

WTC Meeting – Thursday 18th January 2024

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My thanks to Cllr Wainwright, who kindly took these notes.

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FRG 2022





The attached notes taken by **Cllr Barry Wainwright**, they are his record of the Council meeting of 18th January, I was absent from this meeting and post with his permission my usual report on Council business. – Please read the disclaimer(s) above.

SA = Cllr Saeed Arman SB = Cllr Simon Black CB = Cllr Chris Boden
DD = Diana Dickinson ED = Cllr Eamonn Dorling RG = Cllr Roy Gerstner
DL = Cllr Dee Laws LT = Cllr Like Turner KM = Cllr Kay Mayor
JM = Cllr Jason Mockett HN = Cllr Dr Haq Nawaz ESC = Cllr Elisabeth Sennitt-Clough
BNW = Cllr Barry Wainwright BW = Cllr Bob Wicks

WHITTLESEY TOWN COUNCIL

Thursday 18th January AGENDA

F01/2024. Apologies for Absence

RG, LT, JM,

F02/2024. To receive members' declarations of disclosable pecuniary, non-disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in relation to any agenda item.

ED: Committee member of W&D Business Community. (Whittlesey & District).

DL: Planning portfolio holder.

F03/2024. To confirm and sign the Minutes from the Full Council Meeting held on Thursday 21st December 2023.

Page 1 error already corrected – OK. (HN/SA)

F04/2024 Public Forum

11 members present.

F05/2024 Agenda items for Discussion.

1. Budget – Cllr Boden

Was looked at F&P. Code 76 should be taken out (B1040 grass cutting).

No response from Charities.

Precept request has to be submitted by 8/2/2024

DL: Regarding charities – several communications on other lands. No suggestion that they have proof of any arrangement for land maintenance.

Also planning application fee? (is on page 2). Also, CCTV is suspended. Is that one figure or is more attached? (One figure only).

ED: Is it version 0? No, draft v2. At F&P suggestion was made to round up figures & remove CCTV. (Finance & Policy)

W&DBC very concerned that if budget line is removed prior to meeting with FDC & Police it is a predetermination. Concerned that lack of support from WTC on CCTV will remove a deterrent to ASB. If it becomes known that CCTV is not in place it could attract ASB & criminality. ESC: was present at F&P.

CB Said removal would be a bargaining point. Would support decision to remove the line.

HN: Reassure business community that council will support business community.

Removal of CCTV is only one step.

DL: Not cancelling, just suspending it. We are looking after taxpayers' money. Would business community like to contribute to the costs? Deterrent level is unproven. No evidence that it has led to any convictions. Especially use of high causeway. SP:

CB Did say that the fee could still be paid, even if it is removed from the budget.

KM: Need to agree budget and precept (same as last year). Will give surplus of 7k.

ED Proposal fails

DL Proposes budget, SA 2nd. 8:1 passed

Precept: DL/DD Unanimous.

2. Presentation from Matt Page on arrangements for Armed Forces Day 2024

Idea from last sept. believe in supporting ex-armed forces. But AF Day not normally supported in Whittlesey. Proposing a weekend. Fill square with military vehicles.

17 re-enactment groups from 13th century to Zulu re-enactment in church grounds.

No charge for armed forces, veterans & children under 10. Charges for other events split 40% RBL, 40% church, remainder to acts & costs.

Not done elsewhere in Fenland, Cambs or Lincs Want to work with church & RBL.

Want to use local suppliers.

James Huggins: Idea is to recognise value of AF to the country, and to provide a good day out. Needs to be done safely (re-enactments & weapons present!).

KM: Declare interest as member of RBL. Does support the initiative. Need to make sure businesses are also on board.

BW: Support as veteran & chair of Cambridgeshire Regiment Association.

DL: If wanting grants, should apply to Finance Committee.

Council support prop HN, sec ESC, unanimous.

3. Key Holders – Cllr Sennit-Clough

Stricter management of office keys needs to come into effect to maintain the security of the office & chamber. Propose 4 eligible keyholders: chair, leader, clerk & chair of planning.

Currently only 3 holders? Clerk has a register of who has what keys. On Sue's computer.

DL: suggest a printed version is kept.

SB: closest to the offices.
ED: should go to F&P as a policy.
HN: how does it affect insurance? – not at all.
Carried along party lines!

HN/ESC leave the chamber to attend another meeting at 19:23.

4. EV Points – Cllr Dorling.

Energy Savings Trust consultation document.
Move plug-in cars on road than ever. Fenland has few public charge points.
Looking for communication to FDC asking for charging points.
DL: Funding withdrawn by CPCA mayor.
ED: Modify proposal that communication goes to Mayor & open letter to transport board.

5. Anglian Water – Cllr Wicks

Sewerage in Coates is inadequate. Affects Eastrea & Aliwal road pumping station.
Recently contacted by Coates resident that sewage in garden. Response from AW that surface water from storm gets into system. Response is that pump is working at maximum capacity.
BW will forward email to MP.
DL: Planning development affected by policy of “Right to Connect” – AW cannot refuse. Need legislation change at government level. AW should have duty to provide adequate service.
Should write to AW & MP highlighting issues.

F06/2024. To receive Councillor & outside body written reports.

Police report (confidential). Police Teams meeting Tuesday 6th Feb.
ED: No reports from any councillors on outside bodies for 7 months? Clerk to send reminder.

F07/2024. To report the draft minutes from the Finance & Policy Meeting on Monday 15th January 2024 and receive the minutes from Monday 16th December 2023
See papers.

F08/2024 To report the financial documents.

To report the bank reconciliation to 31 December 2023.	To report the list of payments & uncashed payments
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See papers

To report the year-to-date figures 31 December 2023
See papers

F09/2024. To report the draft minutes from the Planning meeting on Monday 15th January 2024 and receive the minutes from Monday 18th December 2023.
See papers CB/BNW

F10/2024. Consultations
None

F11/2024 Information only
Street Scene Officer Report & CCTV report
See Papers

Youth Council – Cllr Black

A605 Safety Cameras
RG email in packs

F12/2024 Invitations.
Mayor's dinner dance

F13/2024. Date of next meeting: Thursday 22nd February 2024

To find out 'who' your Councillor is – please go to the [Whittlesey Town Council Website](http://www.whittleseytowncouncil.gov.uk).

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.



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 7,500+ postings on this site.

I have been elected as the **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).



The poster for 'Armed Forces Weekend at Whittlesey' features a large Union Jack flag on the left with the text 'ARMED FORCES DAY SHOW YOUR SUPPORT' and three small aircraft flying above it. At the top right are logos for Pathway Church, Whittlesey, Ponderbridge & Coates, COMMUNITY FUND, and Muzic Radio. The main title 'ARMED FORCES WEEKEND at Whittlesey' is in large red letters. Below this, a red banner contains the dates '29TH-30TH JUNE 2024'. The central text lists activities: 'LIVING HISTORY DISPLAYS (The British and Allied Armies through the years)', 'MILITARY VEHICLES', 'VINTAGE MARKET', 'DAYTIME ENTERTAINMENT', 'BATTLE OF BRITAIN FLIGHT', 'FALCONRY DISPLAY', 'ARCHERY DISPLAY', and 'PLUS LOTS LOTS MORE'. A large 'ITS ALL FREE !!!' is written in bold black letters. At the bottom, logos for the Royal Air Force, Royal Navy, Armed Forces Day Show Your Support, af/bc, and Army Remount Fund are shown, along with the website 'www.moremuzicradio.com'. A small note at the bottom states: '(But Donation Buckets will be about with all monies being shared with Armed Forces Charities and Pathway Churches)'. The background of the poster shows a collage of historical military images, including soldiers, a tank, a biplane, and a battle scene.