

**WESTON AND CREWE GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 15 JANUARY 2026**

PRESENT:

Councillors: John Densem (Chairman), Janet Chamberlain, John Chambers, John Cornell, Gillian Grocott, Alison Heler, Annelene Kiddie, Simon Lewis and Chad Wilkinson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Borough Cllr Janet Clowes.

25/088 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Broome.

25/089 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

25/090 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

25/091 PLANNING MATTERS

1) Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Cornell advised that the Plan had been submitted to Cheshire East Council, which had commenced the Regulation 16 consultation that would end on 16 February 2026. The Plan would then be submitted to an Independent examiner and then go to referendum. It was expected that the process would be complete by “early spring”.

2) National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

It was confirmed that the new NPPF had been released for consultation, with a deadline for comments of 10 March. It was suggested that a meeting be held with Cheshire East Council planning officers to discuss their views on the proposed changes.

RESOLVED – that the submission of the Parish Council’s response to the consultation be delegated to the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee.

3) ONWARD/MUSE Liaison Meeting

Cllr Cornell provided feedback from the recent Liaison meeting, which related to this development off David Whitby Way. Concern was expressed at the submission of revised plans without Cheshire East Council undertaking further consultation.

There was clearly a need for a further meeting with planning officers, therefore, Borough Cllr Clowes would seek to arrange this. To support this, Cllr Cornell would provide a timeline of the developments on the site.

25/092 VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

The Chairman referred to a recent meeting with one of the remaining Committee members. There were a number of maintenance issues that would require resolution in the short term. There would also be an Open Committee meeting to encourage volunteers to join the Committee.

25/093 POLICE MATTERS

Councillors reviewed the Beat report for Wybunbury ward.

There had been discussion at the previous meeting regarding Cheshire Constabulary’s proposal to reduce PCSOs across Cheshire from 87 to 27. Since the meeting, the Constabulary had confirmed that this would be proceeding, citing that

“reducing the number of PCSOs is essential to futureproofing the force, enabling us to balance our budget while maintaining our commitment to neighbourhood policing.”

Borough Cllr Clowes provided a further update in that the Police and Crime Commissioner had agreed to fund 10 of the removed posts and would be seeking government approval to increase the precept by above the 5% limit to fund more. A consultation on this was currently open.

25/094 REPORTS OF CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS

Borough Cllr Heler referred to forthcoming roadworks in the Parish Council area –

- Cemetery Road: 19, 20 and 26 to 30 January
- Englesea Brook Lane: 29 January
- Main Road: 21 January
- Poppy Close: 26-30 January
- East Avenue: 26-30 January

Borough Cllr Clowes referred to the diversion of one of the Public Rights of Way between Wychwood Village and Snape Lane. There was uncertainty as to who had undertaken the works and a response was awaited from Cheshire East Council.

25/095 PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillors discussed the complaints regarding the road safety issues on Slaughter Hill, Crewe Green. It was noted that another 30-mph sign would be erected but the residents had requested any additional measures, which were being considered by the Borough Council.

It was noted that the Parish Council was responsible for the filling of grit bins across the Parish. It was suggested that additional grit bins be provided on East Avenue and Wychwood Village.

Concern was expressed regarding storage containers being placed on land adjacent to the Gorsty fishing lakes.

Cllr Wilkinson referred to the provision of real time information at bus stops, as discussed at the previous meeting. Cheshire East Council was currently out to tender for a borough-wide real-time information system, which would provide all of the functionality required to provide running information at any stop within the Borough. However, the funded provision of the display equipment would be limited to the hubs in the area. Outside of these areas, Parish Council would be invited to consider funding equipment in their areas, which would cost between £4,000 and £15,000 per installation.

25/096 OPEN FORUM – QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

No questions received.

25/097 FINANCE REPORT

1) Payments

RESOLVED – to note the payments approved in accordance with Financial Regulations and Payment Schedule

Payee	Reason	Gross £	VAT £	Net £
Unity Trust	Fees	6.00		6.00
Mark Robinson	Salary and Office Allowance (Nov)	1,319.40		1,319.40
HMRC	PAYE Q3	3,596.65		3,596.65
Scottish Power	Electricity	228.53	10.88	217.65

RESOLVED – to approve the following payment:

Payee	Reason	Gross £	VAT £	Net £
Kingfisher Direct	Rock salt	270.00	45.00	225.00
Border Tree Care	Felling of tree	180.00	30.00	150.00

2) Budget and Precept 2026/27

Councillors reviewed the recommendations from the meeting of the Finance Committee regarding the Budget and Precept 2026/27.

RESOLVED – that:-

- i) The Council's budget be approved as recommended by the Committee in the sum of £82,953.40.
- ii) The Council's precept be in the sum of £64,000 (an increase on 2.7%).

3) External Audit

The External Auditor has advised that “in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.”

25/098 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 12 February 2026 commencing at **7.00pm**.