

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WISTASTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2026 AT 7.30 P.M.
AT WISTASTON MEMORIAL HALL

Present: Cllr J Moore (Chairman) Cllrs. R. Squirrell, D. Lucas, D. Millington, M. Simon, G. Roberts, K. Garner, E. Tatton and V. Shaw

108 APOLOGIES Cllr. J Robinson, Cllr M Scarpa, Cllr. D Houston, Cllr A Coiley and PCSO L Meggs

109 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 15th January 2026, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

110 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared

111 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION / POLICE MATTERS / CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS

Cllr Simon reported a discussion with the PCSO's on duty in Nantwich who advised that they were leaving at the end of the month. There have been many complaints about the recent diversions in place and the high number of HGV's using local roads in Wistaston along with increase in traffic she and Cllr Coiley have had a meeting with the Highway Department who were unable to assist. There have been issues with bin collections and large queues at the waste collection site. Cllr Tatton asked if there is any data around an increase in fly tipping following changes to the way that the waste collection site operates. Cllr Roberts asked if there was any update on the 660-housing development with nothing to report.

A report from the PCSO was circulated by the clerk by email with apologies from our PCSO and advising the council about leaving the position at the end of the month. The report was discussed including concerns about losing support in the area.

An email from Cllr Coiley was read by the clerk giving his apologies and advising that he has been working with Cllr. Simon to have the redirection altered whilst the work is carried out at the Peacock roundabout, the Highways team and explained that it is within their regulations and the law. A request for all damage to grass verges, highways and property to be inspected and repaired as soon as possible. This will be monitored. Also noting that he is aware of concerns about a drop off zone at a local school and match funding requirements for the tennis club.

112 PLANNING MATTERS

The following item was **RESOLVED**:

(i) New Planning Applications**Planning views following consultation with Planning Subcommittee**

26/0349/HOUS 18 Wistaston Green Road, Wistaston, Crewe CW2 8QH
2 storey and single storey extension

No Comments

25/2639 Land East of Middlewich Road, Wistaston Crewe
Outline planning permission

Object

Wistaston Parish Council object and include all the original comments made on the 28/07/2025 and now add that the development is contrary to the neighbourhood plan including policies GG.1-H1-D5 and others. The area is liable to severe flooding with Wistaston Green Road recently closed and gardens in Kingfisher Reach flooded. Joey the swan is a site of scientific interest and home to wildlife including badgers. The development will increase the level of traffic which will have a severe environmental impact on the area. Whilst Wistaston Parish Council strongly objects should planning be approved we request that the Community Infrastructure Levy be applied for improvements in Wistaston including the parks and green areas and community buildings for the increased number of residents.

26/0308/HOUS 441 Crewe Road, Wistaston, Crewe CW2 6QU

Demolition of single garage and construction of new garage. Removal of conservatory and construction of rear single storey extension for disabled use.

No Comments

26/0325/HOUS 40 Lear Drive, Wistaston, Crewe CW2 8DR

Rear extension to the property and garage with apex roof with 2 skylights and dormer extension to the master bedroom to give more head height and space.

No Comments

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

25/4570/HOUS 380 Crewe Road, Wistaston, Crewe, Cheshire CW2 6QR
Single storey side extension

Approved

25/4767/HOUS 1 Berkeley Crescent, Wistaston, Crewe, Cheshire CW2 6QA
Detached Outbuilding and Boundary Treatments

Refused

113 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1. Wistaston in Bloom

a) Flower beds (5)

The Chairman confirmed that the order has been placed with the selected contractor, and planting is scheduled for early June. During the early Spring months, we plan to add bio compost to top up beds and improve soil condition.

b) Perennial Beds (5)

Our Conservation teams are currently tidying the beds. The sensory garden has been cleared and replanted. The Bowling Green bed is the most difficult one to prune back and clear unwanted shrubbery. All agreed that the beds look very good thanks to the conservation team.

2. Speedwatch

The Chairman advised that additional interest has been received from residents. Once accepted, we will arrange training. This will give us a total of 4 members who are able to work with neighbouring parishes.

An additional speed gun and clothing will be needed as more volunteers sign up.

The Chairman's Spring Roundabout report will include a request for additional volunteers.

3. PCSO News

Information received from our PCSO Lorraine Meggs that she is leaving her role at the end of February 2026. This was discussed and the clerk is to send thanks to PCSO Meggs and a request to the Chief Constable requesting an update about the future for Wistaston for police cover as the clerk has not yet had a reply to our original email.

