

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WESTON AND BASFORD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD 8TH MARCH 2012

PRESENT	Councillor J Densem (Chairman) Councillor J Cornell (Vice Chairman) Councillors M J Chambers, A E Dickenson, E Dickenson, T Eatough, T Gill, M Jones
IN ATTENDANCE	Councillors J Clowes and J Hammond, Mr D Fanstone, Parish Plan
APOLOGIES	Councillors S Chambers, and D Sandry
ABSENT	Councillor P Latham

161 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interest which they had in any item on the Agenda.

No declarations were made.

162 TWO SAINTS WAY

The Chairman welcomed Dr. Teeraniial Ramgopal of the Two Saints Way Steering Group, who gave an illustrated presentation and answered members' questions.

The Chairman thanked Dr. Ramgopal for this most interesting presentation

163 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 9TH February 2012

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th January 2012 be approved as a correct record subject to the amendment of Minute No. 156 to refer to the parking problems at Wychwood Village rather than Wychwood Park.

164 MATTERS ARISING

(i) WYBUNBURY UNITED CHARITIES

Councillor A E Dickenson reported that a cheque in the sum of £404.80 had been received for 2009/2010 and that consideration would now be given to the distribution of these funds and a report submitted to a future meeting.

ii) WYCHWOOD VILLAGE-DISCUSSION WITH DEVELOPERS

It was reported that the Country Park had not yet been signed over to the Golf Club.

iii) LITTER BINS

The Clerk reported that Cheshire East Borough Council had been approached regarding the possible renewal of some of the litter bins but that due to financial constraints this would not be possible. The Council had indicated, however, that it may be possible to exchange some bins and the Parish Council was requested to specify which bins were most in need of replacement. The Clerk was asked to arrange for this to be done and also for the Dog Bins to be inspected.

iv) KISSING GATES

The Vice-Chairman reported that the Kissing Gates at Wychwood Village and Weston were missing and asked members to report should any others be removed.

RESOLVED: That the Kissing Gates be secured as necessary to prevent them being removed.

v) FLOODING MERE ROAD

It was reported that the flooding problem in Mere Road had not been resolved and the Clerk was asked to urge the matter with the Borough Council.

vi) COPING STONES CASEY LANE BRIDGE

The Clerk reported that Network Rail had been asked to indicate when the coping stones missing from the Casey Lane Bridge would be re-fixed but that no response had been received.

vii) OVERGROWN HEDGE SNAPE LANE

It was reported that the necessary action had now been taken

165 PUBLIC FORUM-QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

In accordance with Standing Orders members of the public were invited to ask questions.

Questions were asked regarding the proposed redevelopment schemes in Crewe, the impact of these on the Parish and the way in which the Parish Council could have an influence. It was reported that Councillor J Cornell, along with Borough Councillor J Hammond, had been invited to serve on the Basford East Project Board.

It was reported that there were signs of diesel spillage and an accumulation of rubbish on the layby on the A500. The Clerk was requested to bring this to the attention of the Highway Authority.

166 POLICE MATTERS

PC N Moore reported in detail on 7 incidents of crime in the Parish in February. There had also been 3 instances of anti-social behaviour.

There continued to be complaints of illegal parking in the vicinity of the School and the Vice-Chairman reported that he had spoken to the Head Teacher about this. The Car Park of the White Lion Hotel was available for safe parking and PC Moore indicated that should the problem persist action would be taken against offenders. PC Moore expressed his appreciation of the work of the Speedwatch Team particularly in Englesea Brook.

167 SPEEDWATCH SCHEME

The Clerk reported that an approach had been made to both Barthomley and Shavington Parish Councils to seek assistance with the Scheme. Whilst no response had been received from Barthomley Parish Council the Clerk to Shavington Parish Council had indicated that his Council's scheme was also in need of further volunteers and would not be able to assist.

It was reported that since the inception of the scheme 4000 incidents had been reported to the Police for action.

168 PARISH PLAN

Mr D Fanstone reported on progress made by the Parish Plan Implementation Group and that funding was being sought from Cheshire Community Action

Additional equipment was needed for the Litter Picking Scheme to complete 8 sets of pickers and hoops and 8 high visibility jackets were also required. This expenditure would be met from Parish Plan funds. Parish Councillors were requested to manage the scheme in their own areas.

169 DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Further to Minute Number 152 and the recent public meeting, Mr D Fanstone reported on the establishment of a Committee to co-ordinate the proposed events to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of HM The Queen. It was intended that a diamond shaped flower bed would be created at the Church and that several ideas for parades and other events on Saturday 2nd June were under consideration.

