

WTC Meeting – Thursday 18th February #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 am the only Councillor in Whittlesey who makes regular reports on meetings. I have done so for 9+ years both as a member of the public and as a Town Councillor.



This Meeting was held by Video Conferencing Platform 'Zoom'

I will report the more salient aspects of the meeting.

Members of the public present :- **34** (a record number at a Zoom meeting)

Members of the Council present :- **12** (All present)

Street Scene Officers Report, Environmental, CCTV –
Will be posted as report #2 following this report .

Public Forum - Mr Robert Windle – Update on Fenland Youth Radio – more live broadcasting weekly. A Friday morning show with topical subjects weekly. Pride in Whittlesey Awards.

Mr Bernard Gray-Esson – Brought to the Councils notice the impending anniversary of Far East campaign, the 75th anniversary in being in 2020, that recognition is given to future anniversaries.

Police Matters - A meeting will be taking place on the 25th of Feb and a report will be forwarded to Councillors.

Presentation - By BDW Cambridgeshire regarding new proposals for residential development at Land South and West of 300 Eastrea Road..... Story covered on Thursday 18th Feb by Cambs Times© Slide presentation on this web-blog 19th Feb. No confirmation (official) who/when/maybe a Supermarket will be built, there is however ongoing negotiations. 3 acres of land has been allocated.

If planning permission is granted the developer will build out all access and services to the intended Supermarket, it is envisaged that the area floor space would be in the region of 15,000 sq ft. I asked when the developer would begin the project....reply subject to Planning permission...later this year.

(Plan pictures at the end of this report)

County Councillors Update - Cllr Boden – Kings Dyke Bridge/Crossing is going extremely well, and to plan, all very impressed with Jones Bros the contractor.

Whittlesey Railway Station & Crossing, upgrades in the pipeline, including car parking and changes to the entrance to the car park. The present manual gates will be upgraded to automatic gates.

There is to be a Covid vaccination 'Pop-Up' one day a week (to be determined) at the Grosvenor

Road car park (I will publish more details when known)

Cllr Miscandlon - Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs (MVAS) – The Clerk gave an example and data from the Eastrea Road MVAS, and the fastest vehicle recorded in a 30 mph limit was **88 mph**, lots of vehicles in the 70/60/50 mph and data showed that 53% of **ALL** vehicles were exceeding the speed limit. More data from other MVAS will start to come through and if similar to the Eastrea statistics – will be presented to the Police.

Cllr Mason – Cabs for Jobs Request from 'local private hire company' for support in delivering 'free fares' to patients who cannot get to vaccination center's/health centres. It was agreed that WTC will support any 'local' Taxi Company up to £500 per application.

I asked whether The Whittlesey Community Car Scheme would be eligible – and this was confirmed.

Cllr Boden - Saxon Pit Two updates, (1) As leader of Fenland District Council (FDC) Cllr Boden has tabled several questions on the agenda the forthcoming FDC Full council meeting to be held on Tuesday 23rd Feb at 16:00 (The agenda was published on this web-blog 17th February) under Item 8 on the Agenda (all paperwork can be viewed on FDC's website)

(2) The application for a Permit by 'Johnson Aggregates' to process in the region of 500,000 tons of 'Bottom End Fly-Ash' – the consultation is on the Environment Agencies Website) again has been widely published on this web-bog). Comments on this Consultation ends on Monday 22nd Feb.

A motion at FDC's meeting this week to call the Kings Dyke Road Crossing – 'The Ralph Butcher Causeway'

Whittlesey Railway Station – Upgrades and enhancements next stages of include the car park, access road, and the replacing of the manual gates with automatic barriers.



Cllr Dorling – Raised various concerns of COVID infection rates and vaccinations within Fenland.

Cllr Boden replied that 'we' were Whittlesey and our infection rates were very much lower than for instance Wisbech or Wisbech St Mary's, those area's had been identified during the 1st lockdown and was attributed to agricultural workers both transiting and in work conditions.

Cllr Laws – Neighbourhood plan, not much to report in progress as the next stage is ‘consultation with public’ which is difficult under current circumstances – there maybe an option of postal.

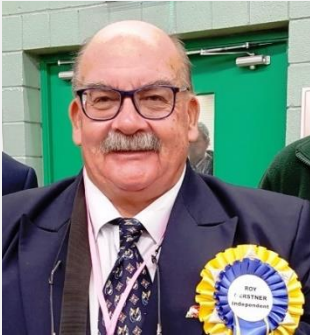
Finances – Cllr Boden had sent all the relevant details out to Councillors, WTC’s finances were in good order and an underspend for the year was predicted – mainly due to Council not having to support/grant several events which could not take place during the year.

A grant application from a young local resident for an aluminum recycling bin, to raise money for Helipads for Hospitals, was approved, the resident has already raised more than 50% of the cost.

RG... The proposal for 207 dwellings and (a possible) Supermarket can be viewed on this web-blog and was posted on Friday 19th February (scroll down to 19th Feb)

The next full Town Council meeting will be on Thursday 18th March 2021

Members of the Public are able to ‘attend these meeting’ – It is best to register with the Town Clerk beforehand. You are also able to table questions in advance again through the Town Clerk.



I am Roy Gerstner.

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

Primarily I report on Council meetings & business (Both at FDC & WTC) 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 events, meetings and subjects.

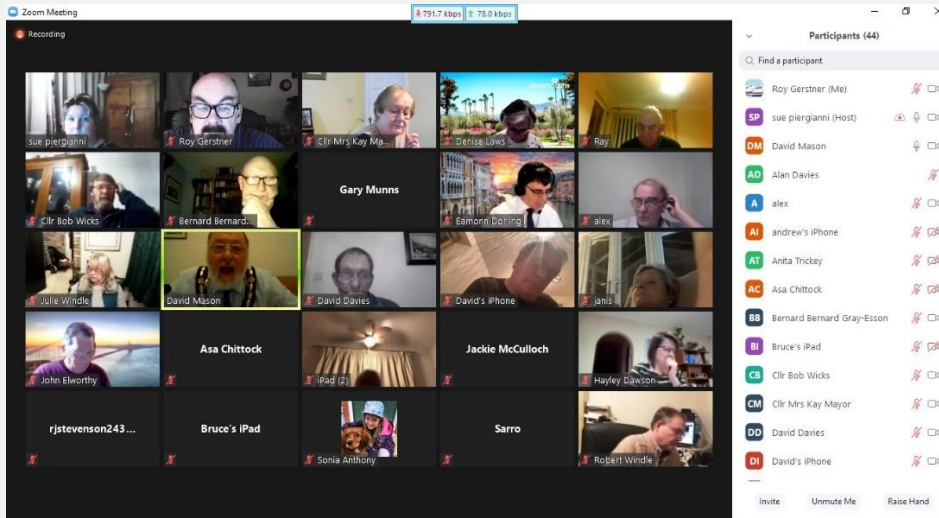
I occasionally make a mistake and more than happy to correct if it pointed out to me.

If you have any issues or concerns outside of the St Mary’s Ward South, you are welcome in the first instance to 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).

e&oe ©Roy Gerstner.



Indicative plan Eastrea Road on the left, separate access from A605