

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WISTASTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 15th MAY 2025 AT 7.30 P.M.
AT WISTASTON MEMORIAL HALL

Present: Cllr. J. Moore (Chairman)
 Cllrs. D. Lucas, G. Roberts, R. Squirrell, D Houston, D Millington, J Robinson,
 M Simon
In Attendance Sarah Turnbull (Clerk) Cllr Alan Coiley

7 **APOLOGIES** None

8 **MINUTES** Cllr D Millington was noted twice as present – amended

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 17th April 2025, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

9 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - None

10 **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2025/26:**

RESOLVED: That Cllr. J Moore be elected Chairman for the year 2025/26

11 **APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2025/26:**

RESOLVED: That Cllr. B Squirrell be elected Vice Chairman for the year 2025/26

12 **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF FINANCE FOR THE YEAR 2025/26:**

RESOLVED: That Cllr. D Houston be elected Chairman of Finance for the year 2025/26

13 **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES**

RESOLVED: That

- (i) The full Council be elected to the Environmental Committee.
- (ii) The full Council be elected to the Finance Committee
- (iii) The full Council be elected to the Planning Committee

14 **APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES**

RESOLVED: That

- (i) Cllr's. Squirrell, Lucas & Simon be Council's representatives on the **Wistaston Sports & Leisure Association.**
- (ii) **Wistaston in Bloom** – Chairman and Clerk to be Council's representatives
- (iii) Cllr. Houston be Council's representative on the **Memorial Hall Management Committee**
- (iv) Cllr. J Moore representatives on **Wistaston Community Council.** The appointment of one further representative be deferred
- (v) Cllr's. Millington, Roberts, Robinson & Lucas be Council's representatives on the **Planning Subcommittee**
- (vi) Cllr's. Roberts & D. Millington t be Council's representative on the **Wistaston Recreation and Woodland Management Group**
- (vii) Cllr's. Squirrell & Lucas be appointed to the **Website Subcommittee** with the Clerk
- (viii) **Speed Watch** The appointment to be deferred to a future meeting

15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION / POLICE MATTERS / CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS

Cllr Coiley reported that there is now a bus from Nantwich via Wistaston to Leighton Hospital but there are limited stops, and feedback is needed to help obtain additional stops and for an extra service to the railway station and retail park. Cllr Coiley met with The Guinness Partnership to discuss the overgrown alleyways and parking issues in Wistaston the talks are ongoing. He is attending the meeting with the Police on Monday to discuss the ASB at Joey the Swan. Cllr Coiley thanked Cllr Simons for her support.

Cllr Simon reported that the streetlight problem at Windemere Rd should now be resolved, an issue with fencing has been viewed by Cheshire East as acceptable, repairs are in hand to the road surface and lines on A530 Middlewich Road. Cllr Simon advised that more information about Devolution can be found via Cheshire and Warrington Devolution Facebook site. Cllr Simon highlighted the consultation end dates for Cheshire East Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment the Heritage & Conservation Planning and the Lane Rental Consultation more information online if required or from Cllr Simon.

The Clerk reported that an email has been received from PC Ashleigh Jones with information and contact details for the new PCSO Nick Jarvis – the clerk to share the information with the Council by email.

16 Chairman's Report

1. **ASB/Vandalism** the Chairman reported that it appears that the public are not reporting all matters to the police and that we need a police presence in Wistaston, concern that there have been items set on fire in the woods, fly tipping, damage to the pet tree, verbal abuse received by the conservation team and theft of the owl carving. The Clerk to write to the Chief Constable with the concerns about the lack of police visibility in the community. Cllr Houston commented that a member of the public has reported to the police about the blocking of the badger sets and has arranged a meeting next week on site with the park ranger, conservation team and the police. Cllr Squirrell commented that the damage to the pet tree and theft of the owl are probably not connected. The Chairman has included the ASB issues in his Roundabout Report including the offer of a reward for the return of the owl. Council to consider CCTV in the area at a future date.
2. **Housing Development** the Chairman has received an email invitation for council to attend a meeting, the clerk to arrange a suitable date and venue when most Councillors are available within the dates offered by Turley.

