

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WISTASTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 16th OCTOBER 2025 AT 7.30 P.M.
AT WISTASTON MEMORIAL HALL

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

In Attendance: Sarah Turnbull (Clerk) and a member of the public and Police Officers Buckle and Meggs.

53 APOLOGIES Cllr M Simon and Borough Cllr A Coiley

54 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 18th September 2025, with correct name for Cllr Julia Robinson and not Roberts, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

55 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared

56 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION / POLICE MATTERS / CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS

The Chairman welcomed Sgt. Joel Buckle and PCSO Lorraine Meggs to the meeting. Sgt. Buckle thanked the council for the welcome and provided information about public engagement from and building relationships with the council. Councillors welcomed both officers to the meeting and mentioned local issues including vandalism at the Brittles, the frequency of police in the area and e bike issues. Response included the surgeries and surveys, street a week visits, attending council meetings and encouraging the public to report what they see. Crime information data was provided to the council for Wistaston.

The Chairman welcomed the member of the public who raised their concerns about the new planning for development on farmland. The Chairman explained that the council have met with the planners and Cllr Houston noted that the council had objected to the recent planning application.

No Cheshire East Councillor participation

The Police Officers left the meeting.

57 Planning Matters

The following item was **RESOLVED**.

(i) New Planning Applications

25/3441/HOUS 25 Swallowfield Close, Wistaston, Crewe CW2 6XB

2 storey side extension

No Comments

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

None

58 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman's report was received by the Council.

Freedom of Information request (FOI) No. 1 - after receiving guidance from Cheshire Association of Local Councils and support from councillors the clerk sent a response.

FOI No. 2 Chairman provided papers, and a response was suggested, discussed and agreed that the clerk is to provide the response to the request this was **APPROVED**

59 CLERK'S REPORT

i Budget Working Group

The Budget timetable for setting the 2026/27 precept as below was **APPROVED**

18th December 2025 - Finance Committee Meeting to consider the report from the Budget Working Group, to recommend to the Council a provisional Budget for 2026/27 and an indication of likely Precept requirements.

18th December 2025 - Council Meeting to determine the provisional Budget for 2026/27.

15th January 2026 - Finance Committee Meeting to reconsider draft Budget in the light of any comments received from residents / organisations.

15th January 2026 - Council Meeting to determine Budget for 2026/27 and the Council's Precept requirement.

The Meetings of the Finance Committee will be held at 7.00 p.m. The Council meeting will be held at the conclusion of the meeting of the Finance Committee or 7.30 p.m. whichever is later.

Following the Council Meeting of the 18th December 2025, details of the Council's Budget proposals will be publicised, inviting anyone who wishes to make comment on the proposals, to submit them in writing to the Clerk, to be received no later than 09.00 a.m. on 5th January 2026.

The Budget Working Group would meet at 7pm on Wednesday 19th November 2025 and Wednesday 17th December 2025 to determine provisional Budget requirements and on Monday 5th January 2026 to discuss comments made on provisional Budget and to make final recommendations to the Finance Committee, before the meeting on 15th January 2026.

(b) The establishing of a Budget Working Group.

(c) For 2026/27 Precept the Budget Working Group will comprise of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Chairperson of Finance, Cllr Lucas, Cllr Millington, Cllr Garner and Cllr Tatton

ii External Audit 2023/24 – The Clerk reported to the Council that the conclusion of audit has been received for the tax year 2024/25 at a cost of £315.00 & VAT (funded from Line 10 Audit fees) which has been paid. There were 2 'except for' items as follows:

- The AGAR was not signed by the Responsible Finance Officer before approval.
- The Information provided indicated that the balance of a loan owed to Wistaston Council had not been included in Section 2, Box 9. The figure in Box 9 for the prior year should read £377,630. The documents have been displayed on the main noticeboard and website

Council **ENDORSED** the payment.

iii Remembrance Day Service 9th November 20245 at 3pm Wistaston Memorial Hall and wreath laying at the Cenotaph at 2.30pm outside St Mary's Church, Wistaston

Council **APPROVED** That a donation of £350 be forwarded to the Royal British Legion including 2 wreaths (Funded from line 18 – Contribution to Royal British Legion S.137 Payment).

iv Training for Councillors – Clerk to provide training schedules from CHALC on request

v Police Op-Sceptre – Councillors to advise clerk if they want to be part of the event

vi Inspection Report Rota – Councillors to advise clerk of their availability for tour with the park ranger and preferred months for the rota

vii Unauthorised Advertising in Wistaston – Cllr Scarpa provided information and photographs and a discussion followed and agreement to write to Cheshire East with Cllr Scarpa providing a draft wording requesting action.

The Clerk's report was accepted.

60 FINANCE

RESOLVED: That the Schedule of Accounts for payment Sept 2025 totalling -£30,875.59 and the receipts and payments statement have been approved.

61 REPORTS FOR OTHER BODIES

WSLA – Cllr Squirrell advised that bookings are good, and they are hosting the community fireworks in November. The improvement to the lighting in the carpark has been carried out and they are obtaining quotations for the extra streetlights in the road, and this will include the cutting back of the bushes and ground preparation. Permission from the landowner to be obtained.

Community Council – Cllr Moore was unable to attend the last meeting but received notification that the Duck Race was very good and the dates for the forthcoming events are Fireworks on 01/11/25 and Christmas Concert on 05/12/25. A request was made for new councillors to represent the parish council at the community council meeting as Cllr Moore is not always able to attend.

Memorial Hall – Cllr Houston advised that some bookings have been cancelled due to illness. The transfer of title is still being processed. Information checked regarding numbers on the committee with one person from the parish council as a representative and 15 user group representatives and 5 others plus volunteers. The rebuild project following some changes to version 6 is being finalised with the architect. The committee are looking into the community levy and the process for obtaining funding for the rebuild from the developers.

62 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

The Environmental Report from the Park Ranger was received by the Council and the clerk confirmed that the issue paper/sewage at brook gate and the fly tipping were resolved.

The meeting closed at 8.47 p.m.