

ANNUAL MEETING OF CREWE GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Crewe Green Parish Council held at Crewe Hall, Weston Road, Crewe on Monday 16th May 2016 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Don Rickard (Chairman), Anne Rickard, Gerald Twiss, David Marren, Trevor Long
Gaynor Hawthornthwaite (Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE: Reverend Jules Walker

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Roy Spruce, David Lewis, Alex Lewis, Cheshire East Councillor John Hammond and PC Nick Moore.

2. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor Twiss proposed Councillor Don Rickard, seconded by Councillor Trevor Long. This was unanimously agreed. Councillor Don Rickard accepted the position of Chairman.

3. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Councillor Anne Rickard proposed Councillor Trevor Long, seconded by Councillor Gerald Twiss. This was unanimously agreed. Councillor Trevor Long accepted the position of Vice-Chairman.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest declared.

5. REPORTS FROM CHESHIRE CONSTABULARY

In the absence of PC Moore, the Chairman read out PC Moore's report on the minimal crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in Crewe Green for March and April 2016.

The Chairman reported that PC Moore will be leaving Cheshire Police at the end of July 2016. The name of PC Nick Moore's replacement has not yet been confirmed.

It was agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent to the Inspector at Crewe Police Station, expressing the PC's thanks for the attention and interest that PC Moore has provided to the Parish Council.

RESOLVED/- Clerk to send a letter of thanks to Inspector Gareth Lee, Crewe Police Station.

6. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN FORUM

No members of the public wished to address the Council.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 21st MARCH 2016

Members considered the minutes of a meeting held on 21st March 2016.

RESOLVED/- That the minutes of the meeting held on 21st March 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 21st MARCH 2016

All matters arising to be covered in the agenda.

9. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman provided a report at the Annual Parish Meeting.

10. REPORT FROM CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS

Councillor Marren reported on the following:

Tour of Britain Cycle Race

Cheshire East Council has successfully won the bid to host Stage 3 of this year's Tour of Britain cycle race on Tuesday 6th September 2016. The route is 95% confirmed with the final route publicised by July this year.

Starting in Congleton between 10.30am and 11.00am, cyclists will cover the majority of Cheshire East towns and will include the iconic Cat & Fiddle as a 'King of the Mountain' stage before heading towards Knutsford with a finish in Tatton Park at around 15.30pm.

You will see www.cheshiretourofbritain.co.uk is up and running and there is an opportunity for people to register for regular newsletter updates; and any assistance you could give to promote this site would be most welcome.

Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended)

The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012

In line with the above legislation, from the 06th April 2016, the Council began formally consulting for a six week period on the Draft Cheshire East Borough Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

To view an electronic copy of the Draft SPD, supporting documentation and make a formal representation on the Draft SPD and supporting documentation, please access the link below:

www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/DesignGuideConsultation

Highways

Over the past 3 years we have continued to invest in the highway network and improve the condition of the roads through Cheshire East. Our additional investment of £30m to date has also assisted in securing additional government funds over the same period.

The condition of our roads was such that we had to ensure we had a strategic approach to deal with a rapidly deteriorating highway network and therefore our highways team set out to achieve the following:

- Keep our Network Safe and Serviceable – Level 1 works
- Protecting and Maintaining our Network – Level 2 works
- Investing to Improve our Network – Level 3 works

DfT funding for 16/17 has now shifted to reward Council's for adopting an asset management approach. The Council has been successful in being awarded our full DfT funding allocation for 2016/17, including the incentivised element. This will become more critical in future years given the greater levels of incentivised funding which will be available.

Media, resident and business interest in our highway service remains high with many differing perceptions about the conditions of our roads, however it is and will become more important in future years to be able to demonstrate that our asset management approach is effective. I would like to list our progress to date around the key measures:

- The national indicator for road condition for our classified highway network is measured by the percentage in need of repair. Over the last three years our "A" road network has improved from **6% to 3%** requiring repair, and our "B and "C" network has improved from **11% to 5%** requiring repair;
- The amount of liability claims we receive for damage or personal injury has also fallen. In 2012/13 the number of claims received by Cheshire East was 1,252, this has steadily reduced to 364 in 2015/16; and
- Over the same period the enquiries the highway service receive regarding carriageway defects has steadily fallen from 17,241 in 2012/13, down to 5,241 in 2015/16.

Whilst there are many perceptions about the condition of the network, the above measures are driven by fact, and provide robust evidence that the additional investment is paying dividends. This does not mean we are finished and there is clearly more work to be done, however the process being followed is clearly working and will be continued over the coming years with appropriate funding allocations.

The Council has given its commitment to a further 2 years highway investment programme of £5m in both 2016/17 and 2017/18. This 2 year plan will allow focus to continue on a managed approach to ensure we can deliver the right treatment at the right time rather than simply worst first.

Two lane approach Crewe Green Roundabout

Don has responded

Network Rail are proposing to carry out works at the following locations;

Manchester Bridge, Crewe on 15th May 2016, for a road closure for bridge works

Manchester Bridge, Crewe until 22nd May 2016 using a road closure for Installation of traffic containment measures and bridge strengthening works.

