

**WESTON AND CREWE GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 08 JUNE 2023**

PRESENT:

Councillors: John Densem (Chairman), Paul Bate, Anne Broome, Janet Chamberlain, John Chambers, John Cornell, Steve Edgar, Annelene Kiddie and Alex Lewis.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Borough Councillor Janet Clowes.

23/021 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Schafer and Borough Cllr Alison Heler.

23/022 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Chambers, Cornell, Densem and Edgar declared an interest in parts of the item relating to payments and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

23/023 CO-OPTION

RESOLVED – that Paul Bate be co-opted onto the Wychwood ward of the Parish Council.

23/024 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Annual meeting held on 18 May 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

23/025 DEFIBRILLATOR – CREWE GREEN

The provision of a defibrillator had been discussed by the former Crewe Green Parish Council. It was noted that there was currently one positioned in the church, although this was only accessible when the church was open. It was suggested that this defibrillator should be moved to the outside of the building and the Parish Council would consider a contribution towards any associated costs.

23/026 FREEDOM ON INFORMATION REQUEST

Following discussion at the previous meeting, the Clerk advised that the outcome of the internal review was that the information would be provided. The work was almost completed, and the information would be shared within the deadline.

23/027 NEW COUNCIL

1) Freedom of Information and Publication Scheme

The publication scheme commits an authority to make information available to the public as part of its normal business activities. Councillors reviewed the draft scheme and noted that the detail of the information available was being reviewed as part of the website update. The Scheme also outlined a procedure for dealing with Freedom of Information requests.

RESOLVED – that the Freedom of Information and Publication Scheme be approved, noting that the detail of the information available would be approved following the website review.

2) Code of Conduct

Councillors reviewed the Code of Conduct that had been agreed by Cheshire East Council.

RESOLVED – that the Parish Council adopts the Cheshire East Code of Conduct.

23/028 PLANNING MATTERS

1) Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Cornell provided an update regarding progress on the modification of the

Neighbourhood Plan. It was expected that the Regulation 15 submission would shortly be made to Cheshire East Council.

2) HS2

Borough Cllr Clowes advised that following the call-in of planning application 23/1335N which related to proposed HS2 works on sites north of Hough, the planning officer had asked HS2 and the contractor to revise their proposals so that they complied with previous agreements. Cllr Cornell referred to discussions he had also had with HS2a on this issue. In addition, he had sought clarification regarding the proposed compound abutting the West Coast Main Line which would gain access from David Whitby Way as part of HS2b.

3) Planning Applications

Councillors received an update on decisions by the Parish Council's Planning Committee.

23/029 HIGH SPEED BROADBAND – ENGLESEA BROOK AREA

Cllr Chamberlain advised that a response from BDUK was still awaited.

23/030 VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Cllr Bate advised that the recent Committee AGM had been inquorate. With regards the summer fayre, the date of 03 September had been proposed although not yet confirmed.

23/031 POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk provided a summary of the police incidents across the Parish Council area.

23/032 REPORTS OF CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS

Borough Cllr Clowes confirmed that she had again contacted Cheshire East Council Officers regarding the ongoing issues on Wychwood Village. With regards the formal complaint, a meeting would be held comprising Borough Cllr Clowes and Cllrs Bate, Cornell and Schafer to formulate the submission of the complaint.

The Parish Council confirmed that they would support the provision of two bins on Abbey Park Way. Thanks were conveyed to Cllr Edgar for weedkilling in Wychwood village and other parts of the Parish.

Cllr Edgar was asked to review the provision of a bin on the alleyway to Crotia Avenue.

23/033 PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillors discussed proposals for the resurfacing of East Avenue, following complaints from residents.

Work would be undertaken on the provision of a new Councillor contact list and maps of the new Parish Council area.

Councillors noted the temporary closure of Englesea Brook Lane, from the junction of Four Ends Lane to the junction of Snape Lane, on the week commencing 12 June to enable Cheshire East to undertake jetting works.

Cllr Cornell referred to issues in Englesea Brook relating to the dumping of dog waste in the litter bin abutting the post box and notice board. Cllr Edgar was thanked for facilitating the provision of a new bin which would be sited away from the notice board.

Cllr Densem referred to the Garden Party being held at his property on 15 July, commencing at 1.30pm.

Councillors received information regarding ongoing repairs to the church and Council noticeboards. With regards a complaint about mown grass not being collected, this had been discussed with the contractors.

23/034 OPEN FORUM – QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None present, although Councillors discussed the ongoing issue regarding the drain on Main Road.

23/035 FINANCE REPORT

1) Payments

RESOLVED – that the following payments be authorised:

| Payee | Reason | Amount £ |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Mark Robinson | Salary & Office expenses | 770.65 |
| Zurich Insurance | Insurance | 612.88 |
| John Densem | Chairman's Expenses | 1,100.00 |
| John Cornell | Vice-Chairman's Expenses | 300.00 |
| John Cornell | Planning Chairman's Expenses | 1,100.00 |
| John Chambers | Planning Vice-Chairman's Expenses | 300.00 |
| Shires | Payroll Services | 164.40 |
| William Witter | Allotment Rental | 1,000.00 |
| Chalc | Membership 23/24 | 704.11 |
| Steve Edgar | Weedkiller | 55.95 |

2) Community Infrastructure Levy

The receipt of the first tranche of the CIL monies in the sum of £14,292.48 was noted. This was in respect of the housing development adjacent to Crewe Green roundabout.

RESOLVED – that these monies be earmarked for projects in Crewe Green.

3) Crewe Green Parish Council – Accounts 2022/23

i) Internal Audit

The Council's internal audit had been completed and the report confirmed that the accounts had been correctly maintained and managed.

ii) Annual Governance Statement 2022/23

Councillors reviewed the Annual Governance Statement, which outlined the requirements for a sound system of internal control.

RESOLVED – that the Annual Governance Statement be approved as compliant with all requirements.

iii) Accounting Statement 2022/23

The Accounting Statement summarised the Council's income and expenditure over the past two financial years. The Council's closing balance for the 2022/23 financial year was £6,939.

RESOLVED – that the Accounting Statement be approved.

iv) Certificate of Exemption

Councils with an income and expenditure of less than £25,000 in the financial year were entitled to certify as exempt from limited assurance review, although all audit documentation would have to be published on the Council's website. The Parish Council's income was £3,442 and expenditure was £4,640.

RESOLVED – that the Council certifies the Crewe Green Parish Council accounts as exempt from limited assurance review.

23/036 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 13 July 2023, commencing at 7.30pm at the Weston Church Hall.