

WTC Meeting – Thursday 19th October

Disclaimer: These observations are **not** the 'official' minutes of the meeting, they 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.



Members of the Council present: 12 (Inc newly elected Cllr Luke Turner)
Apologies from Cllr's Dorling & Nawaz

Members of the public present: 8

Presentation by The New Queen Street Surgery : Social Prescriber –
Cancelled/Postponed until November meeting.

Previous minutes: These were in the pack.

Street Scene Officers Report : This has **already** been published on this Web-blog

Public Forum: Mr Alan Bessant, (Saxongate Residents Group), still issues with 'Dust' from the Saxon area, finding difficulty in agencies joining up with information, asked why so difficult to pinpoint the source(s) and both Saxongate and residents in general losing faith in system. Similar issues with identifying the noise source(s).



Mr Robert Windle Informed that the the 'Community Whats On Guide' is published and updated regularly, he was seeking that information and update were correct. Informed the next Saturday 28th October will be the 200th Park Run to be held at the Manor Field Whittlesey and he congratulated all the 'volunteers' who make the event happen...

Items for Discussion from the Agenda.

Junior Councillors – Cllr Black – Work in progress and sorting parameters out, hopefully in place early 2024.

LHI – Local Highways Improvements – Councils can request just one LHI a year and there is a limited amount of funding, I've explained previously, this can be utilised for a number of projects and WTC always applies for at least (1)...sometimes Double-Yellow Lines, Pavement Improvements etc.

Cllr Gerstner – For over 20 years there have been issues with none compliance of the



'Pedestrian Zone' on **High Causeway**, 'people/drivers regularly abuse the area and when challenged (even by the police) are aggravated and occasionally abusive in return for them being 'caught' in the area when they shouldn't be.

There has been one accident where a child has been knocked of her bicycle.

At a recent tour of the Peterborough and Fenland CCTV Centre, High Causeway was highlighted a problem area by several Councillor who visited the centre (including myself).

Therefore I am requesting that the next LHI bid should be for 'Rising Bollards' to be installed at the entrance to High Causeway, controlled and monitored by the CCTV Centre (which in principle they have agreed to do at no extra cost. This of course is dependent on costs, Indicative costs would be in the region of £20,000/£30,000 of which WTC would be expected to contribute 10%



There were (2) other proposals for LHI's

(1) To place obstacles within the Layby Area of Coates (A605) coming into the village before the Public Hall (LHS) this was proposed by Cllr Wicks and Seconded by Cllr Wainwright.

3 votes in total.

(2) Yellow Lineage London Street and Woolpack Lane proposed by Cllr Black, no seconder.

The LHI proposed by Cllr Gerstner seconded by Cllr Boden received 8 votes and would therefor be forwarded on.

Town Hanging Baskets – Discussed that the supplier quoted for one year pricing only, when Council preferred 3 year option, a revised quotation received which was still competitive against the other suppliers quotation.

Cllr Black – Presented to the Council and Public 'His Vision' an introduction for 'The West of Whittlesey (WoW)' – with an interactive display on his future idea's of what the entrance to our town could become in the future.

I will publish his presentation on a separate update – he has posted the presentation on the Whittlesey Town Council Facebook page.....

DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW
MAP SCALE 1:20,000



01 HORSEY TOLL
02 RAIL FREIGHT HUB
03 NEW WHITTLESEY TRAIN STATION
04 RELOCATED BUS STATION
05 WHITTOME FARM VENUE
06 MUST FARM VISITOR CENTRE
07 BRADLEY PIT WATERSPORTS CENTRE

08 CHURCHFIELD HOSPITALITY AREA
09 STAR PIT
10 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PARK
11 NATURE RESERVE

A INDUSTRIAL SITE
B CRANE SITE
C POTENTIAL INDUSTRIAL SITE
D POTENTIAL HAULLAGE SITE
E BRICKS WORKS

'His Vision' – includes Heritage, Leisure/Golf Course, Retail and Hospitality.
The Vision ties in with the proposed Science and Technology Park at the Star Pit.

A very ambitious 'vision' I thanked Cllr Black for the hard work and time it must have taken to put his presentation together.

There is nothing wrong with people having 'a vision' – Walt Disney had several that he delivered, I worked for the Disney Co, and their work/play ethos is a world leader even today, he build a town/city outside of Orlando called Celebration, which very much like Cllr Blacks vison, however there are big differences – Cost/affordability and delivering the project.