SKY TV

Communications had been received from Scott, an Assistant Producer at a TV production company called Little Gem who wanted to get in touch as he is currently working on a brand new documentary series for Sky that will tell the story of 6 families over 5 years of their life.

They are looking for families to take part in this exciting new series and capture their dreams, ambitions and the journeys they go on and also the changes that will happen to the world and surroundings we live in. They want to embrace the highs and lows of family life (that we all experience) from kids not flying the nest to weddings on the horizon. Perhaps there are some interesting families doing amazing things within your local area e.g. in local business, community work, events or sporting families.

They have a programme flyer which they are more than happy to send across which can be forwarded onto anyone you think may be suitable and equally please do feel free to drop me an e-mail or give me a call on 02037737186 if you want to have a chat further about the programme.

Parking Updates

The Civic Centre Library Car Park has changed to short-stay only for a maximum of 4 hours only.

11. PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

The Planning and Street Lighting Reports were covered in the Annual Parish Meeting.

12. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence received since the previous meeting in March, which had been circulated and noted, as follows:

From CEC

- Draft Cheshire East Residential Design Guide SPD Meetings Consultation - Cheshire East Residential Design Guide SPD
- Briefing - Nantwich Children's Centre De-designation
- September 6th, Stage 3 of the Tour of Britain – British cycling's premier event – comes to Cheshire East for the very first time
- Crewe Highways Minutes
- Agenda items - Town and Parish Council Conference

From CEC – Councillors John Hammond/David Marren

- Healthwatch Cheshire East - Partners' News
- CVS Cheshire East's E-Bulletin - 4th December 2015
- VRDS DISABILITY NEWSLETTER
- May Events from Countryside Ranger
- Cheshire Fire And Rescue Service March 2016 E-Newsletter - Firelink 18/03/2016
- £100 each for community groups and neighbours to hold street parties in their local areas – Queens 90th Birthday Celebrations – deadline 6th May
- Plan of two lane approach Crewe Green Roundabout
- Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2011-2026: new Implementation Plan 2015-2019
- VRDS Disability Newsletter questionnaire
- CVS Cheshire East's Volunteer's Gala Night – 9th June at 7.00 pm
- Closures within Crewe, Nantwich & Sandbach - Old Park Road and Clay Lane.

From Chalc

- Chalc Bulletins

WESTON AND BASFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Invitation to a meeting – Church Hall, Weston – 18th and 19th May – 4pm-7pm

SP Energy Networks - Be Our Guest.... 2016 Customer Update for Mid Cheshire District - As an important stakeholder in the Mid Cheshire area - invite to the 2016 Customer Update for our Mid Cheshire District at Canalside Conference Centre, Middlewich on Wednesday 25th May 2016 at 11am

Holmes Chapel pre-submission Neighbourhood Plan

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council printer is no longer working and has received a Printer Report from Bits and PCs in Sandbach who confirmed that due to the damage to the transfer roller, it would not be economical to repair. It was agreed that the printer should be disposed of by Bits and PCs and the Clerk should purchase a new printer. If necessary a cheque could be signed outside of the meeting.

RESOLVED/- Clerk to follow up the costs of a new printer and let the Chairman know.

13. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The internal auditor's report was received and noted.

The accounts and audit form for 2015/2016 were agreed and signed by the Chairman and the Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer.

RESOLVED/- Clerk to return the completed Audit Form to the external auditor

The following cheques were approved:

- Room Hire for the May 2016 Parish Council Meeting at Crewe Hall – Mrs G Hawthornthwaite - £30.60
- Chalc Affiliation Fee 2016 - Chalc £61.95
- Electricity Bill for street lighting – 31.12.15-31.03.16 – Scottish Power £112.27
- Cheshire Community Action Membership 2016 £20.00

14. PLANNING MATTERS

The PC considered the following applications:

Application ref. 16/2283N (proposed play barn conversion) and the Application ref. 16/2288N (new signage) –

Closing date: 1st June and Rookery Wood - Closing Date: 8th June

There were no PC comments on these applications.

Land at University Way – Change of Use

After discussion, it was agreed that the land on University way was that such changes should be opposed and the Chairman to respond appropriately.

RESOLVED/- The Chairman to draft a response on behalf of the PC, with a copy to Councillor Spruce.

15. NEWSLETTER REPORT

It was agreed that the next Newsletter should be published when there is something significant to report. In the meantime, any items of public interest to be published on the PC website.

16. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

- The flag pole has now been cleaned and was flown on the Duchy's birthday and St George's day. It will also be flown on the Queen's 90th birthday.
- A quotation of approximately £300 has now been received to repair the village noticeboard.
- Slaughter Hill – Councillor Marren is to follow up the ownership of the grass verge on Slaughter Hill.
- Litterbin on Beswick Drive – It was agreed that this request should be followed up with ANSA.

RESOLVED/- Clerk to follow up with ANSA.

- The Chairman thanked all CG Parish Councillors for their support and efforts during the last year, Cheshire East Borough Councillors John Hammond and David Marren.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting to be held is on **Monday 18th July 2016 at 7.00 pm.**

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm