Parish council report Sept 25 Steve Collings

Recently councillor Gareth Gould for Strawberry Ward, Ellesmere port, has resigned due to ill health so we are now in Purdah. However due to summer break it hasn’t impacted ( so far) on my council work.

Some of the issues received since the last meeting,

1, planning assistance ref service station on Vicars cross road, resident reached out due to a delay in planning process, contacted planning for an update, it was due to a report from highways, ref traffic surveys, which came in a week later.

2. I have been involved with Stock lane Bowling green, supporting them to become a “friends of” group, allowing them to raise funding to improve and bring the site back to life. There was a successful taster day, 24 people attended, I have created a website for them and will hand it over once they establish the FO, there is also another free taster day in October.

3. pesticide free council, Friends of the Earth members have contacted me reference if CWaC are pesticide free, as far as we could find out, they do not use pesticides in public spaces, however on occasions if there is an infestation on specialist plants, it can be necessary to use them with limited scope.

4, Multiple complaints about speeding and noise from vehices on Caldy valley road, mostly in the evenings . PCSO is aware and will visit resident and contact ref the “speed watch group” for training,

5. Redhouse, the work stopped due to land slippage, a new contractor has been assigned and plans accepted on the way forward, you will note there will be 2 way lights controlling the traffic, and once stabilised work should continue on the development.

6. damaged refuse bin, PC passed on issue ref resident having to pay for a bin that was damaged by the truck, it was resolved by the resident with assistance of a neighbour, and Cllr McGlashan before I had a response.

7, Gorse way traffic light installation, a consultation had been carried out without GT Boughton Cllrs or Gt Boughton PC being included as a consultee, I submitted strongly worded email ref our exclusion and we have been given until the 19th of Sept to respond. However it appears the officer have already indicated they have agreed to accept the new planning of “no crossings needed” so seems a futile action.

8. Devolution extraordinary meeting held last week, it was in place so all Cllrs could register their concerns or support for Devolution going forward. However, it was not in the council meetings gift to vote for or against, only to support or oppose the decision made by Cabinet, as we have a Cabinet led council not committee led , therefore the decision lies with Cabinet. And the 2 other councils will make their decision this coming week. Almost all opposition members chose to walk out of the meeting ( except Greens and 1 of the independent group) however the meeting was still quorate and continued as per legal process.

9. Resident complaint about neighbour’s camera filming her. I had a conversation with the resident, as a courtesy to both residents and he promptly redirected his camera as not to film her pathway, he has a wide angled pc based camera and was not aware he was not allowed to film private property. The law does allow for anyone to film in public, without the subjects being filmed authority, however the publishing of material does need the consent of the person should they be a minor or if its use is in any form of advertising or campaign leafleting. Complaining residents is still not happy and would need to take legal action should she feel he is encroaching on her privacy, I have advised her of the legal situation and her pathways as a Cllr has no power over this issue.

9. Visited safety central in Lymm, as part of the Fire Authority planning day, great example of safety in the community, educating all ages and how the blue light collaboration works across Cheshire.

10. concerns over planning application in Boughton Hall drive form 3C to 3B, I am awaiting a response from planning officer,( no one is yet assigned to the case) and will call it in to committee and this will allow the residents a voice at the meeting should it go to committee.

11, no issue over “raise the colours” no contact or cost to council to restore vandalised roundabouts or removed dangerous flag placement in Gt Boughton.

12. still no action ref Foxes walk empty home, but council are chasing the new owner. Letter at the property to respond.

Not a great deal of meetings with council over August break, and as an election has been called for October, some of the September work has been held back ( i.e. member budget applications delayed)

Attended Chester Fre station open day.

Met with the MP Samantha Dixon to discuss any local issues I need assistance with( this happens monthly)

The break has seen a couple of meetings ref fire authority and educational meetings around devolution during August and September