

WESTON AND BASFORD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
HELD 12th SEPTEMBER 2013

PRESENT

Councillor J Densem (Chairman)
Councillor J Cornell (Vice Chairman)

Councillors J Chamberlain, J Chambers, A E Dickenson, E Dickenson,
T. Eatough, L Gill, T.Gill, M Jones and P Latham.

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillors J Clowes and J Hammond
P C N Moore

50. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

51. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 11th JULY 2013

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th July 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

52. MATTERS ARISING

Damaged lamp posts Weston Hall and Wychwood Park/Village roundabouts.

The Borough Council had carried out further work on the Roundabouts and the remaining work was programmed for October 2013.

53. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) The Council received, for information, the Minutes of the Planning Committee held 24th May 2013.

(b) Local Plan update

Chairman of the Planning Committee reported on discussions which had taken place on the draft Local Plan and the questionnaire which had resulted in a 50% response with the substantial majority of residents supporting the stance adopted by the Parish Council in previous discussions.

The Chairman expressed his appreciation to Mr G Cooke for his analysis of the responses and to Borough Councillor J Hammond for his support in the discussions.

A meeting of the Strategic Planning Board was to be held on 26th September followed by a 6 week consultation period following which the Plan would be submitted to the Secretary of State for approval.

An Examination in Public would be held in the Spring of 2014.

The Chairman and Members of the Parish Council expressed their thanks to Councillor Cornell for his work in guiding and representing the Council in this complex matter.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

(a) That the Parish Council strongly opposes the Haddon Properties bid for development at Wychwood Village and the Co-op bid for development on Weston Hall Estate.

(b) That the Parish Council supports the principles contained in the Master Plan for Basford East as presented in the Public Consultation Exercise in November 2012.

(c) That the Parish Council will only support the principle of any development at Village A if it is drastically reduced in size from the Duchy proposal, sited wholly to the north of the Crewe to Derby Railway line, kept totally clear of the Potential Development Site D1 as defined in the Draft Crewe Town Strategy Consultation and is designed as a high quality development to complement Stowford. All this is subject to the ability of the existing infrastructure being able to satisfactorily accommodate such a development. It is also conditional upon additional Green Gap or Green Belt protection being provided around Weston Village and an assurance that no further development allocations will be made in the Local Plan within any of the communities which make up the Parish of Weston & Basford.

54. POLICE MATTERS

There had been 1 incident of crime and 5 of anti-social behaviour in the Parish in July with 2 incidents of crime and 3 of anti-social behaviour in August.

Problems with fly tipping at the Allotment site and incidents at Snape Lane were being kept under review.

PC Moore thanked Mr A. Jeffries for his continuing efforts on the Speedwatch Scheme in association with Mr D Tew, a member of the Shavington Scheme.

55. WILDLIFE AMENITY AREA

The Parish Council considered a report, prepared by Councillor P Latham, detailing the history of this area and proposing action for its maintenance and improvement.

Volunteers were needed to establish a Wildlife Area Group which could investigate possible grant aid for environmental improvements to the site.

Jemma Day was present at the meeting and offered to use her contacts to assist in the matter.

The Chairman reported that Mr D Williamson had been asked to tidy the area as an interim measure and several attempts had been made to contact the Community Payback Team with a view to them undertaking maintenance works.

It was agreed that further work was required in establishing a long term sustainable use for this area.

RESOLVED: That a progress report be submitted to the October meeting.

56. SPEEDWATCH SCHEME

Mr A Jeffries reported that Mr D Tew, a member of the Shavington Speedwatch Team had assisting in holding a session in Basford and that he had helped with a session in Shavington. It was hoped to hold a session in Englesea Brook.

The Chairman appealed for more members to take part to enable additional sessions to be held.

57. HIGHWAYS MATTERS-MINOR HIGHWAY SCHEMES 2014/2015

Further to Minute Numbers 25 and 41 it was reported that the Borough Council's decision as to which schemes were to be included in the programme had been deferred until 8th November 2013.

RESOLVED: That the schemes detailed in Minute Number 41 be reaffirmed for inclusion in the 2014/2015 programme in order of priority.

58. WHITES LANE/WESTON LANE, BASFORD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The Chairman reported on a meeting when he and the Vice-Chairman had met held with PC N Moore and Mrs J Gilbert of the Borough Council's Highways Department to consider the traffic count for this area.

