

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WESTON AND BASFORD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD 12th APRIL 2012

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

181 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.

182 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8th March 2012

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th March 2012 be approved as a correct record, subject to the amendment of Minute Number 171 to refer to the 'anticipated 'start date of the Cemetery Scheme in 2014/15.

183 MATTERS ARISING

(i) The Clerk reported that Network Rail had indicated that the replacement of the coping stones missing from the Casey Lane Bridge had been included in the 2012/13 programme but that a start date for the work had not been fixed.

(ii) The Parish Council discussed the continuing problem of parking at the School and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman reported on a meeting which they had attended. A letter was to be sent to parents by the Police and it was proposed that children attending the School be invited to enter a poster competition aimed at discouraging indiscriminate parking.

(iii) The Clerk reported that there had been no response from Barthomley Parish Council to the request for assistance with the Speed Watch Scheme and that this would be pursued.

(iv) The Clerk was requested to contact the Borough Council regarding the flooding problem at Mere Road.

(v) Further to Minute Number 164 the Vice –Chairman reminded Members to check the Kissing Gates in their areas and to report any which needed to be secured.

184 TWO SAINTS WAY

Further to the presentation at the March meeting the Vice-Chairman reported on a meeting in Lichfield which he had attended with Mr D Fanstone and on the benefits to Parishes along the route of the Two Saints Way becoming involved with the project.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council formally pursue the possibility of adopting a section of the route which passes through the Parish.

185 PUBLIC FORUM-QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

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

Concern was expressed at the continuing problem of the semi- derelict bungalow in Cemetery Road next door to the vicarage and Borough Councillor J Hammond undertook to raise this matter again with Cheshire East Borough Council.

Mr T Longstaff reported that the two additional Speedwatch signs had not yet been provided and Councillor Hammond agreed to pursue this with the appropriate officer at the Borough Council

186 POLICE MATTERS

PC N Moore reported that there had been 10 incidents of crime in the Parish in March, 4 of these relating to an incident of theft at one location. There had also been a case of anti-social behaviour regarding parking at the School.

187 SPEEDWATCH SCHEME

Mr T Longstaff reported that 7 sessions had been held resulting in 281 offences being recorded of which 95 had been referred to the Police for warning letters. Since February 2009 279 sessions had been held, 15957 offences noted and 4103 incidents referred to the Police.

188 PARISH PLAN

Mr D Fanstone reported on progress made by the Parish Plan Implementation Group with particular reference to the proposed Voluntary Litter Picking Scheme. A number of proposed projects were candidates for possible funding by Cheshire Community Action and would be discussed at a meeting which he and the Vice Chairman were to attend.

The necessary equipment for the Litter Picking Scheme had now been received (8 sets of highviz vests, litter pickers, sacks, and sack bands) and was ready for collection along with an information/Health & Safety sheet which Don Fanstone had prepared. Parish Councillors were asked to indicate the areas for which they would take responsibility. Mr D. Williamson would continue to cover the main areas.

189 DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Mr D. Fanstone reported in detail on the events proposed to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee on the weekend of 2nd June.

The Chairman reported that a bench would be placed at the Church with a suitable plaque to commemorate the event. A diamond flowerbed had been prepared and it was intended that this would be planted with Diamond Jubilee Roses in the autumn.

RESOLVED: That the appreciation of the Parish Council be conveyed to J Wilkinson, Auto Engineers in Shavington for their assistance in powder coating the bench.

190 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

(i) 2012/13 Bidding Round for Minor Schemes

(ii) It was reported that the Pedestrian Refuge on the C522 Main Road, Weston had been approved and provision of £5000 had been included in the 2012/13 budget. Members expressed their appreciation to Councillor J Hammond for his support for this scheme.

(iii) Main Road Weston-Progress

It was reported that the carriageway lining had now been carried out.

191 REPORT OF CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS

Cheshire East Councillor J Hammond reported on the recent visit to the recycling plant at Shotton with Councillor T Gill and the wish of the Borough Council for all residents to participate as fully as possible in recycling.

