

WESTON AND CREWE GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 23 AUGUST 2024

PRESENT:

John Cornell (Chair), John Chambers, John Densem, Don Fanstone, David Lewis and Andrew Thomson

24.006 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Alex Lewis.

24.007 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2024 were approved

24.008 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

The grant funding from Locality had been approved and £5,795 had been received by the Parish Council. This was the full amount that had been applied for and it was noted that the costs for Andrew Thomson would have to be funded directly from the Parish Council's monies. There was a discussion about ensuring that any invoices from Cheshire Wildlife Trust (CWT) were phased.

A meeting had been held with CWT representatives on 16 August and the draft habitat maps including a wildflower survey were expected by the end of September.

A meeting had been held with AECOM representatives and discussions ensued regarding broadening the remit to consider the setting of conservation areas and any areas which could be considered vulnerable to forthcoming changes to national planning policy.

Cllr Cornell referred to Question 29 from the AECOM questionnaire which related to any specific guidance that should be included in the Design Code. The meeting agreed the proposed response with the addition of reference to emerging Local Plan policies and adequate car parking spaces on new developments.

24.009 COMMUNITY NEWS

Consideration was given to the draft article for the next Community News, which was providing information on the Neighbourhood plan in more detail. Tom Evans had advised that any Neighbourhood Plan communications should go to the whole area and not just Crewe Green. There would be a public engagement session in Crewe Green later this year.

24.010 CREWE GREEN

David Lewis was asked to give consideration to identifying the community facilities in and adjacent to Crewe Green. For example, any green spaces such as the Community Garden by the Church and any fishing ponds. Also, information on heritage assets such as farm and workers cottages and the history of Crewe Green. Cllr Chambers advised that he had utilised the history of Crewe Green information from the former Crewe Green Parish Council website.

24.011 PLANNING ISSUES

The new government had prioritised an increase in housebuilding across the country with Cheshire East Council area expected to receive an increase in its new home targets of 1,554 per annum in the revised National Planning Policy Framework.

There had also been a recent consultation on the Newcastle-under-Lyme Local Plan which was proposing 63 hectares of employment land on the A500 corridor which would require changes to J16 of the M6.

The Parish Council had responded to the initial consultation on the revised Cheshire East Local Plan. It was noted that the 'Call for Sites' details had yet to be published.

It was noted that the A500 dualling from Mere Moss roundabout to J16 had been withdrawn. Instead, there would be improvements to the road to Crewe train station.

24.012 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This was provisionally agreed for 2.00pm on Thursday 31 October 2024.