

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WISTASTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2022 AT 7.30 P.M.
AT WISTASTON MEMORIAL HALL

Present: Cllr. J. Moore (Chairman)
 Cllrs. R. Squirrell, D. Lucas, D. Millington, G. Roberts, D. Houston, M.Simon

In Attendance: Kerri Wilcox (Clerk) PC Clark

63 APOLOGIES Cllrs T Kilkenny & S Perry

64 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 20th October 2022, be approved, and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

65 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared

66 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION / POLICE MATTERS / CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS

PC Clark reported that he has unfortunately been put on response of the past few months and has been unable to be out around the Parish so there has been several incidents as there has not been a large police presence. There has been a break in at St Mary's Church Hall where there was the Poppy collection stolen which the CCTV images have been released on social media for information. There has been drug taking in Bluebell woods and anti-social behaviour on several estates around the Parish. He is now back on the beat so is hopeful this will all decrease. There is currently a temporary PCSO helping out in Wistaston / Willaston area but there should be a new PCSO allocated within the next few weeks. Cllr Simon reported that the planning application decision on Herrick Close is due any day, a safety assessment has taken place of the roundabout at Valley Road / Wistaston Green road and it has been decided it does not need moving. Cllr Simon has mentioned to them about the faded road lines and the signs needing to be replaced as they cannot be seen very well at which point Cllr Moore mentioning Crewe Road having fading road lines. Cllr Simon also reported that she has been reporting lots of pot holes reappearing / faulty street lights and the gullies need emptying to Cheshire East. The repairs to the Connect 2 pathway have been prioritised as there has been further corrosion to the bank. There has been a 3 way collision at the junction of Church Lane / Crewe Road / Coop entrance.

67 Planning Matters

The following item was **RESOLVED**.

(i) New Planning Applications

Planning views following consultation with Planning Subcommittee.

22/4193N – Provision of Nursery Unit within existing site boundary - Wistaston Church Lane Academy, Church Lane – **No Comments**

22/4309N – Proposed extension & alterations to existing dormer – 18 Princess Drive
- **No Comments**

(ii) The following planning decisions have been notified from Cheshire East Council

22/2358N - Internal and external alterations to an existing C2 Use property to create three supported living apartments and associated staff room – 552 Crewe Rd – **Withdrawn**

22/2532N - Proposed front & rear one and half storey extension, with replacement flat roof dormer windows front & rear – 2 Broughton Lane – **Approved with conditions.**

22/2124N – Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension – 68 Millrace Dr
Refused

22/2490N – Side Elevation Single storey extension – 4 Alvaston Cottages, Middlewich Rd
Approved with conditions

68 CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

The Chairman’s report was received and accepted by the Council.

1. SID

The Chairman reported that the post shall be installed week commencing 21st November 2022 and both the Clerk and Cllr Squirrell had undertaken training in controlling the unit via an app.

2. CHalc AGM

The Chairman attended the meeting held on the 24th October.

Key points;

It was a well-attended AGM with over 63 delegates. The agenda had only 2 motions to discuss. The Chairman Brian Kerr is to retire after 49 years’ service in local, district and national council's. The finances are in good order and a small increase in subscription's have been agreed for 2022/3 with a 1p increase in affiliation fee.

Fee details 36p per elector

Maximum fee £1407.04

New Board members are to be elected, results of ballot to be published later.

Meeting papers of the annual report and accounts are available on request.

3. Northwest in Bloom Awards

The Chairman reported that Wistaston in Bloom won their fourth ‘Gold Award 2022 in the Town Category’, whilst Wistaston Conservation Group once again won a ‘2022 It’s Your Neighbourhood Award of Level 5 – Outstanding’ for the Joey the Swan parkland in Wistaston.

This year Wistaston also won the ‘Best Town Award 2022’ and Cheshire East Council’s ‘The Pride of Cheshire East Award’.

The Council congratulates everyone involved with Wistaston in Bloom, Wistaston Conservation Group and the Litter Picking team for all doing wonderful work.

69 CLERK’S REPORT

i Fly Tipping

The Clerk reported that there have now had 2 cases of Fly Tipping around the Joey the Swan area within a month, the first was a costly expense to the Council as it required specialist removal and the second our Park Ranger was fortunately able to bag up and Cheshire East kindly agreed to pick it up. As these cases are getting more frequent should the Council consider putting signs up reminding people it is an offence ?

Council **COMMENTED** to get in touch with Cheshire East to check that signs can be erected and what type of signs.

ii Memorial Tree Request

Council **APPROVED** the request from a member of the public for a memorial to be planted at Joey the Swan.

iii Civic Service

The Clerk reported that the Civic Service has been arranged for the 12th February 2023 at 2.30pm and afterwards at the Church Hall for refreshments. We have been in touch with the School with regards to the Choir singing and the current teacher is finishing at the end of the year so the Clerk is to get in touch in January to check if the choir are able to attend.

iv Cheshire East Council – Town and Parish Councils Network Launch 30/11/2022

The Clerk informed the Council of details of a programme of online engagement meetings between Cheshire East Council and town and parish councils in partnership with CHALC.

The Clerk’s Report was accepted by the Council.

70 CO-OPTION OF CASUAL VACANCY

A request was received from a Mr Broomhall about joining the Parish Council but unfortunately they were unable to attend due to illness. It was agreed that it would be best for Mr Broomhall to attend a meeting so the Council can meet them to make a decision. The Clerk has been in touch with Mr Broomhall and he is unable to attend our December meeting but he is hoping to attend our January meeting.

71 FINANCE

RESOLVED: That the Receipts and Payments Statement and the Schedule of Accounts for payment October 2022 (totalling £3671.56 have been approved.

72 REPORTS FOR OTHER BODIES

Cllr Squirrell reported that the new Cricket Club Lease will be available for Council approval at our next meeting as Cllr Kilkenny has been away and does not have a digital copy so needs to scan it in to the computer to forward to the Clerk. Cllr Moore mentioned that Council just need to see the amended items. They have submitted the form to United Utilities for the drainage project and paid the fee they are just waiting for a member of staff to return from Sick leave to approve it and send it back to the WSLA for the contractors to complete their section and resubmit it to UU. Bookings are increasing again now they are in their busy period.

Cllr Roberts reported about the absence of fish and water plants in Wistaston Brook and mentioned his concerns that the water may be polluted. He presented a letter to the Council that the Clerk will send on the Council's behalf to the Office for Environmental Protection requesting that the water be analysed in several places and the report be sent to the Council.

73 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

The Environmental Reports from Cllr. Scott was received by the Council and accepted. The Clerk will get establish which signs are broken and obtain a quotation for replacement. The Clerk will also get in touch with the Park Ranger to establish information on the Chairs that were discovered on the environmental inspection.

74 RECOMMENDATION: Exclusion of Press and Public.

The Council approved the Recommendation.

75 CLERK AND PARK RANGER SALARY REVIEW

Council **APPROVED** the salary review as presented by Cllr Houston (Chair of Finance.

The meeting closed at 8.23 p.m.