The list of possible schemes for inclusion in the 2013/14 bidding round would be available for consideration at the June meeting.

Consultation on the new Interim Planning Policy intended to safeguard the 'green gap' were about to take place and a new framework on Standards was being prepared.

Borough Councillor J Clowes reported that the Southern Area Planning Board was finding that sustainable development (economic, social and environmental) needed to be fully demonstrated and supported in the consideration of planning applications.

No progress had been made regarding the Coach bay at Wychwood Village. It would be necessary for building work to be completed before this scheme could be implemented.

There were problems with buses picking up students travelling to study outside the area and issues to be addressed regarding the moving of Bus Stops. The difficulties caused by the wooden bollards remained but this situation would continue to be addressed.

192 PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor T Gill reported on the visit to the Shotton Recycling Centre and undertook to prepare a report for inclusion in the Newsletter. He reminded Members of the importance to adhere to the guidelines in placing rubbish in the appropriate bin to assist the recycling process.

Whilst there appeared to be no current commitment to the Litter Picking Scheme at Wychwood Village there was not a great problem with litter in the area.

Councillor P. Latham asked whether maps showing the footpaths in the area were available and was advised to contact Councillor J Chambers.

Councillor A Dickenson asked how the litter collected was disposed of and was advised that there were collection points for this or, where appropriate, small quantities could be disposed of with household rubbish.

Councillor L Dickenson reported that the Passing Place sign in Casey Lane was missing but that the post was still in position.

Councillor D Sandry reported that there was a small nucleus of residents in Wychwood Village interested in participating in local activities and it was hoped that this would expand over a period of time.

The Chairman explained that the Lengthsman, David Williamson, welcomed the Litter Picking initiative as he was unable to cover the whole of the Parish although he would be continuing to deal with the main areas.

A local resident had submitted a letter complaining of loss of light due to trees which needed to be thinned and also of traffic noise in the area – a response had been sent.

193 PLANNING MATTERS –CHESHIRE EAST STRATEGIC HOUSING LAND AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT

Further to the discussions held at the Planning Committee at its meeting held immediately prior to the Parish Council meeting Members considered the suggested response to the Borough Council's request for comments.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: That the following comments be made:-

A Parish Plan was produced for Weston & Basford in March last year following a comprehensive survey which resulted in a response rate of 41% of the residents. It is explicit within this document that the Parish has been subjected to intense development pressures over the last decade, to the extent of which, in the judgment of our community, the physical infrastructure (roads, drainage etc.) is already overloaded beyond capacity.

In this context we are unable to put forward any suggestions for further development within the existing village envelopes.

The Council's response to the Local Development Framework Place Shaping Consultation in September 2011 considered the potential for new development. The point was made that the Parish Council was not blind to the fact that the area needed to evolve and prosper in the future. Given the sheer size of Basford East it was

considered that there may be potential for some additional housing within an attractive setting within this location

194 FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Mr D Williamson	March 2012	176.00
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Mr D G Owen	Net salary March (Including office costs/internet)	257.54
	Travel	9.00

V I Distribution Hi Viz Vests	55.20
Helping Hand Litter Pickers	30.00
Robert Acton Litter Picking Equipment	18.00
J Densem Gift Voucher (Interim Clerk)	40.00
J Densem Travel Expenses (35 miles@45p)	15.75
HMRC TAX deducted from Clerk's Salary	108.12
J Cornell Travel Expenses (80 miles@45p)	36.00
J Cornell Ink Cartridges	18.49

195 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk submitted a letter from CVS Cheshire East Payroll Services offering to continue to provide this service in 2012/13 at a cost of £96.00.

RESOLVED: That the arrangement with CVS be continued for a further year.

196 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS:-

Annual Parish Meeting 26th April 2012 7.30pm
Annual Parish Council Meeting 10th May2012 7.30pm

197 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.

198 FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Parish Council considered the financial arrangements for Wychwood Village Hall.

RESOLVED: That, subject to satisfactory terms being available, the monies be deposited with Scottish Widows.
