

WTC Meeting – Thursday 17th March 2022

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 Council, Public and Community Group meetings. I have done so for more than 12+ years both as a member of the public and as a Town Councillor.

I report on the more salient aspects of the meeting(s).

Members of the public present :- **6 +** Cambs CC David Connor

Members of the Council present: - **10**

Apologies from Cllr's Munns & Davies, Windle & Nawaz.

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



Reports: - from Street Scene & Police Stats in Councillors Pack –

The FDC Environmental Report will follow on after this posting. There was a Police engagement meeting with lead Councillors and NHW on the 03rd of March chaired by Sgt Joe Punton.

Awareness of some issues within Whittlesey were to tackle the rise in Anti-Social Behavior and violence, this has not escalated onto the public.

There had been 'Speed Gun' work carried out – Ramsey Road/Orchard Street/March Road.

Crime Stats February 2022

Town/Village	Previous Month (01/01/22 - 31/01/22)	Current Month (01/02/22 - 28/02/22)	Difference
Benchmark	0	0	0
Chatters	0	0	0
Doddington	1	1	0
Manea	1	1	0
March	3	3	0
Whittlesey	5	5	0
Whittington	1	1	0
Total	11	11	0

Town/Village	Previous Month (01/01/22 - 31/01/22)	Current Month (01/02/22 - 28/02/22)	Difference
Benchmark	1	0	-1
Chatters	6	7	1
Doddington	0	0	0
Manea	3	2	-1
March	13	10	-3
Whittlesey	13	10	-3
Whittington	0	2	2
Total	36	31	-5

Town/Village	Previous Month (01/01/22 - 31/01/22)	Current Month (01/02/22 - 28/02/22)	Difference
Benchmark	0	0	0
Chatters	0	0	0
Doddington	0	0	0
Manea	0	0	0
March	2	2	0
Whittlesey	2	2	0
Whittington	0	0	0
Total	4	4	0

Town/Village	Previous Month (01/01/22 - 31/01/22)	Current Month (01/02/22 - 28/02/22)	Difference
Benchmark	0	0	0
Chatters	5	5	0
Doddington	1	1	0
Manea	0	0	0
March	8	8	0
Whittlesey	3	3	0
Whittington	0	0	0
Total	17	17	0

Town/Village	Previous Month (01/01/22 - 31/01/22)	Current Month (01/02/22 - 28/02/22)	Difference
Benchmark	0	0	0
Chatters	6	6	0
Doddington	0	0	0
Manea	0	0	0
March	16	16	0
Whittlesey	7	7	0
Whittington	0	0	0
Total	29	29	0

Town/Village	Previous Month (01/01/22 - 31/01/22)	Current Month (01/02/22 - 28/02/22)	Difference
Benchmark	10	10	0
Chatters	123	123	0
Doddington	30	30	0
Manea	14	14	0
March	316	316	0
Whittlesey	175	175	0
Whittington	23	23	0
Total	681	681	0

Town/Village	Previous Month (01/01/22 - 31/01/22)	Current Month (01/02/22 - 28/02/22)	Difference
Benchmark	6	6	0
Chatters	39	39	0
Doddington	3	4	1
Manea	10	10	0
March	124	132	8
Whittlesey	62	78	16
Whittington	8	9	1
Total	252	278	26

(an enhanced picture will be attached later)

CCTV:- Again questions being asked whether value for money.

Cllr Gerstner – Asked why? – if the Police did not have time/resources and the CCTV team likewise to view low level crime i.e. vandalism/anti-social behavior – why can we not ask whether a Councillor could view – identify the date and time and then the CCTV/Police could view. Suggest we write to CCTV Team and ask....

Public Forum:- Mr Stephen Hodson, Clive Vaughan & Tony Ellingford, all spoke on the issues surrounding The Saxon Pit, the impending planning application and the health and safety risks associated with the application.

Agenda Item F38/2022 – Saxon Pit :- Cllr Mason Informed Councillors and public, that Fenland District Council Environmental Team had spent 12 days investigating both 'smell and noise' allegedly coming from the Saxon Pit area. Senior officers have been involved and some progress in identifying the smell had move forward, however the 'noise' was not identified and FDC requested that members of the public should carry on reporting any issues. They are treating these issues seriously.



Johnsons Aggregate's Planning Application for the recycling of 250,000 tonnes of Bottom End Ash and 50,000 tonnes of Construction and Demolition Waste.

Cllr Boden explained in detail and at length the planning timetable and procedures in Planning applications and process. The 'limitations' of planning objections that can be considered by a Planning Committee from either Councillors or members of the public. He – along with most of Whittlesey Town Council are against this application mainly because of its proximity/location and concerns of the A605 and environmental issues.

Cllr Gerstner Congratulated the newly formed 'SaxonGate' residents' group for their organised opposition, public engagement and lobbying in respect of this application, I endorsed Cllr Boden's views and explanations. I informed the meeting that I had been involved in supporting many residents over the past 4 years over the ongoing concerns and issues that they had raised.

Having attended a Planning Training meeting where a Senior Highways Officer from Cambs CC had given a presentation, I was allowed to ask questions, I raised the impending planning application and gave the Officer a multitude of environmental concerns and issues both surrounding the 'Waste Material and the A605, his remit of the environmental issues were dismissed as that was for the EA (Environment Agency decision/remit) and stated **that none of the concerns raised re A605** was considered as 'he' was only concerned in the safe entry and exit of the site.

The Environment Agency **have 'issued' a permit** for Johnsons Aggregates to process the Bottom End Ash (amounts previously given) – there are constraints, but whether the public have 'faith' in the EA being able to monitor is for another occasion.

Cambridgeshire County Council Planning Committee will be debating this application on **Wednesday 20th April. I am planning to attend this meeting and will register to speak.**

Parking Enforcement – I had asked for this to be put on the agenda.

Cllr Boden Stated that the PCSO allocated to Whittlesey had given numerous 'tickets', Cambs CC have been very slow in progressing and that some £400,000 had been allocated from the Combined Authority to carry out all the statutory requirements – All signage and road markings throughout the whole area (All Fenland) has to be checked and if not compliant to be rectified. This will take a considerable time, the earliest date projected will be late 2023

Other Business :-

Cllr Mayor – Public Toilets again out of use due to broken door/locks.

Cllr Boden – Boundary Commission ongoing.

Cllr Connor – Local Highway Improvements concerning Double Yellow Lines at various locations suggested by residents/Councillors. The overwhelming majority of residents consulted along Ramsey Road wished for a 20mph speed limit to be moved forward.

Cllr Dorling – Informed the FDC now had 2 'Multi-Recycling Bins in the town and that he had collected and processed some 6,000 cans for recycling.

Membership of CAPALC – voted by a large majority not to renew membership costing £1640.44

The Mayors Charity Ball held on Saturday 12th March raised £3,500 for local charities.

The Easter Duck Race at The Bower on Easter Monday.

Mr & Mrs Clarence and Ruby Hurst – Both very respected citizens of Whittlesey for many years, sadly passed away last year. There will be a memorial service in their honor at: St Andrews Church on Tuesday 29th March @ 11:00am

Date of future Council Meetings: - to be held at Peel House (WTC Offices)

Community Projects 18:00 – Planning 19:30 Wednesday 06th April

Finance & Policy 18:00 – Planning 19:30 Tuesday 19th April

Full Council 19:30 21st April 2022



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).

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