



WTC Meeting – Thursday 18th November 2021

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 has made regular reports on meetings. I have done so for more than 10 years both as a member of the public and as a Town Councillor.



I will report the more salient aspects of the meeting.

Members of the public present :- **4** + County Councillor David Connor

Members of the Council present: - **12**

No Apologies from Cllr's Davies & Nawaz

Minutes of meeting taken by Whittlesey Town Council Clerk Mrs Sue Piergianni

The agenda for this meeting has been previously published on this web-blog.

Reports: - from Street Scene were in the Councillors Pack – These reports have already been published on this web-blog yesterday.

The News-letter was very well welcomed as it contained a great deal of monthly updates and information especially the village areas.

Police Report:- The last Police report was at the end of October. The Neighbourhood (Fenland) Sergeant will be taking 6 months away from his post and an interim Sergeant is in place. The Neighbourhood Inspector likewise had also been replaced for 6 months.



Public Forum: - Mr Stephen Hodson, raised several issues and concerns regarding the A605 the communicative effect especially within the Saxon area. The support for the 'Relief Road' (Cllr Boden addressed this later in the meeting).

No other member of the public wished to speak.

Items for Discussion. Peel House.



Cllr Dorling gave a brief update on Peel House (Town Council Offices) heating system, there are several options available and the Council is still waiting on quotations from the vendors.

LHI's – Local Highways Improvements County Councillor Connor gave a brief update on the LHI proposed for Ramsey Road/Church Street – essentially looking at reducing speeding on the roads.

There have been 2 public meetings in 3 years, and the options from Cambs Highways are now available. (1) A possible 20 mph speed limit along the whole stretch, although this may not be fully supported*** (2) A speed reduction in the form of 'Speed Cushions' only on the Southern part of Ramsey Road.

Cllr Gerstner, highlighted that he had done quite a lot of research into Speed Bumps and Cushions. he also suggested that the residents along this Church St/Ramsey Road should be consulted as to their choice before any decision is taken to Cambs Highways. Both CCC Connor and Boden agreed that this should take place.

*** Cllr Boden informed that the 'new' administration at Cambridgeshire are very much in bringing in a blanket 20mph speed limit with built up areas throughout the whole of Cambridgeshire.

The Whittlesey Heritage Centre – A lot of progress had been made since last month, Cllr Mason has informed the rest of the Councillors of various options and the tendering of various projects, i.e., Mechanical/Electrical Installation, Landscaping etc. Both Cllr's Boden and Mocket brought their concerns over the financing of the building and the viability if short funding were to happen. Cllr Mason, informed that he as leader had written to several businesses seeking their support for the project.

Cllr Gerstner asked whether it was time to put out a communication to the public so that they are aware of what was on offer and the progress being made.

*** (RG note) We Councillors have received a great deal of paperwork and options, I do not have permission to reproduce this at the moment.

Public Toilets – Cllr Gerstner had previously circulated to all Councillors a suggestion that WTC make representation to FDC in regard of the toilets being regularly vandalised. The public toilets being out of operation for months at a time. The suggestion being that only (1) toilet be open (along with the disabled toilet) at any time. If this was then vandalised, the other toilet(s) could be opened whilst the other one was repaired. Cllr Gerstner asked if anyone had any better ideas.

Empty Buildings - Cllr Gerstner had previously circulated to all Councillors the public concern over several buildings within the town. Thanks to Cllr Dorling who surveyed a shop count on Friday 12th November, he has done this previously, on this occasion of the **127 counted 108** were trading and **19** were closed.

This is much better than some areas of the country and not too greater variance on previous (prior covid) figures.

The main concerns were 'Ottermans and The Old Nat West Building' – Cllr Laws has been in regular contact with the responsible authorities and she informed us of the updates.

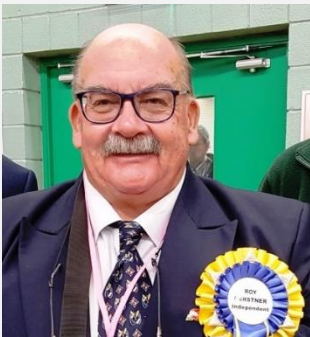
To confirm the Ottoman's Building Broad Street/Market Street, Whittlesey is being handled by CNC Building Control Manager and CNC Building Control Team – not Fenland District Council Planning or Planning Enforcement.

Unfortunately further information is confidential at present.

Neighbourhood Plan – Still in progress, the Covid pandemic has held up many aspects of this project.

Relief Road/A605 Cllr Boden informed that he had requested that this be placed on the Next CPCA agenda (Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority). The project is still in its early stages.

**The date of future Council Meeting: - to be held at Peel House (WTC Offices)
Full Council – 19:30 Thursday 16th December 2021**



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.



COVID-19 cases near PE71QY [Edit](#)

Data as of 20/11/2021 - Source: [PHE](#) & [DHSC](#)

New cases in the last **complete*** 7 days

Fenland: 298 +8.8% vs prev week

Total UK cases
9,806,034

Daily UK cases
40,941

Total UK deaths
143,866

*New cases in the last 7 days of the week ending 16th November