114 CLERK'S REPORT

i Virements

As we are nearing the end of the financial year the following virements are requested for approval. From Line 12 Contingency £2,249 = £5 to line 10 Best kept garden, £8 to line 18 Contribution to Voluntary Bodies, £67 to line 29 Street Lighting and £2169 to line 32 Children's Playground Environmental General = Total £2,249

Council Approved the Virements

ii Northwest in Bloom Entry 2026

This was discussed and the entry information provided by the clerk **Council Approved NWIB**

iii Flag replacement

The clerk provided a quotation from Piggott for an improved quality Union flag and Cllr Squirrell requested purchase of a St George flag. The clerk requested assistance for the changing of the flag, it was suggested that the Scouts could help, and clerk advised that the key to the pole is kept in the Memorial Hall and committee usually assist.

Council Approved the purchase of two new improved quality flags

iv Land Ownership

The chairman provided a history of the land around College Fields/Waldren Gardens and council agreed that a meeting be requested with Cheshire East to discuss further and reach a decision.

Council Approved a Meeting with Cheshire East be requested by the clerk

v Tree Inspection

The tree inspection survey was provided, and Cllr Roberts prepared a tender request for the clerk to send to the three main tree contractors used to obtain quotations for the necessary work to be carried out.

Council Approved the tender request

Cllr Millington left the meeting at 20.13pm and returned at 20.16pm

vi Community Funding Request

The request from Connor Naismith MP for the council to provide funding to the Wistaston Jubilee Tennis Club for the crowd funding project was discussed. Council requested that the clerk contact the WJTC to offer for the council grant to be paid early to meet the crowd funding requirements and to respond to Connor Naismith MP with this information. **Council Approved this decision**

vii Assertion 10

The clerk provided an update and thanks to the councillors for the email migration. The IT Policy is in hand and will be available in March. The Website requires checking for accessibility, the clerk to provide details to Cllrs. Squirrell and Scarpa. A session during the summer will be necessary to assess our GDPR policy.

Council Approved steps to comply with Assertion 10

Clerk Requested for two additional items to be included

viii Request to appoint JDH Business Services Ltd as Internal Auditor for 2026.

Council Approved the appointment

ix School Crossing

Email request from Connon Naismith MP for school crossing funding, clerk to respond advising that this is the responsibility of Cheshire East and Highways. **Council Approved the response**

The clerk's report was accepted by the council

115 FINANCE

RESOLVED: That the Schedule of Accounts for payment January 2026 totalling £8,821.08 and the receipts and payments statement have been **Approved**.

116 REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

WSLA – Cllr Squirrell reported that bookings are going well but the MUGA/football bookings are down. The initial request for the siting of an additional lamp has been refused, and a new place will be suggested. The proposal for the MUGA contract continues with the hirer having had a contractor view is for flooding and maintenance and holes and boards removed will resolve this. Council recommended that drain rods are used due to previous flooding issues. The hirer will provide booking spaces for others to hire the MUGA and the hire fees which will be the “going rate” and new hirer will have their own advertising which council advised needs to be within the lease/contract. Council requires sight of the contract being arranged between the hirer and the WSLA and will need to check sub-letting, insurance and drainage information.

Wistaston Community Council Cllr Garner attended the last two meetings and reported that Debra Sloan is to be the next Wistonian. They have had their most successful year so far with over 1,000 attending the fireworks. Thanks, passed to Cllr Tatton for her work to replace the Wistonian History Board, and thanks to Cllr Squirrell for the audit of the accounts. Thanks to the council for the grants provided for the Roundabout and Fireworks but a request to increase the contribution for the fireworks and consider a payment for engraving the cups for the produce show. Council response was that a contribution has been added this year in addition to a prize for a book voucher and council is unable to provide further additional funds outside of the budget process. A request for them to obtain sponsorship elsewhere was agreed. The event dates for this year are Village Fete 20/06/26, Flower & Produce Show 15/08/26, Duck Race 05/09/26 and Fireworks 07/11/26 and Christmas Concert 04/12/26.

117 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

The Environmental Report was received from Cllr. Scarpa. Nothing to report from the Inspection. The clerk confirmed that the panel near Laburnum Avenue has been cleared by a contractor. The inspection report form to be updated to show 3 signs near the playground at Joey the Swan, clerk to update and circulate.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm