

**WESTON AND BASFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
HELD 12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2015**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Councillor J Densem (Chairman)  Councillor J Cornell (Vice chairman)  Councillors E Dickenson, J Edwards, T. Eatough, L Gill, T Gill and P Grant
<b>APOLOGIES</b>	Councillors J Chamberlain, J Chambers and M Jones
<b>IN ATTENDANCE</b>	Councillor J Clowes PCSO J Raynor 5 Local Residents

**108. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were invited to declare their interest in any item on the Agenda.  
Councillors J Edwards, L Gill and T Gill gave notice of their interest in Planning Application 14/5671N.

**109(a) MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2015**

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> January 2015 be approved subject to:-

(a) the amendment of Minute Number 97 to refer to Weston Lane

(b) the amendment of Minute Number 100(b) to read

100(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 for submission 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.

**(b) MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD 3<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY 2015**

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

## **110. MATTERS ARISING**

### **(a) Maintenance of Road signs.**

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

### **(b) Maintenance of Countryside Park**

A site meeting had been held with Cheshire East Officers and the area inspected and its condition noted. The Officers would now approach Haddon Properties to bring this matter to their attention with a view to securing improvement.

### **(c) School Transport Questionnaire-Wychwood Village**

Councillor J Clowes reported that the work on this was not yet completed.

## **111. POLICE MATTERS**

PCSO J Raynor reported that PC N. Moore had sustained an injury and was currently on sick leave.

There had been 3 incidents of crime in the Parish and 1 incident of anti-social behaviour in January.

**RESOLVED:** That the best wishes of the Parish Council be conveyed to PC Moore.

## **112. PLANNING MATTERS**

### **(a) Minutes of Planning Committee held 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015(as appended to these Minutes) be approved and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

**NOTE:** Councillors J Edwards, L Gill and T Gill declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussions nor voted thereon.

### **(b) Local Plan**

The Chairman of the Planning Committee explained that whilst the Examination in Public of the Local Plan had been suspended the Plan had not been disregarded. He had attended a Workshop along with Andrew Thomson to consider Green Belt and Spatial Distribution issues and the Parish Council would be consulted further in due course. Subsequent to the Workshop the concerns of the Parish Council concerning the Plan had been reiterated in writing to Cheshire East Council.

### **(c) Neighbourhood Plan**

The Chairman of the Planning Committee reported on a meeting of the Steering Group and provided copies of the note of the meeting for Members.

Cheshire East Council was inviting comments on the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan based on the Parish Boundary and Members along with residents present were requested to add their support.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk be authorised to take all necessary steps to arrange a Bank Account to administer the financial matters of preparing the Plan, signatories to the Account to be the Chairman of the Planning Committee and the Clerk.

(d) Basford West (Spine Road) and Basford East (Crewe Green Link Rd) liaison Groups

The Chairman of the Planning Committee reported that the construction work on the Basford West Spine Road was due for completion by July 2015 and would require a 10 week road closure diverting traffic onto the primary road network. This presented a danger of Main Road Weston becoming a shortcut. Councillor Hammond had formally requested, on behalf of the Parish Council, the introduction of a temporary 7.5 tonne weight limit along Main Road Weston, the order to run from 27<sup>th</sup> April for an initial period of 6 months.

Work to construct the Basford East Crewe Green Link Road had required pile driving which had caused considerable disturbance to local residents. Any further work of this nature would be notified to residents in advance. It was intended that the new bridge would be moved into place over Easter. To compensate for the inconvenience the Construction Company had offered to carry out work in the Parish at no cost and Members were invited to inform the Chairman of any suitable schemes.

(e) Letter to Secretary of State

Further to Minute Number 100(b) this letter had now been sent and an acknowledgment received from the Planning Inspectorate. Edward Timpson MP had also responded pledging his support.

