

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF WESTON AND BASFORD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD 10TH MAY 2012

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

NOTE: THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL TOOK THE CHAIR FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

1 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.

2 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: That Councillor J Densem be appointed Chairman to serve until the next Annual Meeting

3 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: That Councillor J Cornell be appointed Vice-Chairman to serve until the next Annual Meeting.

4 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The Parish Council considered the current membership of committees and representatives to outside bodies.

RESOLVED: That, subject to review at a future meeting, the current memberships be confirmed.

5 PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS

RESOLVED: That Parish Council meeting be held on the second Thursday each month (except August) and that, subject to there being sufficient business, the Planning Committee meet immediately prior to the Parish Council meeting.

I **NOTE: AT THIS POINT COUNCILLOR J DENSEM ASSUMED THE CHAIR**

6 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 12TH April 2012

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th April 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7 MATTERS ARISING

(i) Speedwatch Scheme. The Clerk reported that the request for assistance from Barthomley Parish Council was to be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting of that Council. Members requested that PC Moore stress to Barthomley Parish Council the advantages of putting forward volunteers.

(ii) Flooding at Mere Road Weston. The Clerk reported that he had made contact with the Borough Council to ascertain progress in this matter and was awaiting a reply.

(iii) Kissing Gates. Further to Minutes 164 and 183 Members were asked to inform the Lengthsman, Mr D Williamson, if any of the Kissing Gates in their areas needed to be secured.

(iv) 11 Cemetery Road Weston. Further to Minute 185 Borough Councillor J Hammond reported that the owner of this property was seeking financial assistance from the Borough Council to bring it into good repair.

8 PUBLIC FORUM-QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

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

It was reported that there was a proposal to reduce the frequency of visits by the Mobile Library to the Parish and the detrimental effect that this would have.

The continuing problem of potholes was discussed with reference to the Borough Council's website which had a facility for reporting highways in need of attention. There was an average delay of 4/5 weeks in dealing with Category A potholes (those with 2" depth)

RESOLVED (a) That the continuation of the Mobile Library Service at its present level be supported.

(b) That the Parish Council website incorporate links to the Borough Council's site to facilitate comments being made to support the Mobile Library Service and to enable residents to report potholes.

9 POLICE MATTERS

PC N Moore reported in detail on 7 incidents of crime in the Parish in April. There had also been 4 instances of anti-social behaviour.

10 SPEEDWATCH SCHEME

Mr T Longstaff was unable to attend the meeting and Mr D Fanstone reported that 3 sessions had been held in April and that a further 2 were planned. The Speedwatch signs had been erected and Members expressed their appreciation to Councillor J Hammond and PC N Moore for their assistance in this matter.

11 PARISH PLAN

Mr D Fanstone reported on progress made by the Parish Plan Implementation Group with particular reference to the Voluntary Litter Picking scheme.

12 DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Further to Minute Number 152 and 169 Mr D Fanstone reported in detail on the programme of events to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of HM The Queen . A cheque in the sum of £100 had been received as a grant to assist in the funding of the events. The Chairman appealed for help both in preparing for the event and on the day.

13 ALLOTMENTS

The Chairman reported on the successful organisation and management of the Allotments and congratulated those involved on bring the community together. The new water supply was imminent and would be of great benefit to the operation.

14 REPORT OF CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLOR

Councillor J Hammond reported that there had been a further meeting to consider the on-going problem of parking at the School and that the cost of various options would be examined at a future meeting. And the Road Cheshire East Borough Council was to allow free parking for the Jubilee weekend of 4-6th June. He also reported on the Mayor's Street Party and Beacon event in the Queens Park, Crewe. Cemetery Road was to be closed on 31st May from 9.30am to allow work on the power lines but the Chairman had been assured that this work would be completed and the Road reopened to ensure that the Jubilee events would not be affected.

The Borough Council was conducting a Public Transport Consultation exercise from 27th April to 22nd June an residents were urged to submit their views.

RESOLVED: That a link be established form the Parish website to enable residents to access the Borough Council website to register their comments.

15 PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor T Eatough reported that the Litter Bins at East Avenue and Mere Road were in need of replacement. The Clerk reminded Members that this issue had been raised with the Borough Council and that a limited amount of replacement bins was available.

Councillor A E Dickenson reported that the footpath at the rear of Larch Avenue, Basford was overgrown with Nettles and requested that this be brought to the attention of the Borough Council.

Councillor M Jones reported that there was graffiti on the Weston Lane Bridge and a tyre in the lay-by.

In the absence of Councillor J Chambers the Chairman reported on the number of visits to various parts of the website.

16 PLANNING MATTERS

(i) The Council received, for information, the Minutes of the Planning Committee at its meeting held 12th April 2012.

(ii) Consultation on Revised Interim Planning Policy on the Release of Land

The Council considered and approved the recommendation of the Planning Committee.

RESOLVED (a) That the suggested Cheshire East criteria upon which proposals for housing development would be assessed within the Crewe area, pending the finalisation of the Local Plan, be agreed subject to the following additions:-

- *Bullet point 2 – add Green Belt in addition to Green Gap.
- *Is self-contained within clear defensible boundaries.
- *Is very closely related to the existing framework of the settlement
- *Is fully in accordance with the Open Countryside Policies contained within the Crewe & Nantwich Replacement Local Plan (2011), in particular NE2
- * Is fully in accordance with the Conservation Area Policies contained within the Conservation Area Policies within the Crewe & Nantwich Replacement Local Plan (2011) in particular BE7

(b) That the Parish Council express its concern that additional robust safeguards should be put in place to ensure that the intrinsic character of the villages and hamlets which make up the Parish would be retained and enhanced in the face of any additional development pressures.

17 FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Mr D Williamson Lengthsman	160.00
Mr D G Owen Salary 1 st to 30 TH April Including office expenses	250.73
Cropper Grounds Maintenance September 2011-March 2012	480.00
A Witter reimbursement for hedge cutting	46.80
JDH Business Services –Audit Fee	108.00
Chairman’s allowance	250.00
All Saints Church Weston-Room Hire	150.00
E Dickenson-Refreshments Parish Meeting	10.00
D Fanstone-Easter Friendship Club Lunch	20.21
D Fanstone- Refreshments parish Meeting	15.98
M Jones- Refreshments Parish Meeting	62.78

The Clerk reported that the Parish Compact in the sum of £1680.00 had been received from the Borough Council and the Chairman expressed his thanks to all who had assisted in the arrangements for the Parish Meeting.

18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING-14th June 2012 at the Church Hall Weston

CHAIRMAN