It was reported that sufficient funds had been allocated to enable the scheme to be implemented.

59. CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor J Hammond reported that the Strategic Planning Board would meet on 26th September to consider the Local Plan which would go to the Borough Council on 17th October. The Borough Council would be starting a review of local area working across Cheshire East, to develop a joint approach to localism and creating resilient communities.

In advance of this Review, the Partnerships Team was seeking feedback from as many people as possible regarding their involvement in the work of the LAP which would be used to inform and shape the local area working review.

Crewe Senior Forum was to hold a Health and Wellbeing Fair on 2nd October at the Oakley Centre from 11am to 4pm.

Community Resilience Speed Training Events were to be held on 28th October in Congleton and on 31st October at Malbank School, Nantwich. Parish Councils had been requested to review their Resilience Plans to ensure that they contained up to date details.

Councillor Hammond urged Members to sign the Petition regarding funding for rural communities.

Councillor J Clowes reported that a petition calling for the safe-guarding of the Green Belt and Green Gap would be presented at the Strategic Planning Board.

A meeting to discuss the HS2 proposals was to be held at Wychwood Village Hall on Wednesday 18th September at 7.30pm. This would be followed by a meeting on 9th October to which each Parish Council could send 1 Member.

The proposed road works on the A531 had been delayed but would start shortly would result in the road being closed for 5 days.

60. PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor M Jones requested that the Parish Council express it's thanks to Mr D Owen of 15 Hollymount, Basford for his work in cutting the grass and planting. The Bus Shelter in Basford was in need of renovation and the Clerk was asked to arrange with Mr D Williamson for the necessary work to be carried out.

Councillor J Chambers reported on the number of visits to the web-site where the Meetings and What's New pages continued to attract the most visits. He was also to carry out the requested review of the Resilience Plan.

Councillor P Latham reported on the problems with tipping at Mere Road particularly the alleged tipping of chemicals. The Clerk undertook to raise this with the Borough Council.

The Chairman reported that the White Lion would be closed for renovation works in October and that following discussions agreement had been reached regarding parents using the car park when dropping and collecting children from School. The Borough Council had carried out repairs to the surface of the car park.

The extension of Weston Cemetery was now a matter of urgency and an item would be included on the Agenda for the October meeting.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to Mrs Quigley of Whites Lane for her work in clearing over-grown vegetation from the pavement.

61. OPEN FORUM-QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

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

It was reported that the damaged pavement in Cemetery Road, adjacent to the Vicarage, had not yet been repaired.

The steps on Footpath Weston FP4 were over-grown and presenting a hazard to pedestrians.

62. FINANCIAL MATTERS

RESOLVED (a) That payments of accounts paid during the recess be approved as follows:-

Royal Mail Group Ltd-Licence for reply service	103.20
D G Owen Salary 1 st July to 31 July Stationery and Postages	554.69
CVS Cheshire East-Payroll services	48.00
Cowdalls Printers-Questionnaires/Envelopes	352.80
Weston Allotment Group-Rent/Water	875.00*
D Williamson July Invoice	182.75
BDO LLP External Audit Fee	120.00
ITEMS TO BE REIMBURSED BY WYCHWOOD VILLAGE HALL	
E-On Electricity	52.53
United Utilities –Water 24/4/13-24/7/13	41.78

*Note-800.00 was to be reimbursed by the Agents for the Land-owner

(b) That the following payments be authorised:-

Mr D G Owen Salary 1 st to 31 st August 2013 Postages	535.70
Royal Mail Response Services 426 @ 34p (Inc. VAT)	173.95
HMRC Tax July-September 2013	374.40
J Cornell Scanning and Printing	25.00
WYCHWOOD VILLAGE HALL – TO BE REIMBURSED	
E-On Electricity	78.76

63. INCOME

The Clerk reported that:-

- (a) The 2nd instalment of the precept, £6980.00 had been received from the Borough Council
- (b) The VAT for the period 1st November 2012 to 31st March 2013 had been reclaimed and the sum of £605.81 had been credited to the Council's account.

64. AUDIT REPORT 2012/2013

The Parish Council received the report of the External Auditor on the Accounts for Year-ended 31st March 2013.

65. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 17th October 2013

66. 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

67. ALLOTMENTS

Further to Minute Number 18 the Chairman reported on further discussions.

Chairman