I might add that Wisbech had a 2020 'Vision' which started a very long way back (maybe 2011) has had several £Million spent on it and so far has unfortunately delivered very little in what it set out to achieve.

So Cllr Black I full support your 'Vision' – can you deliver?

Council voted on supporting Cllr Blacks Vision WoW

Cllr Mayor – The Chair brought to attention of 'Shop Watch' being set up in many town and villages, this is similar to the previous scheme whereby shops had radios to contact one another on issues such as shoplifting. The news system would involve setting up a 'WhatsApp' Group – it was decided that the Council and Clerk do not have the resource to take this on.

Cllr Boden – Asked Councillor to consider the forthcoming budget for 2024-25, taking into account a zero-increase proposal.

Cllr Wicks – Highlighted again the lack bus services covering the villages surrounding Whittlesey, he requested that Cllr Boden as County Councillor and a board member of the CPCA (Combined Authority) to push for better services, **Cllr Boden** replied he had done so on several occasions without much success – however he will continue to bring the issue to the table.

Date of the next meeting has now been changed to Thursday 23rd November.

There is an attachment at the end of this report from Cllr Dorling who sent in a written statement/report – **Action on Energy**



To find out 'who' your Councillor is – please go to the Whittlesey Town Council Website.

www.whittleseytowncouncil.gov.uk

Go to the top Tab Bar – Council Matters
Scroll down to Current Councillors or Find My Councillors.
Contact details are then shown for your Councillor in your area.

The next Full Council Thursday 23rd November at 19:30

I am Roy Gerstner the **only** Councillor in Whittlesey who makes regular reports on Council, Public and Community Group meetings. I am aware that some Councillors post on Social Media.

I have done so for more than 13+ years both as a member of the public and as a Town Councillor. **I have made 7,000+ postings on this site.**

I have been elected as an **Independent** Fenland District Councillor for The South Ward of Whittlesey along with Cllr Mrs Kay Mayor (Conservative)

I have been elected as an **Independent** Whittlesey Town Councillor for the South Ward of Whittlesey South along with Cllr Diana Dickinson (Conservative)

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 Whittlesey 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 it to them.

e&oe

©Roy Gerstner. 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)

Action on Energy Autumn Event.

I attended the event on 11th October.

The aim was to help homeowners increase thermal efficiency and reduce energy consumption in heating their homes. Objective: To reduce the carbon footprint across Cambridgeshire.

Heating homes significantly contribute to greenhouse gasses because generating energy and using fossil fuels emits CO₂ in most instances. Transport, Food Production, and Industry also contribute, and reductions will help – but raising awareness and removing/reducing barriers to improving thermal efficiency is an area many families can benefit from because a decrease in energy bills can save money.

There is funding available to help improve thermal efficiency. Many homeowners are not aware (unless they had a survey – maybe in pursuing a mortgage application). You can conduct your own (see link below) or have a professional assessment.

<https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/do-it-yourself-home-energy-assessments>

Another way is to borrow a thermal imaging camera, this will clearly show whether there are areas that could be improved by simple draft exclusion or additional insulation. There can be knock-on effects, such as ensuring that adequate ventilation is maintained to reduce the build-up of moisture – if in doubt – seek advice.

The Action on Energy website (below) provides access to funding, guidance and wider support.

<https://www.actiononenergycams.org/get-in-touch/>

Reducing greenhouse gasses can benefit the reversal of climate change; in Cambridgeshire, such a low-lying area must not become a casualty to excessive weather events, rising sea levels or pollution. For an independent view on moving to low-carbon living, the following website has valuable information available:

<https://cambridgecarbonfootprint.org/who-we-are/>

What can Whittlesey Town Council do?

Engaging with those facing the most difficulty by understanding the issues and signposting where help can be found is good for our community. Cambridgeshire Councils have secured over £11.5m of central government funding. If the funds are not invested locally – they will be utilised elsewhere in the County (Peterborough is not part of this initiative).

Expertise is available if you become aware of someone wanting to reduce their energy consumption. If someone is considering the replacement of their heating boiler – funding may be available. If access to a thermal imaging camera will help, some are available across the County.

Clr Eamonn Dorling