17 Planning Matters

The following items were **RESOLVED**

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

(i) New Planning Applications

Planning views following consultation with Planning Subcommittee

25/1193/HOUS 1 Abbey Fields, Wistaston, Crewe, Cheshire East, CW2 8HJ

Erection of single storey extension to rear of dwelling to replace existing conservatory –

No Comments

25/1193/HOUS 406 Crewe Road, Wistaston, Crewe, Cheshire CW2 6QR

Two storey rear extension and single storey extension

No Comments

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

25/0945/HOUS 55 Bowness Road, Wistaston, Crewe, Cheshire CW2 8RY

Two Storey Extension

Approved with Conditions

25/0570/HOUS Portelet Woodside Lane, Wistaston, Crewe, Cheshire CW2 8AJ

Single Storey Extension

Approved with Conditions

18 CLERK'S REPORT

i Internal Audit – The Clerk reported the results of the Internal Audit - Council **APPROVED** the amended AGAR form showing Fixed Assets at £376,630 and not £376,627. The Clerk explained the recommendation from the Internal Auditor to improve the accounting system in the form of a workbook with additional formulas and integration as discussed with Cllrs. Houston and Squirrell – Council **APPROVED THE CHANGES** and Council **ENDORSED** the payment of the internal audit invoice of £324 plus VAT (funded from line 10 audit fees)

ii Insurance – Council **APPROVED** the insurance renewal of £1470.81 (funded from line 6) for the year 01/06/2025 – 31/05/2026

iii Risk Assessment – the 2025 Risk Assessment document was provided to the Council by email on 14/04/2025 Council **APPROVED** the risk assessment

iv Joey the Swan Repairs

Repair to the flooring in the play area at £1,230.77 and repairs to the rope ladder, quotation outstanding. Council **APPROVED** both repairs

v Memorial Tree requests - Council **APPROVED** 9 memorial tree requests at Joey the Swan.

vi Additional item from the Clerk regarding a reply to a member of the public bringing the damage to the pet memorial tree to the attention of the council. The clerk to reply by email (agree with the Chairman before sending) explaining what the council do at Joey the Swan and the request for a police presence in the area and that we are trying to work with our local councils that are also experiencing ASB Council **APPROVED** that a suitable response be sent.

The Clerk's report was accepted.

19 FINANCE

RESOLVED: That the Schedule of Accounts for payment April 2025 totalling £-31,08.59 and the receipts and payments statement have been approved.

20 Reports from other bodies

WSLA – Cllr Squirrell reported that the Cricket Club Lease has now been received, the Clerk is to request a copy. The Broadband is being installed but not yet complete. The request from the Community Council for additional street lighting has been discussed and quotations are being obtained for an additional lamp along with permission from the owner of the land.

WISTASTON COMMUNITY – Cllr Moore reported that there is nothing to report as the next meeting of WCC follows the Council meeting.

WISTASTON MEMORIAL HALL – Cllr Houston reported that they have experienced various ASB at the hall, tennis club and bowling club and are looking into installing CCTV. The Lease alteration is in progress with their Solicitor, and they have been able to contact the previous clerk to sign the documentation required. Plans were made available, paper and on the laptop but not viewed, copies were sent by email to Councillors by the Clerk. An open day is being planned for the community to view the plans. Cllr Roberts commented that the two meeting rooms appear to be 2 metres shorter than the existing rooms, Cllr Houston explained that the plans had to consider additional toilet, access and parking which means the rooms are slightly smaller. They have a meeting planned with the National Lottery as part of the funding process for the building project, Cllr Houston explained that the National Lottery criteria has changed recently.

21 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

The Environmental Report from Cllr Lucas was received and accepted and the Clerk confirmed that two points noted had been dealt with.

PRESENTATION

The Glass Plaque (now engraved) purchased by the Councillors and Clerk was presented to the Chairman to celebrate his 25 years continuous service to Wistaston Parish Council. The Chairman responded with his thanks.

The meeting closed at 8.47 p.m.