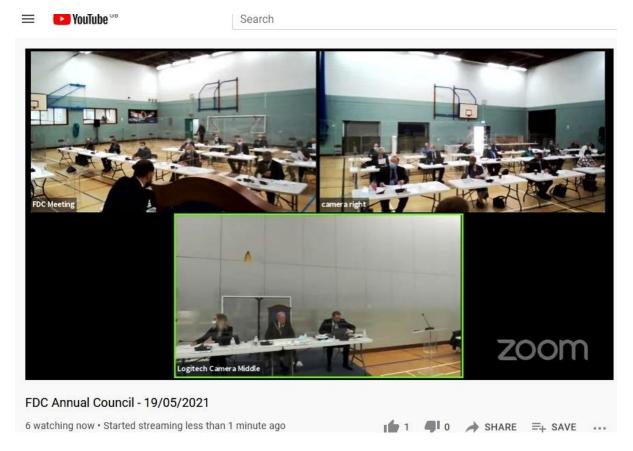
## FDC Annual Meeting @ The Hudson Centre. Wisbech – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

<u>Disclaimer:</u> These observations are <u>not</u> the 'official' minutes of the meeting, these are supplied by Fenland District Council, normally (1) month following this meeting and can be viewed on their website.



The maximum members viewing I saw @ 23 at any one time.

The agenda for this meeting was published both on this website and on FDC's website.

Main items to report:-

Cllr Alex Miscandlon (Whittlesey/Coates) was elected as Chairman of the Council for the year 2021/22.

Cllr Rob Skoulding (March) was elected Vice Chairman.

There was a 2 minute silence in respect of the passing of The Duke of Edinburgh and Ex Councillor David Wheeler.

Cllr Conwell raised the issues of Banks closing in Fenland, the most recent planned being in March.

Cllr Murphy informed the members of the increase in vandalism within Fenland's play area & parks. He noted that here in Whittlesey reports that 8/9-year-old children were alleged to have been responsible for some serious amounts of damaged done to our play areas. Pinewood Close, Burdett Close and Station Road Play area's have been closed. It will take time and money to make good.

He also highlighted that several other areas in Fenland had also suffered from similar damage and vandalism. Stated that there is little chance of any response from the Police, however it was suggested that this be brought up at the next Police liaison meeting.

There was a lengthier debate on a proposed Fenland Biosphere (not an Eden project) – it was voted not to proceed with the initiative 25 to 3

Members allowances, (I have read the complete 'Independent Pay Review), and a short presentation was give. There is a robust 'formula' in place as to how the end result is achieved, the last review where Councillor's allowance was increased was 2019. In this review, the end result was that allowances, should be slightly increased by just less than 3%. Other expenses such as travel, and subsistence remain the same.

It was suggested (at last) that Electric Charging points be made available at FDC.

There was discussion on Council boundaries to be put to the Boundary Commission.



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.