WTC Meeting Thur 19th November 2026 [Short Ver]

Disclaimer: These observations are **not** the 'official' minutes of the meeting, they are supplied by Whittlesey Town Council, normally (1) month following this meeting (sometimes sooner in draft format) and can be viewed on their website.
Decisions and Voting at **this** meeting may be ratified and confirmed at the following months meeting.

AGENDA (Previously published on this Web-Blog)

(This report is from Roy Gerstner's Notes)…..(full audio recording taken)

9 Members of the public in attendance.

Whittlesey Town Councillors in attendance, AB, (Alec Branton), CB, (Chris Boden) PB, (Peter Bibb), ED, (Eamonn Dorling), RG, (Roy Gerstner), GSG, Gurninder Singh Gill, DL, (Dee Laws), AM, (Alex Miscandlon), JM, (Jason Mockett), HN, (Haq Nawaz), BNW, (Barry Wainwright) BW, (Bob Wicks).



To receive apologies from absent members and the reason for the absence
Apologies from from DD, (Dianna Dickinson) RJ (Rita Jolly).

To receive members' declarations of disclosable pecuniary, non-disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in relation to any agenda items discussed later in the agenda and the Council to decide which items are to be discussed as confidential under agenda item number F275/2025
RG: Member of Planning committee at FDC.



A presentation by **Mr. Gary Munns** (Ex Councillor), on the history and recent update on the sports and community facilities at the Bassenhally Fields (Drybread Road) 11 acres. Whittlesey Community Club Ltd…..Helping Whittlesey (Pantry) Geoff's Friday Night Running Laps, Phoenix Youth Provision offered space although not using.
Working together with Green Spaces, Leaseholder – Aspire Trust. Lessee Whittlesey Athletic.
Main focus football 2 full size football pitches, 1 full size pitch for training. Floodlights. Training Lights.
Community space, Changing rooms, Walking football, Junior football.

Fundamental problem being the lease. 13 years left to run.

Have been trying since 2019 to get the lease extended, this would enable to get more funding.



Initially a 25 year lease, funding from some very important people/organisations, Sport England, initially £50,000, Football Association £100,000, Fenland District Council £50,000 – (minus) vat element.
Very large investment has benefited by it – Floodlights, Changing Rooms…
Ambitions to move higher.

Negotiations for a 40 year or even 99 year lease – but SHS/Aspire are looking to sell off – there would be a possibility of purchasing the land.
(RG Note at what cost!).

Whittlesey has been identified as priority for a '4G' pitch.
Feldale is in a position to have all the necessary infrastructure in place.
'4G' pitch would be open to anyone including the public.

None would be possible without the volunteers and sponsors that they have.
Since the initial funding, the site has been 'self-funded'

With the growth and continuing growth of the town, even more important to have facilities like Feldale.

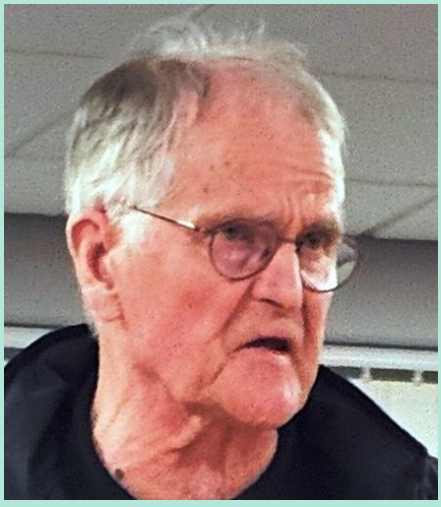
As a designated 'Green Space' – why would 'Aspire Trust' be discussing the sale of such a space.

All Councillors were in agreement that they fully support Whittlesey Athletic and the continued Green Space should remain in place.
The public can play their part in both lobbying present and future Councillors and if any inter-action with the SHS/Aspire Trust to fully support the 'Green Space' policy and the site (ex-public land) should **NOT** under any circumstances be sold off.

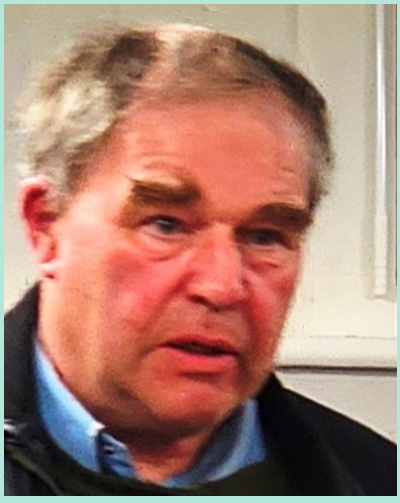
Brief Report on rest of meeting.



Mr. Joe Jennings.



Mr. Stephen Hodson.



Mr Neil Jackson'

Mr Jenning had ‘another’ pot shot at the complete lack of Councillors support for the Food Bank.

(RG Note: - **This is completely untrue** – many past and currently myself and Cllr Nawaz have and are ongoingly involved with several organisations to ‘try’ and help the WEFA/Food Bank secure new premises, these negotiations are complex and involves large sums of money which Mr Jennings is not part of and has never offered to help? - His continued remarks in the public domain are most **unhelpful** and are **untrue**.)

Mr Hodson raised issues with overstaying parking on Market Street – by predominately shop-keepers thereby hindering the public to park and thereby visit shops.

Mr. Jackson raised that the ‘Police reports’ were not made available to the public.

Turves War Memorial.



The War Memorial is in poor state/condition.

The Whittlesey Independent Funeral Directors (Whittlesey) have offered to replace the memorial free of charge.

The Memorial sits on private land in Turves, Cllr Laws is in communication with the land-owner.

The Council en-bloc were very appreciative of this very generous offer.

(Photo RWT photography Whittlesey)

CCTV.
A robust debate took place in respect of the upcoming renewal of the ‘SLA’ = Service Level Agreement with Peterborough CCTV Centre.
Cllr Gerstner – stated he has for many years supported the CCTV as a means and deterrent – however over the past contract – the level of service has been ‘poor value to the rate-payer’
(The figures reported on More Music radio interview with **Cllr Bibb are incorrect**).
‘Most (not all) Councillors are minded **NOT** to renew the contract, however after a lengthy debate it was decided to delay the councils response and give the ‘Manager’ at the CCTV an opportunity to be asked questions at the next meeting.

(RG Note: The CCTV would **not** have prevented the recent Ram-raid on the Nationwide, criminals come with balaclava’s, practiced and are quick, the CCTV may or may not have been pointing in the correct direction.) ‘Bollards’ would **not** have prevented this Ram-Raid.

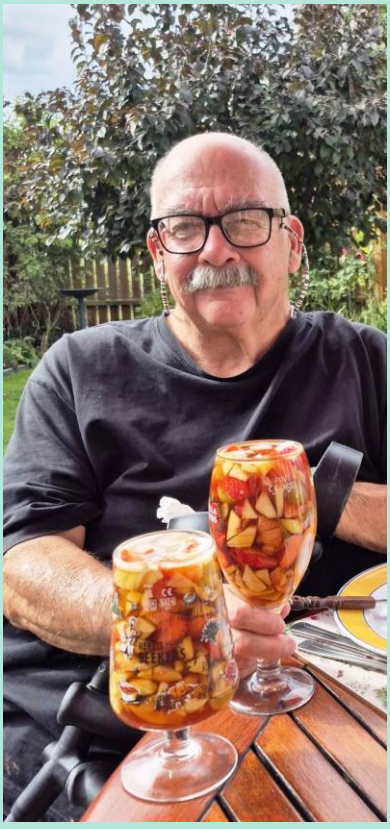
Allotments.
It was decided (not by a majority) that there would be a £50:00 deposit (refundable) for allotment keepers to return their plot in a good suitable condition on termination of their contract.

Dust Monitor.
Cllr Mocket:- Informed that progress was being made to secure a 'Dust Monitor' for placing nearby our industrial areas, the costing and ongoing reporting was updated.

FOI.
Freedom of Information requests rules and policy were advanced in being promulgated.

Peel House CCTV.
Cllr Gerstner :- Requested that the current CCTV be upgraded to include 'Audio Recording' this is because of a recent incident (not the first) of a member of the public – verbally attacking (abusing) those manning the Clerks Office.
This is totally unacceptable and this incident revolved in that the complainant claimed 'he' could not get any cash in Whittlesey since the Nationwide was Ram-Raided.
When attempts were made to correct this (at least 5 other local locations) he carried of with his attack. The Nationwide re-opened 3 days later (no cash machine)
The ability to record 'Audio' will protect both the public, councillors and staff.

Date of next meeting – **Thursday 17th December 2026 6:30pm**



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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 15+ years both as a member of the public and as a Town and District Councillor.

I have over 10,800+ postings on this site.
10.9 million + hits on this site.

I have been elected as the **Independent** Fenland District Councillor for The South Ward of Whittlesey along with Gurninder Singh Gill (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 do 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).

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FRG 2022



