

CREWE GREEN ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

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Minutes of the Meeting of Crewe Green Parish Council held at St Michael's Church, Crewe Green on Monday 18 July 2022 at 7.00pm

Present

Councillor Deakin (Chair) and Councillors Edgar and D Lewis.
DJ French, Locum Clerk

Also Present

2 Members of the Public

1. Apologies:

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Councillors A Heler due to family commitments and A Lewis due to family commitments.

2. Casual Vacancy

There were no applicants for the 3 casual vacancies on the Parish Council which remained with 5 Members.

3. Declarations of Interest

None.

4. Public participation

There were 2 members of the public present. They updated on the Copse Garden later on the agenda.

5. Minutes

15/22 Resolved: that the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 16 May 2022 be approved as a correct record.

6. Progress Reports and Updates

All items were covered on the agenda.

7. Financial Matters

The Council considered:

- (a) The bank account balance at 1 July 2022.
- (b) The list of payments at Appendix 1.
- (c) A proposal that a payment be authorised to the website provider in the event that the website needs to be temporarily amended due to Operation Bridge.

16/22 Resolved: That:

- (a) the accounts at 1 July 2022 with a balance of £8167.30 be noted;
- (b) the list of payments in Appendix 1 be approved; and
- (c) a payment of £50 be authorised for the website provider, Upper Bridge, should the website need to be temporarily changed due to Operation Bridge.

8. Community Governance Review and amalgamation with Weston and Basford

The Parish Council noted there was nothing new to update regarding the Community Governance Review (CGR). The new Parish Council would be called Weston and Crewe Green Parish Council with 3 wards, one of which would be for Crewe Green and would return 3 Councillors. It was noted that the eligibility rules meant a resident living in another part of the Parish Council area could represent the Crewe Green ward.

The Clerk advised that Cheshire Association of Local Councils would be offering support and virtual sessions to all councils who were impacted by the CGR in due course.

Cheshire East Council (CEC) had confirmed that elections in May 2023 would be to the new Parish Council and the precept would not be set for the new council but would be based on an estimation by CEC.

17/22 Resolved: that:

- (a) the Community Governance Review update be noted; and
- (b) the item remain on the agenda until the merger has been implemented.

9. Streetlights

The council considered the ongoing issues with streetlights. Councillor Edgar reported that CEC had quoted £1k per streetlight per upgrade to LED lighting. CEC had suggested the Parish Council owned 18 streetlights, but this was incorrect. Councillor Edgar was unable to use his Ward Members' budget as a contribution but there would be some Community Infrastructure Levy due to the Parish Council at some point from the development at Crewe Green roundabout. In the meantime, he had raised a formal complaint with the Chief Executive of CEC. Members noted that the council had received £1759 from the insurance company following damage to a streetlight after a road accident. It was agreed that 4 streetlights would be repaired.

The Clerk reported that she had contacted a utility company regarding seeking a better price for electricity supply but no response had been received as yet.

18/22 Resolved: that the Council approves a payment of £4k for the repair of 4 streetlights in locations as discussed and to be confirmed by email to Councillor Edgar who will progress this with CEC.

10. Community Garden

The Project Manager provided a brief update on the Community Garden. She felt this was a valuable asset for the community and could be a nice environment for hosting school visits in the future.

The Council discussed ongoing maintenance. A quote had been received for maintenance works. Members discussed the possibility that after the merger with Weston and Basford there may be the option for this work to be provided in house as Weston and Basford PC currently employed a lengthsman whose duties could include grounds maintenance.

19/22 Resolved:

That the quote received in the total sum of £350 be approved for one year and the contractor will send invoices to the Parish Clerk.

11. Planning

The Council considered an update on the meeting with Weston and Basford Parish Council (W&BPC) regarding the planning application relating to the South Cheshire Growth Village (SCGV) (application 22/1447N). Councillor Edgar reported that he was seeking a 7.5 tonne weight limit on various roads to prevent HGVs going through the SCGV unless for access.

The application was still pending decision.

Planning Applications:

22/2416N – Inverter heat pumps outdoor VRF units and timber enclosure screen, Oak House, Crewe Hall Farm, Old Park Road

South Cheshire Growth Village

As above.

20/22 Resolved: that

- (a) the update on the South Cheshire Growth Village and work with Weston and Basford Parish Council on this matter be noted; and
- (b) no objections be made to planning application 22/2416N at Oak House, Crewe Hall Farm.

12. PCSO

The Clerk updated on a request that had been received from the PCSO regarding funding support for free Youth Skills Sessions for local young people. The PCSO was seeking financial support from 4 local Parish Councils to enable the sessions to be offered free of charge. The sessions were run by Haslington Police and had previously been funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner.

21/22 Resolved: that this matter be deferred to the next meeting.

13. Reports from Councillors

Councillor D Lewis noted that there were ongoing issues with fly tipping. The Duchy of Lancaster were currently carrying out a woodland management scheme.

14. Clerk's report

The Clerk updated:

- The Certificate of Exemption had been submitted to the External Auditor
- The notice of public rights to inspect the accounts had been advertised on the website and noticeboard and included the mandatory period of the first 10 working days in July.
- She had undertaken further training on updating the website.

22/22 Resolved: that the Clerk's report be received and noted.

15. Report from Cheshire East Councillor

Cllr Edgar updated:

Work had commenced on the new houses at Crewe Green roundabout. Permission had been given to remove hedges and some trees after checking for nesting birds. Once the site was finished there would be a net gain in biodiversity.

Roadworks would commence on Weston Road to install pipework for a water supply to the new houses on David Whitby Way. The contractors had sought permission for one month but the works were expected to finish in less time.

Onward Housing had a social funding scheme for local projects and he suggested the Clerk apply for funding towards maintenance at the Copse Garden.

16. Future meetings

The next meeting of the Parish Council was on Monday 19 September.

Part 2

None

The meeting closed at 8.00pm

Appendix 1 - Payments

PAYEE	AMOUNT
Shires Invoice – payroll Apr – June 22	46.80
Clerk Salary - June 2022	95.70
Clerk Salary – July 2022 (to be paid 1 August)	95.90
Clerk expenses – mileage	27.00
Room hire July 2022	25.00
HMRC	71.80

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