

WTC Meeting – Wednesday 11th March 2020 #1

Disclaimer: These observations are not the 'official' minutes of the meeting, these are supplied by Whittlesey Town Council, normally (1) month following this meeting and can be viewed on their website. Decisions and Voting at this meeting may be ratified and confirmed at the following months meeting.

I was unable to attend this meeting and the report(s) are from my correspondent(s) who were present.

Having only returned from Malaysia and Thailand the day prior to the Town Council meeting, I advised both Councillors and several members of the public that due to advice from various medical experts, that it be best if I avoided gatherings or meetings for a while. I have not, as some 'False News' put out, had any symptoms of COVID-19, I have not knowingly been in an area, where a victim of COVID-19 has been identified, I have not knowingly been in close contact with anyone who has been identified with COVID-19 (as of today 15th March 2020) – I am **not** presently in 'Self isolation'

Council observations:- The agenda for this evenings meeting was published on this Web-Blog on the 06th March 2020 (scroll down to see)

Members of the public present :- = ~ 12

Members of the Council present :- = 9

Absentee's :- Cllrs Bristow, Davies, Mayor, Lang-Whiston & Gerstner.

Police Matters: Cllr Mason expressed disappointment at the Police in respect that 3 break-ins to 3 Churches and no Police attended.

Cllr Boden attended the 'New' CCTV Centre in Peterborough and invited all Councillors to attend. he suggested that one high resolution camera could be focused on High Causeway as then enforcement regarding 'illegal vehicle' movements could be monitored.

Clls committed to attending the 'New' CCTV Centre are Whitwell, Dorking & Gerstner.

Public Forum: Ms Karen English Bassenhally Ward stated that double yellows had been put down Hemmerley Drive, they do not want them - questioned why put there no consultation and want them removing. (RG comment, this issue is a little more complex than usual so I am told).

Mr Steve Robertson stated he had read the 'Growing Fenland' report he differentiated between the full report and the interim edition, the full report includes the 'Bypass recommendation, he thought it was a very positive document to promote Whittlesey, however please take out the jargon.

Mr Peter Baxter had visited a Dutch company RoadCem -

<https://www.powercem.com/en/roadcem.html>

(RoadCem was specially developed for applications in road building and hydraulic engineering. RoadCem is a fine, powdered blend that displays unique properties in the product. RoadCem enables the binding of nearly all kinds of materials to form road hardening making use of in situ materials such as clay, sand and peat. This principle makes the supply or disposal of materials unnecessary).
Could CCC meet with this company, their material might be ideal for building a bypass instead of the bridge – Metro Mayor Palmer is aware.

County Councillor Connor was not present but Cllr Boden able to provide some up to date info on the Kings Dyke Bridge project. Hopefully next week some information will be released.

Matters are moving more quickly than originally anticipated over the following 4/8 weeks and more information will come into public arena.

Next month Cambs CC will hold (2) committee meetings in Whittlesey, name of tender approved will not be announced yet as companies who did not win have to be given opportunity to appeal.

Most of Cllr Boden's comments were already in the public domain

B1040 – Thorney Road/North Bank road Inter-active signage re flood warnings are progressing, although no details were given.

A605 (See this web posting [A605 – Kings Dyke News – Road Works](#)) 14th March

Cllr Boden to progress with obtaining outline business plan for Southern bypass.

Cllr Laws confirmed this is being discussed in the Fenland plan and will keep WTC posted

Local Highways Improvements (LHI's) applications Cllr Windle said council are proposing a different timetable bringing applications earlier Cllr Whitwell thought made good sense

Cllr Boden Floated changing WTC meeting dates, WTC meeting third Wednesday of the month so that (Finance & Policy committee) meeting could be before full Council

Cllr Wicks had provided written statement objecting too many meetings already booked.

Cllr Laws asked could Planning committee work round this Cllr Boden thought could as only 2 per month - members to think about it and decide at next month's meeting.

Some Councillor already have diary commitments.

Cllr Dorling requested committee formed re Flooding/Road closures Cllr Boden pleased to announce already actioned.

Cllr Laws had been invited to sit on the Flood Partnership committee, it included Anglian Water Highways, Environment Agency, all the Independent Drainage Boards and other influential bodies She had been invited to join this committee because of the past work she has done.

Cllr Dorling proposed went forward.

Cllr Dorling asked about the money being saved on Winter gritting – Cllr Boden explained money is always carried forward to the next year in the event of a bad winter.

Cllr Boden is exploring all avenues for funding for Interactive signs no details were given on costs, designs or actual locations at this time.

Draft minutes F&P - WTC election costs less than anticipated £16,674 Internal auditor is retiring this year however has agreed to audit for an extra year to ensure continuity.

Grosvenor House (Old WTC Offices) Work to be carried out before handing back.

VE Day & VJ Day Cambs papers did not mention Whittlesey only Wisbech Standing orders

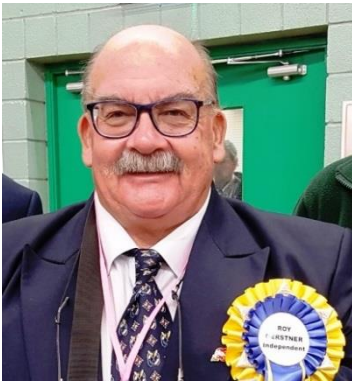
suspended – Mr Gray Esson said matter had now been resolved paper apologised and republished stating Whittlesey service will now be 3pm

Consultation re Minerals & Waste Comes under CCC Connor – in his absence Cllr Boden stated CCC had very little authority in this matter other than planning, The Environment Agency(EA) has the real powers however there is little or no joined up thinking between the two parties so he will recommend they start working more closely together.

Tenders: For grassing cutting (mainly B1040), hanging baskets and hedge trimming was discussed after the public left the chamber.

Revd. Nigel Whitehouse: Has been invited to attend April's meeting. As previously reported on this Web-blog is moving away after 16 years here in Whittlesey.

Finally: It is absolutely fantastic that at long last another Councillor has decided to keep the electorate informed, somewhat rather late in the day, but at least keeping you, me and them informed. I do not see this as 'competition' but augments **what I have been doing for 10+ years.....**



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.

If you have a generic issue or wish to make a comment I am more than happy to publish or promote any community events – (subject to meeting publishing criteria)

The date of the next full Council meeting will be: - Wednesday 08th April 2020 at 7:30pm

e&oe ©Roy Gerstner.

Who is 'stealing' daffodils....please stop it – buy a bunch for a £ - better still go and plant some of your own.

