

WESTON AND BASFORD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
HELD 8TH JANUARY 2015

PRESENT	Councillors J Cornell (Vice-Chairman) in the Chair Councillors J Chamberlain, J Chambers, E Dickenson, J Edwards L Gill, T Gill, P Grant and M Jones
APOLOGIES	Councillors J Densem and T Eatough
IN ATTENDANCE	Councillors J Clowes and J Hammond PC N Moore 5 Local Residents

95. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare their interest in any item on the Agenda.
No Declarations were made.

96. CASUAL VACANCY –BASFORD WARD

Further to Minute Numbers 58 and 83 the Clerk reported that this vacancy had been advertised in accordance with statutory requirements and could be filled by co-option. Mr Peter Grant had expressed interest in the vacancy and was present at the Meeting.

RESOLVED: That Peter Grant be co-opted to the Parish Council to serve for the Basford Ward.

At this point the newly-elected Councillor made his Declaration of Acceptance of Office before the Clerk to the Council and took his seat.

97. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 12TH DECEMBER 2014

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held 12th December 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to the amendment of Minute Number 89 to refer to Weston Road rather than Cemetery Road.

98. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Maintenance of Countryside Park-A meeting with Cheshire East Officers had been arranged for Friday 16th January.

(b) Maintenance of Road signs.

The Borough Council had been requested to carry out the necessary work and it had been included in the programme.

(c) HS2 Safeguarding Consultation –In accordance with Minute Number 84 the Chairman of the Planning Committee, in consultation with the Clerk had submitted the Council's comments and copies were circulated to Members.

(d) School Transport Questionnaire-Wychwood Village-Councillor J Clowes reported that this exercise had not yet been completed but was in progress.

(e) Community Right to Bid-The Chairman reported on a meeting with Cheshire East Officers and representatives of the Wychwood Community Group which had explored the possibility of making a bid under this scheme. Whilst the Council could support this proposal, in principle, it would not be able to assist financially.

99. POLICE MATTERS

PC. N. Moore reported that there had been 2 incidents of crime in the Parish and 1 incident of anti-social behaviour in December.

Further to Minute Number 85 he had met with Mr D Chan of Cheshire East Highways regarding the situation at Cemetery Road/East Avenue. The possibility of installing bollards had been considered but would require funding.

100. PLANNING MATTERS

The Chairman of the Planning Committee referred to the relentless pressures in dealing with Planning matters during the previous 6 weeks and expressed his appreciation to the Clerk for his assistance.

(a) Spinney Drive-this application had been submitted to the Southern Area Planning Committee for consideration but had been deferred and the possibility of amended plans for the construction of bungalows was under discussion. Representations were made at the Committee by Cllrs J Hammond, J Cornell and Peter Grant.

(b) Local Plan

The Chairman reported on a meeting with Councillor Peter Raynes who was now leading the Cheshire East Task Force dealing with the Local Plan

A joint representation from those Parishes forming the 'Southern and Eastern Crescent' around Crewe was being prepared to the Secretary of State, Eric Pickles, Cheshire East, Edward Timpson MP and Mr S Pratt, the Inspector examining the Local Plan, urging action to close the loopholes in the National Planning Guidance which was encouraging developers to deluge the area with housing proposals in the absence of an approved Local Plan. This letter would also press for a moratorium on appeal decisions until the Local Plan was in place.

(c) Gladman Developments Consultation

There had been no application for planning permission at this stage.

(d) Neighbourhood Plan

A validation application for the Neighbourhood Plan had been submitted to Cheshire East Council.

The Working Group to prepare the Plan would comprise the Chairman of the Planning Committee together with Councillors J Chambers and T Gill, Mr D Fanstone and Planning Consultant Mr A. Thomson.

(e) Crewe Green Link Road

A preview of this scheme had taken place in December and the work was on target. The proposed borrow pit would not be required. The Bridge to carry the Crewe to Derby railway line was to be twin track which would be the first stage in increasing the capacity of the line.

A Liaison Group was to be set up involving the Contractors, Ward Councillors, and the Parish Council to resolve any issues affecting the Parish during the construction period.

101. REPORT OF CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS

Councillor J Hammond reported that the unauthorised tipping at Englesea Brook was being investigated by the Enforcement Officer.

The drainage problems affecting 61 Millbeck Close were being investigated. Work on the highway between Englesea Brook and Barthomley had resulted in considerable improvement but other gullies needed to be cleared.

A sign forbidding fly tipping at Snape Lane had been requested. A Holocaust Memorial Day ceremony was to be held at Sandbach Town Hall on 27th January.

The arrangements for the purchase of Senior Rail Cards had changed and these would now be available from Network Rail. The discount for Cheshire East residents would still be given. Full details were on the Cheshire East web-site.

£10.5m was to be provided by Central Government to assist with pothole repairs and the for Minor Highway Schemes schedule was to be published shortly for comment.

Councillor J Clowes reported that the work to upgrade Cabinet 7 to provide superfast broadband was to be carried out and progress to this end was being made.

102. PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor T Gill reported that there was slippage in the work required to complete the Bovis development at Wychwood Village but progress was being made. The Haul Road was almost up and the sales office would be off site by June.

Councillor J Chambers reported that dog bags were being passed through a hole in the fence at Spinney Drive and it was agreed to keep the situation under review.

Councillor J Chamberlain reported that a sign on the road from Englesea Brook to Barthomley needed to be secured.

103. OPEN FORUM-QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

In accordance with the Standing Orders members of the public were invited to ask questions or address the Parish Council.

It was reported that a pond at Chesterton Way, near to the Village Hall, was attracting children and could present a danger, particularly when frozen. Councillor T Gill undertook to arrange for action as necessary.

104. FINANCIAL MATTERS-Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED: That the following payments be authorised:-

D G Owen Salary 1st December 2014 to 31 st December 2014	
Stationery and Postages	658.06
D Williamson December Invoice	165.75
HMRC-Tax collected	483.00
Cllr J Cornell-Planning Magazine subscription	100.00
Cllr J Chambers-Computer Inks	29.11
Norris and Fisher Wychwood Village Hall Insurance	815.02
Cllr J Cornell-Computer Inks and Xerox copies associated with the Neighbourhood Plan	40.49

105. DATE OF NEXT MEETING -12th FEBRUARY 2015

CHAIRMAN