The Parish Council's Planning Consultant, Mr A Thomson would be attending the next meeting of the CHALC Crewe & Nantwich Area Meeting to advise the group on the preparation of evidenced based information to enable them to put forward a robust case to Cheshire East Council for the inclusion of a South Cheshire Green Belt in the Local Plan.

(f) Additional Member of Planning Committee

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Peter Grant be appointed to serve on the Planning Committee.

(g) Minor Highways Schemes

An item would be included on the March Agenda to invite Members to list and prioritise schemes for inclusion in this programme.

### **113. CROTIA MILL-ALLOTMENT GROUP**

The Chairman reported that items which had been tipped had been removed by Cheshire East Council but that signs were required to deter further tipping.

The land-owners' Agent had been approached regarding a blocked culvert and a further report would be submitted.

### **114. REPORT OF CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLOR**

Councillor J Clowes presented apologise from Councillor J Hammond.

Consideration of the legal position regarding the S106 Agreement relating to the Wychwood development was being explored and it was felt that the most satisfactory solution would be for the Wychwood Community Group to seek independent legal advice including Counsel's opinion.

Councillor J Hammond had arranged for a Speed Indication Device (SID) to be made available, on loan to the Parish Council.

The problem of mud on the carriageway in Snape Lane had been reported and dealt with. The issue of unauthorised tipping on land in Englesea Brook was still being pursued by the Enforcement Officer.

#### **115. PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Councillor T Gill reported that the last house under construction at Wychwood Village now had a roof.

Councillor P Grant reported that he had raised several matters with Cheshire East Council including the flooding at Piggins Bank.

Councillor E Dickenson reported that the grit bin at Basford Bridge had been damaged by fire some time ago and had not been replaced.

Members expressed concern at the number of street lights which were not working and the Clerk informed the Council that he had asked for the area to be 'Scouted' to ensure that all lights needing attention were dealt with.

Tipping **off** Mere Road continued to be a problem and the area had been visited by Cheshire East Officers and details as to ownership had been made available. There were environmental concerns due to the nature of the items being tipped and the nearby watercourse.

The Laurel hedge at Cemetery Road/Whites Lane, which had been reported, had not been attended to and continued to present a danger.

The trees outside the Church had not been cut back despite being referred to Cheshire East Council some 14 months previously. This had been raised by the Clerk with the Leader of the Council and the work was scheduled to be carried out in week commencing 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

Councillor J Edwards expressed his appreciation to the Chairman for his prompt action in dealing with the damaged fence at Wychwood Village Hall. Councillor J Clowes referred to the request for signage to deter parking in the turning area which had not been provided.

#### **116. 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 there had been incidences of tipping at Snape Lane which had been dealt with by the Borough Council.

The pot holes in Snape Lane had now been filled in. The issue of overhanging branches obstructing the footpath along Snape Lane was raised. This needed urgent attention before the forthcoming nesting season.

A traffic survey had revealed that 570 vehicles per hour were passing the entrance to Crewe Hall and it was felt that an origin and destination survey would be helpful. This had been formally requested by the Parish Council.

#### **117. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

##### **(a) Authorisation of Payments**

**RESOLVED** That the following payments be authorised

D G Owen Salary 1st – 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2015 Stationery and Postages	663.07
D G Owen-Printing of Special Council Flyers	80.00
D Williamson January Invoice	182.75

##### **(b) Income Received**

The Clerk reported on the following receipts from Wychwood Village Hall Management Committee

Repayment of Loan	1000.00
Cropper Invoice	150.00
Hall Insurance	815.02
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1965.02</b>

#### **118. DATE OF NEXT MEETING -12<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2015**

#### **119. FUTURE MEETINGS-**

April Parish Council Meeting Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2015

Annual Parish Meeting Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2015

May Parish Council Meeting and AGM 21st May 2015

#### **120. 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.

**121. WYCHWOOD VILLAGE HALL**

The Chairman reported that consequent upon the completion of the residential development a parcel of land would come into the Council's ownership.

**RESOLVED:** That the proposed acquisition be approved on the terms now reported.

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CHAIRMAN