

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WESTON AND BASFORD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD 14th JUNE 2012

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

19. 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.

20. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 10TH May 2012

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th May 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to the amendment of Minute Number 13 by the inclusion of:-

‘A recent liaison meeting had taken place between Members of the Parish Council and representatives of the Allotments Group. This had proved to be most beneficial and it had been agreed to hold such meeting at the beginning and end of each allotment season.’

21. MATTERS ARISING

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 - (i) Flooding at Mere Road Weston. The Clerk reported that he had urged this matter with the Borough Council and was awaiting a reply.
 - (ii) Mobile Library Service. Further to Minute Number 8 it was reported that Cheshire East Borough Council had carried out a review of the service and that it would now operate on three week timetable with one vehicle rather than the current two week timetable with three vehicles.
 - (iii) Footpath at the rear of Larch Avenue, Basford. The condition of this footpath remained unsatisfactory and enquiries were to be made to ascertain the ownership
 - (iv) Weston Lane Bridge. The graffiti on this bridge had been reported to Network Rail and the rubbish in the area had been removed.
 - (v) Litter Bins. Members discussed the need to replace several litter bins and dog bins in the Parish. Cheshire East Council had indicated that a limited number of replacement bins may be available although it was possible that the Council may need to consider purchasing bins if the Borough Council had insufficient to meet the Council's requirements.

22. 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 recent flooding of Whites Lane. It was suggested that this may be due to the exceptionally heavy rainfall and the situation would be kept under review.

23. POLICE MATTERS

PC N Moore reported in detail on 4 incidents of crime in the Parish in May. There had also been 3 instances of anti-social behaviour.

24. SPEEDWATCH SCHEME

Mr T Longstaff was unable to attend the meeting but had submitted a written report.

7 sessions had been held in May with 181 offences noted and 82 incidents being referred to the Police. On 23rd May a 'Driver Engagement Day' had been held in conjunction with the Police and the Fire and Rescue Service. 3 sessions were held and 15 offences noted and dealt with by Officers.

A further 2 recruits had been trained to assist at the sessions.

25. PARISH PLAN

Mr D Fanstone reported on progress made by the Parish Plan Implementation Group.

26. PARISH NEWSLETTER

The Chairman reported that over 1000 copies of the Newsletter had been circulated in time for the Jubilee Celebrations and thanked all those who had assisted in this. It was intended that the next edition would be published in September/October.

27. DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Further to Minute Number 152 and 169(2011/12) and 12 Mr D Fanstone reported in detail on the programme of events held to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of HM The Queen. He presented a brief slide show depicting the highlights of the day. On Friday 22nd June there was to be a free event in the Church Hall to enable residents to see the presentation.

RESOLVED: That the sincere thanks of the Council be accorded to Mr Fanstone and all who contributed to the success of the occasion.

28. DIAL- A- RIDE

It was reported that Cheshire East Borough Council was now operating the Dial-a- Ride Service and bookings could be made, 24 hours in advance, on 0845 077 9110.

The service was available to all existing members with no annual membership charge.

29. REPORT OF CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS

Councillor J Hammond reported that the lane markings at Crewe Green roundabout had been changed in an effort to ease traffic flow. This was to be for an experimental period and if successful would be implemented on a permanent basis.

Priorities for the Highways Minor Works Programme 2012/13 were to be submitted by 23rd July.

There was to be a meeting of the Cheshire Association of Local Councils on 28th June when the Guest Speaker was to be Councillor Michael Jones, the Leader of Cheshire East Borough Council.

Councillor J Clowes reported on the progress with traffic issues at Wychwood Village and that the proposed relocation of the bus stop did not meet safety requirements.

The Borough Council was conducting a public consultation on Health and Social Care with particular reference to its Healthwatch initiative and Health and Wellbeing strategy.

30. PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor E Dickenson reported that a resident of Basford had requested a greater presence of a PCSO in the area. PC Moore explained that limited resources were available but that he would encourage the PCSO for the area to attend local events and meet with residents where possible.

Councillor A E Dickenson reported that the Annual General Meeting of the Wybunbury United Charities would be held on 26th June 2012.

Councillor T Gill reported that he had been appointed a Governor of Weston Primary School.

Councillor J Chambers reported concerns at the speed of the School bus in Spinney Drive and PC Moore undertook to look into the situation.

Councillor Chambers also detailed the number of visits to the Parish web-site.

The Council discussed the arrangements which the Borough Council had in place for grass cutting in the area.

Councillor T Eatough reported that she had been contacted by a local resident regarding the urgent need for maintenance work at Weston Cemetery. This matter had now been dealt with.

A substantial pothole had developed in Cemetery Road and was presenting a danger to cyclists.

31. FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Mr D Williamson Lengthsman	192.00
Mr D G Owen Salary 1 st to 31 st May Including office expenses	251.05
HMRC Final Payment for tax 2011/2012	122.08
Cowdall Printers – Parish Newsletter/Posters	147.40
J Densem Reimbursement for cost of Engraving of plaque Jubilee Bench	15.00
A Parker- concrete for base of bench	53.00
Weston and Basford PCC 50% of profit of Jubilee events	125.00

The Clerk reported that the Accounts had been inspected by the Internal Auditor and that, subject to some minor issues had been found satisfactory. A meeting of the Finance Committee would be arranged in the near future.

The Clerk reported that the sum of £1802.00 had been received from the Borough Council as a grant to reflect the fact that not all parts of the Borough are subject to a Parish precept.

32. CODE OF CONDUCT

The Clerk reported on the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 for Parish Councils to adopt a Code of Conduct to prescribe the standards required of elected and co-opted Members.

RESOLVED: That with effect from the coming into force of Section 27 of the Localism Act 2011 the Code of Conduct adopted by Cheshire East Borough Council be adopted as this Council's Code of Conduct, on the basis that references in the Code to the Borough Council's register are to this Council's register.

33. CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman reported receipt of a letter from a local resident raising various local issues. The Chairman had subsequently visited and discussed these with the resident and dealt with the matters raised.

34. WYCHWOOD VILLAGE HALL

It was reported that a meeting of the Wychwood Village Hall (Weston and Basford) Charity had been held on 28th May 2012. The Chairman, Carol Richards, had stepped down from her post and members expressed their appreciation of her work in ensuring the success of the Hall.

RESOLVED: That a letter of thanks be sent to Mrs Carol Richards.

35. PUBLIC TRANSPORT CONSULTATION

It was reported that the Borough Council was currently undertaking a Public Transport Consultation to ascertain the most effective use of resources.

36. DATE OF NEXT MEETING-12TH JULY 2012.

37. 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.

NOTE: The Clerk also left the room during the discussion on this item.

38. STAFFING MATTERS

The Council considered the current arrangements for the remuneration of the Clerk.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk's hours of work and remuneration be amended as now detailed.

CHAIRMAN