere (***This Web-Blog included***).

A great number of vehicles do not take notice and drive around the gates, causing damage to the verge, there will be metal posts being installed to deter these vehicles in future. Cllr Laws will bring a further update next month.

**Whittlesea Railway Station:** Not a great deal to report.

*I stated that the 'issues' concerning trains not stopping at Whittlesea Station was that the 'new' trains had software issues and this had been sourced from Croatia – where it has gone back too be 'fixed'. There are buses running at various times.*

**Parking:** Cllr Boden stated that changing the system from the Police responsibility to The Local Authorities (FDC) was not a 'simple' time' or 'cost' answer – there are many challenges to address and it would cost a minimum of £250,000 to set up. A survey by CCC Highways of every sign and yellow linage would have to be completed to ensure all was correct and this would take 6 to 9 months to complete with the associated costs.

*I stated that for the last 10 years members of Whittlesey NHW had brought up at most meetings ongoing issues of 'illegal' and 'inconsiderate' parking. I showed Cllr Boden photo's posted on this Web-Blog only yesterday.*

Cllr Boden stated there 'maybe' alternatives in that Power devolvment from the Police maybe an option along with environmental controls.

Another option was to 'pay' the Police for a dedicated PCSO – however it was noted that The Chief Constable was not in favour of this because it implied 'Richer communities' had an unfair advantage over 'Poorer' communities.

**Budget/Precept:** A fairly robust discussion took place for the Whittlesey Town Council Budget for 2020/21 took place. The Budget proposal that it remains the same as last year and the previous 2 years be adopted (**No** increase in the share 'we' pay to WTC) – Was voted by a majority decision. Cllr Boden stated that although the finances looked healthy – a provision to re-build the reserves was needed.

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**Whittlesey Allotment Society:** The present committee are all standing down, there FB™ page is not up to date. The AGM is being held at The Falcon Hotel. Sorry I didn't get the date.

**Citizen & Young Citizen of the Year:** If you would like to nominate someone for this award please contact the clerk at WTC [clerk@whittleseytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@whittleseytowncouncil.gov.uk)

**RBL:** Whittlesey Branch of The Royal British Legion have been told that they can no longer store their equipment at The Ivy Leaf Club, Cllr Mrs. Mayor asked whether the spare cupboards within WTC Offices might be offered. This is being considered and an RBL representative asked to view the suitability of the space.



**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.

**The date of the next full Council meeting will be: - Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7:30pm**