170 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

MAIN ROAD WESTON

Councillor J Hammond reported that the work to complete this scheme was scheduled to be carried out during the following week.

Members commented that the interactive sign on Main Road was being triggered at too low a speed and the Clerk was asked to raise this with the Borough Council.

2012/13 BIDDING ROUND FOR MINOR HIGHWAY SCHEMES

Councillor J Hammond reported that the list of potential schemes had been circulated and the Parish Council reaffirmed that its priorities were for a pedestrian refuge and crossing at Main Road, Weston.

171 REPORT OF CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS

Councillor J Clowes reported that the Highways budget was very tight and that on the A51 one third of the route would undergo appraisal.

In Wychwood Village the wooden bollards outside the Hall were preventing coaches from turning but a request for these to be removed had not received a reply. If the bus stops were to be moved to the other side of the roundabout on the A531 this could cause problems with turning the vehicles and it may be necessary to turn them in Wychwood Village.

The 30mph signs were in place in Englesea Brook.

Further to Minute Number 138 Councillor J Hammond reported that the visit to the recycling facility at Shotton would take place on 4th April. Councillor T Gill had been appointed to represent the Parish Council.

The Cemetery Scheme had been included in the 3 year Capital Programme with a start date of 2014/15. Further to Minute Number 155 Councillor Hammond confirmed that a grant was to be made to each Town/Parish Council to overcome the problem of double taxation and congratulated the Parish Council on its new web-site.

172 PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor T Eatough reported that works to improve Junction 16 of the M6 had begun.

Councillor J Chambers reported on the new web-site and the high degree of interest which it was generating. Members expressed their thanks to Councillor Chambers for his work and congratulated him on the result.

Councillor J Cornell reported on the number of serious pot holes in the carriageway, particularly in Englesea Brook and requested that these be reported to the Borough Council.

The Chairman reported that the hedge adjacent to the Old Vicarage was overgrown and impeding the footpath, the hedge outside Stepping Stones Nursery also needed to be cut back. Dog fouling continued to present problem in the area.

Councillor M Jones reported that the stile at the rear of Sutch Farm, Weston Lane, and Basford was in need of attention and requested that this be reported to the Borough Council.

173 PLANNING MATTERS

Councillor J Cornell reported on a situation where notification of a Planning Application had not allowed sufficient time for it to be considered at a meeting of the Planning Committee and was not of such significance as to warrant a special meeting of the Planning Committee being called.

RESOLVED: That where comments on a Planning Application are required in advance of the normal meeting of the Planning Committee and the Application is not, in the opinion of the Planning Chairman and the Clerk, of sufficient significance to warrant a special meeting being called, the Planning Chairman and the Clerk be authorised to act on behalf of the Planning Committee subject to a report being submitted to its next meeting.

174 FINANCIAL MATTERS

RESOLVED: That payments of accounts be authorised as follows:-

Mr D Williamson	2/2/12 -2/3/12	184.00
Mr W Witter	Allotment rent 1 st March 2012	800.00
Mr D G Owen	Net salary February Travel	216.54 9.00
Councillor J Cornell	Hire of Englesea Brook Chapel and Museum Parish Plan Meeting 16 th February 2012	20.00
United Utilities	Water Allotments 8/11/11-20/1/12	10.72
Englesea Brook Chapel	Room Hire 8/3/12	30.00

175 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported the following items of correspondence:-

i) Letter from Cheshire Association of Local Councils regarding Area Meetings

ii) Bulletin issued by the Borough Council outlining changes to the Legislation regarding Codes of Conduct for Parish Councils.

RESOLVED: That the Cheshire Association of Parish Councils be urged to retain and support the Local Area Meetings

176 MINERAL EXTRACTION

Councillor J Cornell reported on proposals for mineral extraction in the area.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Cornell, in consultation with the Clerk, be authorised to respond to the proposal on behalf of the Parish Council.

177 COMMUNITY PAYBACK

The Chairman reported on a meeting held with Mr P Shone regarding the involvement of Community Payback workers in various projects within the Parish, some of which may involve a limited financial contribution. The Community Payback Scheme would continue to attend to the Wildlife Area off Main Road Weston

178 DATE OF NEXT MEETING-12th April 2012 at the Church Hall Weston

The Annual Parish Meeting was to be held on 26th April 2012 and the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council on 10th May 2012.

179 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining item of business on the grounds that the business to be transacted is of a confidential nature and the public interest would not be served by the disclosure of the information to be presented.

180 ALLOTMENTS

The Chairman reported on matters relating to the allotments.

RESOLVED: That no action be taken at this time and the situation be kept under review.

CHAIRMAN