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Election and Registration Team Manager,  
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Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2009  
Ref: DT/SD  
Contact Susan Douglas  
: 01606 868810  
✉: susan.douglas@cheshirefire.gov.uk

Dear Sir / Madam

### **Crewe Community Governance Review - Response of Cheshire Fire Authority**

Cheshire Fire Authority welcomes the opportunity to feed into the Community Governance Review of the Crewe urban area and supports the work undertaken by Cheshire East Council to provide local people/organisations with an opportunity to consider appropriate structure/s for local representation.

Rather than answer the questionnaire, the Authority, having considered the information provided, wishes to make the following contribution.

Elsewhere, our experience shows that parish government provides organisations such as the Fire and Rescue Service with an effective partner for consultation and a valuable means of raising and addressing a variety of local issues.

Establishing local arrangements in Crewe will put the town in the same position as other urban areas across Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester, and provide consistency for fire officers.

The introduction of local arrangements in Crewe will help to develop a greater community identity and provide local fire and rescue personnel with key contacts, whom they can work with to address a wide variety of local issues.

Through our work with parish and town councils elsewhere, we feel that it is important that any new structures are able to effectively represent the needs of a community.

However, while the Authority does not intend to set out what specific arrangements we feel would be most suitable, it is our experience that clear and simple structures are best placed to deliver effective partnerships.

We also want to highlight the work undertaken by Cheshire East Council and its partners in setting up the Crewe Local Area Partnership (LAP) and draw attention to the need for each tier of government or partnership to fit neatly with one another.



On the points relating to councillors, the Fire Authority has always aimed to work constructively with elected representatives from partner local authorities. In most cases our experience has shown that councillors with strong community/ward links have been best placed to deliver outcomes and progress initiatives and partnerships.

Once again, we appreciate the opportunity to feed into the Review and look forward to considering your refined proposals in the autumn.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Topping', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Cllr David Topping**  
**Chair of Cheshire Fire Authority**

*Crewe west community group*  
*A form of words*

*The Crewe west community group held a meeting about the governance review and decided that we want one town one council, this because we the community coherence do not wish to be run by different councils who do not identify with them or know the problems this may bring.*

*We would not like the idea of a split between the other areas of Crewe, because of identification problems with four parishes because this would mean less money and funding for our activities, because we don't think the funders them selves would be able to understand why there is a split between neighbour hoods.*

*Even though different it may differ, we still feel that we are part of Crewe which in our eyes only need one authority to take care of our needs and interests at local level.*

*This is why we also proposed wardening of this area, and this may also lead to smaller areas with in it and that a champion may emerge with a larger town council.*

*Even community groups could find members in one parish area but representing in another parish and fighting for the same pot of money.*

*Yours truly*  
*Crewe west community group*



# Union Street Baptist Church Crewe

**Minister:**

Revd. Andrew Taylor M.A.  
11 Broadacres,  
Broomhall, Nantwich.  
CW5 8BH  
Tel. 01270 781318  
e-mail: andrewn.taylor@btinternet.com

**Secretary:**

Mrs. H.J. Birtles  
43 Franklyn Ave  
Crewe CW2 7NE  
Tel: 01270 560865  
e-mail:  
helen@birtles6000.freemove.co.uk

8th September, 2009.

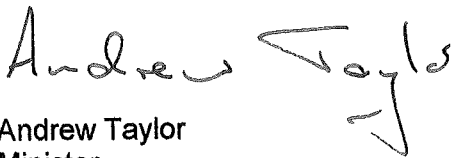
Dear Lindsey Parton,

Mark Thompson, the County Ecumenical Officer, has passed on to me your questionnaire in relation to the Crewe Community Governance Review, and the issues have been discussed within the church's leadership group.

I attach the completed questionnaire, from which you will see that we are strongly of the view that there should be a single town council for Crewe. The concept of community is an important one. Union Street Baptist Church was established over 125 years ago to be at the centre of the community that was developing amongst the workforce of the North Sheds, and that call to serve our community, albeit now a very different one, remains a powerful one for us today. The wider community that is the town of Crewe equally needs to be recognised and served. The churches of the town have recently covenanted together in acknowledgement of that, and a Town Council would also serve that purpose.

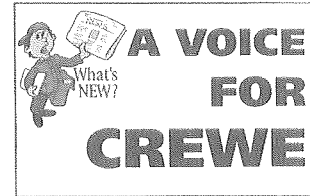
We look forward to learning of the outcome of the review.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Taylor  
Minister

Lindsey Parton,  
Election and Registration Team Manager  
Cheshire East Council  
Westfields  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1HZ



## ONE TOWN, ONE VOICE

### OUR SUBMISSION TO CHESHIRE EAST UNITARY AUTHORITY re : CREWE TOWN COUNCIL / LOCAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW

#### **1. Introduction**

This statement is submitted to the Cheshire East unitary council on behalf of the petitioners for a single town council for Crewe. It argues in favour of a single town council for Crewe, and rejects the suggestion that it should be split. It draws on the experience of the past, reviews the current situation, and attempts to suggest how the future might develop.

Where it refers to “guidance”, this is the document issued by the Electoral Commission – “Guidance on community governance reviews”. That guidance sets a context (in para 122) by stating that town and parish councils are “an established and valued form of neighbourhood democracy with an important role to play in both rural, and increasingly urban, areas”.

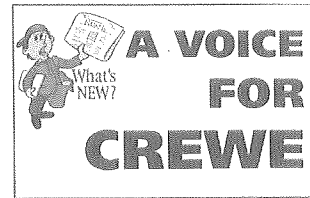
Our petition was presented to the former Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council on Tuesday March 31st. It contained 3672 signatures from eligible electors - well clear of the 10% threshold required by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (part 4, sections 79-102). It was conducted over around 6 months and involved events in the town centre and other venues such as Crewe Alexandra Football Club where local people might be found in large numbers. Most signatures, however, were collected on doorsteps.

The campaign was enormously popular, and only a tiny number of the people we asked did not wish to sign. Our challenge was only in physically getting the signatures within a reasonable timescale, not persuading people that a town council is right for Crewe. Of course, many were keen to find out how it would work and we took the time to explain to the best of our ability.

In fact, a great many more signed the petition but, when we checked them against the electoral register, several hundred were found to live in areas which already have a parish council – such as Leighton, Woolstanwood, Wistaston, etc. However, that also shows that there is also a significant amount of goodwill towards the aim of a “Voice for Crewe” from its neighbours.

The campaign was organised on an ad-hoc basis and, whilst it is true that members of the local Labour Party took the initiative and played a leading role, it was clear from the outset that it should be cross-party. It would be wrong for a matter of constitutional change to be interpreted as a matter for inter-party dispute. So significant activity was undertaken by people from the Liberal Democrats and former councillors who stood as Independents. A number of Conservative members of Cheshire East council informally indicated to us that they supported us, though regrettably they did not feel able to take an active or public role.

Whilst it is not surprising that people with experience of public life should find themselves in leading roles, we were very clear that it should not be misinterpreted as something organised for the benefit of people who have been involved as councillors before. So it was heartening to have many people with no political affiliations volunteering to collect signatures for us. The degree of local pride in the town of Crewe is often understated but should not be underestimated.



We were also very grateful to important organisations like the Chamber of Commerce, MMU Cheshire, Crewe Alexandra Football Club and the Crewe Chronicle, for declaring their support. That too helped us to prove that it has not been a party political issue, as did the statement which we were pleased to see (below) from Edward Timpson MP, following the successful outcome of the petition campaign.

The campaign had no officers, no finances and no wish to maintain an organisation once the petition was presented. However, it became clear subsequently that the consultation process now being undertaken would be best served by having a point of contact with the petitioners. It was therefore agreed that Peter Kent should act and speak on their behalf, having acted as the co-ordinator of the campaign. However, all statements (including this one) are subject to agreement with a consultation group of people who took an active role and wished to be kept informed of the progress of the campaign. As before, they represent a cross-section of political affiliation, and none.

## **2. The current consultation process**

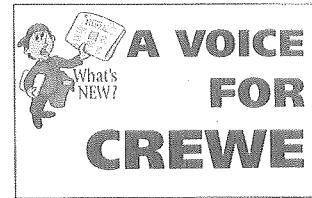
It is appropriate at this point to comment on the way in which the consultation process has been conducted. Officers of Cheshire East, still settling into their new roles, have a difficult situation. This is one of the first local governance reviews conducted since legislation transferred responsibility from the independent Electoral Commission to local councils.

Whilst its intention to devolve powers to local authorities is generally to be welcomed, Government sources have indicated to us that they are now aware that this could be an anomaly in certain circumstances and consideration is being given to introducing second-stage legislation to address it. This is particularly the case where a town or parish may be contested on political party lines and produce a council with different allegiances from its “parent” authority. Many people feel that this could be the case for Crewe. For that reason, the approach taken by Cheshire East will be the subject of some scrutiny and clearly it would be helpful to all concerned if its conduct of the review can be seen to be above criticism and non-partisan.

It is therefore with regret that we have to indicate a number of shortcomings in the process which cause us concern. For all the support given to the broad principle of “A Voice for Crewe” by the people of Crewe, most people are (perhaps regrettably) not familiar with the workings or the jargon of local government. It must therefore be the responsibility of the elected council to ensure that the process is clear and unambiguous, rather than to ignore those difficulties, or to insist that electors ought to take steps to improve their own knowledge.

A ballot has been held of all electors in the town. But it has been done at short notice, and therefore with inadequate opportunity for different views to be expressed and explained. It has been well expressed as “the only occasion when the vote has preceded the campaign” !

The first question asks if the elector supports a “parish council” for Crewe. This has caused a great deal of confusion since the campaign has been phrased as requesting a “town council” and it has not been made clear that for this purpose the words are virtually identical. Many people, including some who are involved in the life of a community on either a professional or voluntary basis, have told us that they answered “no” to this question on the basis that they support a town council and not a parish council. It is now too late for them to change their vote in the light of information given to them subsequently.



The obvious question for the ballot paper would surely have been “Do you support a town council for Crewe” with an option for people to vote Yes or No. However, for reasons which have been inadequately explained, a further option for more than one parish council has been included. Our objections to the principle of this option are included elsewhere. In terms of the process, however, it has served to make the ballot unnecessarily complicated and there is a feeling that this was deliberately included to confuse.

At the time of writing, this proposal has yet to draw a public expression of support from a single resident of Crewe. We therefore believe that the process has been significantly flawed when it has been given equal status on the ballot to a proposal for a single town council supported by a petition of over 10% of the electors, not to mention other leading local figures and stakeholder organisations.

Some information accompanies the ballot paper. Notably it includes some examples of costs, but the selection of parish and town councils used as an example is bizarre. In particular, the highest cost quoted is for Wootton Bassett, which is 131 miles distant from Crewe, not similar in size or demography and probably unknown to the majority of Crewe residents. When asked about this at the members group meeting, the only response from a member was to refer to the recent publicity for Wootton Bassett in relation to the return of casualties from the war in Afghanistan. It is difficult to see what relevance this has to the question about why it was chosen as an example of costs in Crewe !

A member working group was set up by Cheshire East to oversee the process of the ballot. This should have included final approval of the format and wording of the ballot paper but two of its members, the only ones not from the controlling group on Cheshire East council, have said that they would not have supported the final version of the document had it been presented to them.

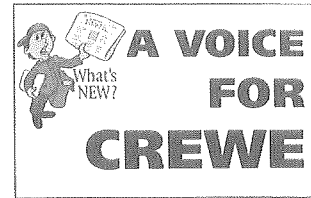
For these reasons, we are advised that there is a strong case to be made for the argument that the consultation process has been flawed and subjected to undue political direction.

### **3. History**

Crewe does not have the long history of many towns in Cheshire. As everyone knows, its origins lie in the railway industry. Before 1860, the only local representation for Crewe was via Crewe representatives on the Nantwich Rural Sanitary Authority and the Nantwich Highway Board.

On 25th January 1860, the first members were elected to the newly formed Crewe Local Board. Then on June 30th 1877, the first elections took place for the Crewe Municipal Borough Council. With some boundary changes to reflect the rapid growth of the town, this council administered the affairs of the town until 31st March 1974. At this point, as a result of the reorganisation of local government, it was absorbed into Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council.

At that time, there was debate about whether or not there should be a separate Town Council for Crewe, as there was for Nantwich. However, the general view was that as Crewe had around 50% of the electors, and hence the elected representatives, its interests could generally be expected to be looked after by the successor authority. Although never quite unanimous, that was the reasoning that held sway throughout the life of C&NBC.



#### **4. Current situation**

The situation is of course now considerably different. With 12 councillors out of 81, it would be unreasonable to expect that any special interests for Crewe would consistently attract priority for the attention and consideration of Cheshire East council. That is not a criticism of the new authority, since it is in its early formative months, but more a mathematical fact.

Crewe does indeed have special interests. Every piece of statistical analysis, every category used by the Office of National Statistics, shows that Crewe has distinctive characteristics and different issues of concern to the rest of Cheshire East. Their results show what might be expected in a town which has several areas of deprivation. Many relate to the former Borough of Crewe and Nantwich, or the area of the Crewe LAP (Local Area Partnership), so they include the surrounding parishes and therefore do not fully convey the degree to which the town of Crewe is different – nor, in some cases, the depth of its problems. This is well documented in many reports, to Cheshire East and its predecessor authorities. It seems unnecessary to list them all as a lengthy comprehensive statement of evidence. But, to give a flavour, a recent report to Cheshire East council on the Crewe LAP area showed significant differences between Crewe and the rest of the council's area in :

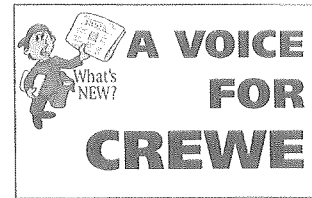
- Unemployment rates
- Average household income
- Proportions of people claiming benefits
- Educational attainment
- Teenage pregnancy rates
- Recorded crime incidents
- Life expectancy

The evidence from our petition clearly shows the degree of support that the creation of a town council enjoys, and the broad agreement that a town council would reflect the identities and interests of that local community, as required in guidance (paras 8b, 33 and 51). Signatures were analysed geographically and we also draw attention to the fact that they came from all parts of the town. Indeed, the 10% threshold was passed not only for the area as whole, but for each of the 4 current wards within it. With more time and resources we have no doubt whatsoever that we could have obtained the support of a majority of electors in every part of the town. That kind of analysis in depth will not be available from the ballot.

As further evidence of the desire for change, one of our supporters commissioned and paid for a reputable independent polling company to carry out research via telephone polling. From a trial group of 1995 people. 663 responses were obtained – a response rate of 33% which is considered to be a better response rate than the norm. 61% were in favour of one Town Council, 13% in favour of 4 parish councils, and 26% no change. At a time when people would normally have been expected to be reluctant to undergo further changes in local government, it is remarkable that 74% were found to be in favour of change, with support for a single council running at 4½ times that for four councils.

The 2007 Act and its associated guidance (paras 52-3 and 65-75) refer to “community cohesion” as a reason for creating town or parish councils, and states that this concept is linked strongly to the identity and interests of local communities (para 73). The evidence above demonstrates the feeling of common identity. Put simply, if someone from the area is asked where they live they will invariably reply “Crewe” and not “Crewe and Nantwich”, “Crewe East” or even “Cheshire East”.





The interests of the area may be demonstrated by the many local voluntary organisations and businesses serving the town. For example, several hundred local people are actively engaged in the various local history groups in the town. These are people who have the interests of the town of Crewe and its distinctive culture at heart, and want to preserve and enhance them. They have a strong sense of identity with the town and want to see its municipal traditions maintained in a Crewe Town Council and a Crewe Mayor with access to the Municipal Buildings and the regalia belonging to Crewe.

The guidance (para 73 again) goes on to discuss reasons why a principal council should decline to set up a town or parish council and can only suggest that it would be where the effect would be likely to damage community cohesion. Paras 94 and 95 expand on this and make clear that this refers to damage caused by dividing communities along ethnic, religious or cultural lines. Clearly this is not applicable for a Crewe Town Council.

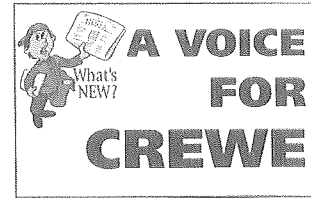
For the moment, the 12 councillors representing Crewe wards are operating in lieu of a Town Council as Charter Trustees, albeit with responsibility for ceremonial matters only (Guidance, para 133). Even this, however, can only be an interim arrangement. Councillors elected to Cheshire East council will have a degree of responsibility to the area as a whole, especially those who find themselves in a position of Cheshire-East-wide responsibility such as portfolio holders, scrutiny committee chairs, etc. They may sometimes be subject to Group discipline and thus inhibited from considering the interests of Crewe alone.

Three of the 4 wards covering Crewe also cover areas outside the town boundary. It is not inconceivable that future ward boundary changes could involve a small area of Crewe being warded with a larger area outside the town. This could lead to a councillor with only a very small vested interest in Crewe being a Charter Trustee, presumably with equal voting rights to another whose remit includes several thousand voters.

Boundaries may be reviewed at the time when Cheshire East begins its review of all parishes in the area. There are clear examples of out of date boundaries around the edges of the town and we would not expect that the Town Council would regard its currently proposed boundaries as inviolate, since our principle is that people should have "A Voice".

So far as electoral arrangements for the town council are concerned, we have no strong views on detail. There is no need for town ward boundaries which bear no relationship to Cheshire East's warding arrangements. So, far from being a further level of complexity, discussions about boundaries should not be complicated by imagining that there are two substantially different exercises - indeed that principle should make it much simpler. We would expect that for each Cheshire East ward, the number of representatives on the Town Council would be double the number of unitary authority councillors. Where a Cheshire East ward extends beyond Crewe, then the number of town councillors should be adjusted accordingly to maintain a reasonable equality of representation.

Based on the number of electors per councillor likely to emerge from the current boundary review, the number of Cheshire East councillors allocated to the unparished area of Crewe alone (i.e. excluding those areas such as Woolstanwood which are parished but associated with Crewe-based wards), would be 10. Given that unitary councillors would wish to have clear lines of communication with the town council, we therefore suggest that there should be 20. Some people have suggested that there should be 30 i.e. 3 town councillors per Cheshire East councillor. We would raise no strong objection to that, but it seems a little unwieldy.



### **5. The “four-parish” plan**

We turn now to the alternative that has emerged during the consultation process. The proposal is for there to be four parish councils covering the presently unparished area of Crewe. However, there is no attempt to precisely define the areas to be covered by each of these parishes. Instead, there is an assumption that the forthcoming reorganisation of ward boundaries for Cheshire East will produce four wards covering the area, and the boundaries of the four parishes will match them. There are many flaws in that argument :

- a) The outcome of the ward boundary reorganisation is not known. There are a great many possible permutations and there may or may not be four wards covering Crewe.
- b) Ward boundaries are required to represent electoral equality, as well as a reasonable degree of community. For that reason, they change as a result of population shift. Parish boundaries represent less transient communities and, although boundaries would no doubt change from time to time, they would not be expected to change as frequently or, in some cases, as dramatically as ward boundaries.
- c) The guidance refers (para 16) to “strong, clearly-defined boundaries, tied to firm ground features”. When a proposal is put forward that does not even make a firm proposal on boundaries, it is clearly facile.

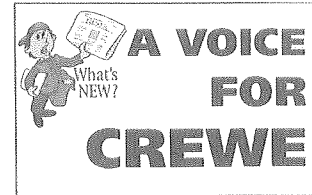
The guidance document refers in several places, para 57 being an example, to the sense of identity for an area. As evidence on this point, we draw attention to the business listings section of the local BT phone book. This includes 36 items with a title beginning with “Crewe”, ranging from Crewe Alexandra to Crewe Youth Centre. There are 7 others referring to “Crewe & Nantwich”, not including the former Borough Council, whose entries are discounted. In the interests of accuracy we record that there is indeed one other which refers to a part of Crewe. That is Crewe North Ward Workingmen’s Club, which is sadly no longer in existence, but was located in the present Crewe East Ward.

There are also complications regarding ceremonial matters. It appears that, under this option, then just one of the parishes will inherit the mayoralty and the mayoral regalia. Also, that parish will be chosen not by the retiring Trustees but by Cheshire East Council as a whole. We feel sure that this would outrage all those many local residents with a sense of local history, and the many more who simply have pride in their town.

It has been suggested that Crewe would be too big for a single council. Yet the guidance document (paras 48 and 152) points out that town councils exist with populations up to a current maximum of 70,000 (Weston-super-Mare). Furthermore, one of the many towns with its own council is Shrewsbury (used as an example in Cheshire East’s own information document) which also has a population of 70,000. The electorate of Crewe is just over 35,000 and the population no more than 50,000.

Guidance para 81 specifically discusses this and accepts that larger parishes would best suit local needs where “the division of a cohesive area such as a Charter Trustee town (see paragraphs 133 to 134), would not reflect the sense of community that needs to be lie behind all parishes“.

Although costs will be a matter for the council when elected, it is also suggested that four parish councils would be cheaper than one. Yet the arguments for unitary local government, now enjoyed by residents of Cheshire East, are precisely the opposite. Four parish councils would need four sets of overheads such as staffing, accommodation, etc., Given the certain financial pressures this cannot be justified.



Similarly, although functions are also a matter for elected representatives to agree and negotiate with Cheshire East, then if the principal authority wishes to devolve certain basic services on an agency basis to town and parish councils, it has a much better opportunity to do so with local councils with the size and resources to manage them properly.

Parishes are supposed to represent cohesive and coherent communities - and Crewe is that entity, without question. It is simply good governance to ensure that such a whole and complete community is given its voice.

## **6. Hopes for the future**

There is a continuing theme in the 2007 Act to encourage the establishment of town and parish councils (see guidance paras 12, 23, 39, 44 and 54-6). A Crewe Town Council could fulfil a number of roles, and our campaign does not seek to pre-empt any of them. This will be a matter for local people to decide when candidates come before them with their views.

Cost is of course regarded rightly as a key issue, but the outcome will depend on who is elected and what support the parent authority is prepared to give to it. It may well be that both parties reach agreement for Crewe Town Council to run some local functions on a devolved basis. In his statement, Edward Timpson MP said "I'm delighted to see so many people taking part in local democracy and petitioning for a town council in Crewe. Their message will be helpful in my discussions with the new Cheshire East authority about town councils as real service providers." Although we are unaware of the outcome of these discussions, it is clear that service provision is a distinct possibility. However, it could be on an agency basis, simply running a service within a delegated budget from the principal authority, or the town council could decide to top up provision from its own resources.

Several parts of the guidance such as paras 51, 53 and 61-64 refer to arrangements which are "effective and convenient". This is partly linked to the sense of identity and local pride, but also to the possibilities of service provision. Service provision could be done singly, or for some functions it could be in partnership with neighbouring authorities. Town and parish councils tend to have less restrictions on their activities and might thus be able to take initiatives which would be difficult for those at a higher level of local government. Although we repeat that the campaign does not seek to prescribe any views on how the council would operate, there are nonetheless many exciting possibilities which can be developed with goodwill on both sides.

Currently, the approach taken by some members of Cheshire East council might be seen as harmful to this. Nonetheless, we hope that this will pass and that all sides will be prepared to work together. Political differences may well be expressed from time to time, and that is to be welcomed as a sign of a mature and intelligent democracy. But if local government generally can work well with national government in such a context, then surely we in Cheshire East can do likewise. We believe that the ball is now in the court of Cheshire East's councillors to demonstrate that they put the interests of local people at the forefront of their principles.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Avril Devaney [mailto:[Avril.Devaney@cwps.nhs.uk](mailto:Avril.Devaney@cwps.nhs.uk)]

**Sent:** 29 September 2009 18:41

**To:** HAWTHORNTHWAITE, Gaynor

**Subject:** RE: Crewe Community Governance Review - consultation

Hi Gaynor,

The response on behalf of Cheshire And Wirral Partnership Foundation Trust is as follows.

We believe that having one town council is in the best interest of our Trust and the people we serve. As a large organisation providing mental health, drug and alcohol and learning disabilities services across Cheshire including Crewe, it would be inefficient use of our time to need to work with four different parish councils.

Regards,  
Avril

Avril Devaney  
Director Of Nursing, Therapies and Patient Partnership  
CWP NHS Foundation Trust  
Tel: 01244 364345  
Email: [avril.devaney@cwps.nhs.uk](mailto:avril.devaney@cwps.nhs.uk)

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**From:** Paul Colman [mailto:paul.colman@sccci.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 30 September 2009 12:13  
**To:** Parton, Lindsey  
**Subject:** Community Governance Review

Dear Lindsey

I am writing on behalf of the South Cheshire Chamber of Commerce with regards to the Community Governance Review for Crewe.

Our Board have discussed the issue at our last meeting and we want to support local representation and the formation of a town council.

Regards

Paul

Paul Colman  
Chamber Manager

South Cheshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Enterprise House  
Wistaston Road Business Centre  
Crewe  
Cheshire  
CW2 7RP

Tel: 01270 504700  
Fax: 01270 504701

South Cheshire Chamber of Commerce & Industry Limited, Enterprise House Wistaston Road Business Centre, Wistaston Road, Crewe, Cheshire, CW2 7RP  
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## COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

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**From:** Bason, Ralph [Ralph.Bason@cheshireeast.gov.uk]  
**Sent:** 15 September 2009 10:42  
**To:** COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW  
**Subject:** FW: Crewe CGR Consultation

Ralph Bason  
Elections and Electoral Registration  
Cheshire East Council  
ralph.bason@cheshireeast.gov.uk  
Tel: 01270 529671

[www.cheshireeast.gov.uk](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk)

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**From:** Joan Adams [mailto:jadamshp@yahoo.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 15 September 2009 09:42  
**To:** Bason, Ralph  
**Cc:** Joan Adams  
**Subject:** Crewe CGR Consultation

Hello Ralph

Thank you for your e-mail which I placed before the last meeting of the Parish Council.

Councillors instructed me to inform you that they support the residents of Crewe.

Joan Adams  
Clerk-Haslington Parish Council

# Wistaston Parish Council



Clerk:

Mrs. Andrea Cross,  
4 Arundel Close,  
Wistaston,  
Crewe.  
Cheshire.  
CW2 8EY.

Tel/Fax 01270- 652098  
email:wistastonpc@tiscali.co.uk

Elections and Registration Team Manager,  
Cheshire East Council,  
Westfields,  
Sandbach.  
Cheshire.  
CW11 1HZ.

18<sup>th</sup> September, 2009.

Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed Wistaston Parish Council's views on the Community Governance Review.

Wistaston Parish Council support more than one local Council be established to represent the people of Crewe and they do not have a view on the remainder of the consultation.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. L. Cross'.

Mrs. A. L. Cross.  
Clerk to the Council.



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Lindsey Parton  
Elections & Registration Team Manager  
Democratic Services  
Westfields  
Sandbach CW11 1HZ

25 September 2009

Dear Lindsey,

**CREWE LOCAL GOVERNANCE CONSULTATION**

Thank you for your email of 26 August, and for asking me to contribute to this consultation.

The way that I have approached this exercise has been to take feedback I have received from constituents, and my observations of the consultation process, and give you an overview of that in this letter.

I simply have not taken a personal stance on this issue myself. It is for the people of Crewe to put their view and for the local government representatives they elected to make a final decision.

The last couple of months have seen a lot of activity in Crewe around the issue of first tier local government in Crewe. We have seen a lot of coverage in local media, public meetings, and political parties putting across their own views.

Clearly, prior to that, there was the drive to collect signatures for the petition that started this process.

That petition and subsequent feedback has shown me that there are indeed people who would like to see a form of first tier local government for the presently unparished areas of Crewe. A number of people have written to me, and called into my Crewe office, to say so.

However, the petition only represented 10% of those able to put their view, and other positive feedback I have seen and heard has been limited in number.

**EDWARD TIMPSON**  
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR CREWE & NANTWICH  
[www.edwardtimpsonmp.com](http://www.edwardtimpsonmp.com)



I am also aware from the local media of an “independent” telephone survey conducted on the matter, the results of which stated the majority of Crewe residents were in favour of local governance reform. However, such a survey would be given very short shrift in Parliament were it ever discussed there, as it could not genuinely be described as independent. It was commissioned by a single-interest group and fronted by a Parliamentary Candidate for a political party.

This is unfortunate, as such a survey might otherwise have been of some use in assessing opinion.

I think it also worth pointing out that the majority of those who have taken part in this flurry of activity (on both sides of the argument) are those who have been close to or are currently close to the civic life of the town. They are not people one could genuinely describe as ‘ordinary residents’. An example of this would be at a recent well-advertised public meeting where 21 of the 26 people present to discuss the issue were councillors, ex-councillors, or council officers.

There are of course, too, those who do not wish to see a parish council or councils for Crewe.

A number of councillors have stated this view, but also many residents, with the amount of feedback I have received of this nature easily equalling (if not exceeding) the amount I have received for such an arrangement.

Their concerns seem mainly to focus on an increase in their council tax through the levying of a precept higher than that currently charged by the town’s Chartered Trustees, and also on the fact that there is no guarantee such a council or councils would provide substantive essential services that would add value to their lives as residents.

The backdrop of recession and shortage of money and work is normally referenced in such feedback.

To summarise, there are clearly people both for and against local government reform in Crewe.

However, when consulting on the imposition of fiscal change, as this consultation effectively is, those who have remained indifferent through a lack of understanding of the options or disillusionment with local government must also be taken into account.

This seems rather, in Crewe, to be the very large majority, and it would clearly be ill-advised to bring about any form of change without a clear mandate for such change. This is a point that the Cheshire East Council must debate.

Equally, if a legitimate majority of the population of Crewe state the same wish, this must be acted upon.

I hope this letter is of some assistance to the consultation process.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward Timpson". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

**Edward Timpson**

**Response to the Cheshire East Council Questionnaire  
as part of the Crewe Community Governance Review  
from David Williams  
Labour's Parliamentary Candidate for Crewe and Nantwich**

## **Background**

I welcome the opportunity to respond to the Crewe Community Governance Review following the submission of a petition for a town council signed by over 10% of Crewe's electorate.

I am an ardent supporter of the establishment of a town council and have been since the *Voice For Crewe Campaign* was launched.

I am proud to have been an active participant in the campaign, which is supported by Labour, Liberal Democrat and politically independent people. I was responsible for the collection of approximately one-quarter of the signatures on the petition.

I have personally spoken to around 1,000 voters in Crewe about the town council proposal, mainly by visiting to people at their home, on stalls in the town centre and at the Carnival and at various meetings with Crewe residents.

This background means that I am well qualified to comment on the governance of Crewe and that the views expressed in my response are representative of a large proportion of the people of Crewe.

## **One Town Council for Crewe**

Crewe needs one town council to provide a strong voice in the new Cheshire East Authority. When the former Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council (C&NBC) was abolished, the relationship of Crewe Town with its council fundamentally changed. In C&NBC, Crewe provided 36 of the 57 councillors. In Cheshire East, the town has only 12 of the 81 councillors.

This local government reorganisation has left a democratic deficit in Crewe, which Cheshire East Council now has the opportunity and duty to rectify. By comparison, other towns in Cheshire East are much better represented than Crewe:

<b>Town</b>	<b>Estimated Population</b>	<b>Town and Borough Councillors</b>
Nantwich	13,880	15
Congleton	25,750	26
Knutsford	19,607 (2001 census)	18
Middlewich	13,390	15
Sandbach	17,630 (2001 census)	24

A crucial part of democratic systems is the link between voters and their elected representatives. The towns listed above have the balance about right, which means Crewe's 50,000 residents are grossly under represented with a mere 12 councillors.

### **Opposition to a town council for Crewe**

In all the conversations I have had with Crewe people very few opposed the idea of a town council for Crewe. I cannot accurately quantify the opposition I experienced, but I would estimate that less than 20% refused to sign the petition and many of those simply were not interested in local government arrangements and had no view.

I can however very accurately quantify the number of people who suggested that there should be more than one parish council for Crewe. Nobody told me that they wanted Crewe carved up.

Therefore I was amazed to see a proposal for four parish councils in Cheshire East Council's consultation paper. More than 10% of Crewe voters called for one town council. Cheshire East Council should tell us how many Crewe voters signed a petition for the four parish option. If it was less than 10%, they should explain why different thresholds applied to the two proposals.

The mysterious addition of this four parish option has merely served to confuse the consultation and the way that the ballot questions are worded confuses further. I have spoken to many Crewe residents who are absolutely committed to one town council for Crewe, yet were unsure about how to vote to support their view.

There are serious questions about the arrangements of the consultation that will cast a shadow over its validity and impartiality, which may lead to referrals to the Local Government Ombudsman, the Audit Commission or even a Judicial Review.

### **Cost of a town council**

I was amazed to see this question raised in a consultation about the governance of Crewe. This is a question that will be answered by voters at the election of councillors to serve on the new Town Council.

Under current arrangements the residents of Crewe have practically no say in the level of the parish precept that is levied on them. There is virtually no democratic accountability for the £1.93 they currently pay or for the way that money is spent.

I was also shocked at the biased way in which the costs were presented in the consultation document. There was no mention of the 6 parishes in Cheshire East that levy a zero parish precept. There was no mention of the 39 parishes in Cheshire East that levy a precept lower than Knutsford. Yet the document highlights 17 examples of parish councils, two-thirds of which are not in Cheshire East, half of them are not even in Cheshire and two the parishes are over 100 miles away. What was the motivation for selecting these examples?

Again I state: There are serious questions about the arrangements of the consultation that will cast a shadow over its validity and impartiality, which may lead to referrals to

the Local Government Ombudsman, the Audit Commission or even a Judicial Review.

## **Conclusion**

Crewe needs one town council. That is the overwhelming response I have received from extension discussions with residents of Crewe. They are telling me that the Town needs a strong voice in the new Cheshire East and they want their views to be heard. Crewe people want what many other towns in Cheshire East have.

I very much share their view. Crewe is currently grossly under-represented compared to other towns in Cheshire East. Crewe has suffered more than most Cheshire towns from last year's local government reorganisation and we now have an opportunity to rectify it. To give Crewe the voice it deserves.

If this unjust situation is allowed to continue, Crewe and its residents will suffer. Crewe has a long history of dealing well with dramatically changing circumstances. The current democratic deficit weakens the Town's ability to fight back. For the sake of jobs, inward investment and public services Crewe needs a voice.

This is not a time for party politics, this is a time to stand up for the people of Crewe and I hope all who share an aspiration in a thriving and prosperous Crewe will join the *One Town – One Voice* campaign.

David Williams  
Labour's Parliamentary Candidate  
for Crewe and Nantwich

16 September 2009

## COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

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**From:** Russell Greenwood [rpgreenwood@hotmail.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 28 August 2009 10:51  
**To:** COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW  
**Subject:** Crewe council

Hello

The proposed Crewe Council does not include Wistaston, Leighton and the area where Crewe Hall is situated. If these areas are not part of Crewe which I have always assumed to be so, what area or town do they fall under? I feel the proposed Crewe Council border should be extended to include Wistaston, Leighton, and the area where Crewe Hall is situated.

Regards

Russell Greenwood

---

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**COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

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**From:** D Brookshaw [d.brookshaw@sky.com]  
**Sent:** 02 September 2009 17:06  
**To:** COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW  
**Subject:** Town Council for Crewe

Having just received my ballot paper re parish council/town council I felt I had to email my disgust at the waste of time paper and money all this has cost. My understanding was we became Cheshire East and therefore were saving money. How can you save money by having a Town Council in Crewe. I and I feel a lot of people are quite capable of making our own points of view and also sorting our own problems. The local councillors before we became Cheshire East did nothing for my friends and I locally and I live in one of the areas that does not have a parish council. In fact we never knew who they were until election time and then did not see them personally. I expect that is how it would be again. I am not prepared to pay extra on my Council Tax so that people who do not know what to do with themselves now we are Cheshire East and they no longer attend meetings and get their expenses. There are plenty of voluntary organisations that would be grateful for their help!! We are Cheshire East now and therefore have to accept their ways and decisions not elect a few people who will not have much power but will cost the Council Tax payer more money. Progress always has casualties we just have to live with it my advice to the "old councillors" move on your job is done!!!

①  
- To whom it may  
Concern.  
or who ever Gets in  
To Look after CREWE  
and its peoples,  
I live where there is  
a playing Field at the  
Back of our Gardens,  
Kids Playing Football + Playing  
Folks taking there Pets For  
a walk on the Field.  
that is as it should be;  
not kind on motor bikes,  
Broken Glass, Grown men with  
motorized Cars, Toy cars  
that are louder than ~~some~~ <sup>some</sup>  
Bikes; you Tell them off  
and get a foul mouth + spat  
at or a Fraud your Car  
or home will be Broken into.  
Kids rule the Town this has to  
Be stopped.

P.T.O.



(2)

more Jobs To Be Found.  
parents. Teach how To look  
after their children  
all you hear is  
mum + dads swearing at  
their kids, there is no  
respect any more to parents or  
parents To kids.

Needs doing Bus station -  
Park.

play areas for kids +  
places for young adults,  
To go To there is no  
cash about so they must  
be cheap kid + young adults  
Drinking Day + night.  
they need more empty properties  
allocated to them money put  
in to it - Find things for  
people to do,

P.T.O.

(3).

Folks must Be Taught To Look  
after and care for their pets.  
Help with nuturing all animals,,  
more care and respect,  
For our creatures in this  
town and world wide.  
when is our part.  
Going To Be Finished?  
it is a lovely Place To  
Visit Trees & Plants, seeing Birds  
Folks, kids, - dog, walkers -  
all enjoying there lives  
there is enough folk out  
at work To help keep this  
Town clean, Give Free  
Ticket To cinema or Boulds  
swimming ~~less~~ lessons.  
no smashed wrists any more.  
Give more lesson on ~~how~~ how To  
Behave, To others + pets The Town.  
~~create~~  
create

TO CHESHIRE EAST  
COUNCIL

259 ALTON ST  
CW 2 7 PU

02-09-09

DEAR SIRS M<sup>RS</sup> D<sup>S</sup>

I WILL BE 92 IN NOVEMBER.. DUE TO INDUSTRIAL INJURIES, BADLY IMPAIRED VISION, AND NOISE DAMAGED HEARING, DISTORTION (NOT DEAFNESS) I AM UNABLE TO USE TELEPHONES, COMPUTER CONTROLLED COMMUNICATIONS ETC, I HAVE TO CONFINE MY CORRESPONDENCE TO THE WRITTEN WORD.. NOW YOU WILL NOTE I WRITE IN "UPPER CASE" OR CAPITAL PRINT. I REALISED SOME YEARS AGO, THAT IT WAS A GOOD EXCUSE FROM VARIOUS OFFICES (AND I QUOTE) WE CANNOT READ THESE OLD PEOPLE'S ARCHAIC HANDWRITING. WELL I SUPPOSE THAT IS TRUE IN MOST CASES, BUT NOT IN MINE. NOW FROM WHAT DEALINGS I HAVE HAD WITH CHESHIRE EAST. SO FAR I AM QUITE HAPPY I AND OTHERS I HAVE SPOKEN TOO HAVE AGREED THAT, IN THIS CASE A CHANGE HAS BEEN FOR THE BETTER.. IT IS TO BE HOPE'D THAT THIS TREND CONTINUES.

DUE TO THE FACT THAT I OWN MY HOUSE, AND I MEAN OWN IT, I BOUGHT IT FOR CASH IN 1957 NO MORTGAGE NO DEBTS. FULL STOP. I WORKED TILL I WAS APPROACHING 80 SO

⑦ I RECEIVING PENSIONS, WHICH TILL RECENTLY  
I WAS ABLE TO LIVE ON, AND KEEP MY  
GRAND-DAUGHTER AND MY TWO DOGS, WHICH  
ARE MY EYES AND EARS, I PAY COUNCIL  
TAX, WHICH WAS MODIFIED RECENTLY TO  
FIT MY CIRCUMSTANCES. SO I HAVE NEVER  
HAD TO GO TO THE GOVERNMENT WITH  
THE OLD "BEGGING BOWL" AS SO MANY  
OLD UNFORTUNATES HAVE HAD TOO..  
TO BE PLAIN, ANYTHING THAT WOULD  
INCREASE COUNCIL TAX IS NOT ON. AGAIN  
FULL STOP. CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL AND  
OTHERS, WERE CREATED TO ELIMINATE  
"DEAD WOOD". DON'T LET US CREATE  
ANOTHER BUNCH OF "TOOTHLESS TIGERS"  
AND PAY THEM GOOD MONEY... (OUR MONEY)  
NOW WHILE WRITING, THERE IS ANOTHER  
MATTER I WOULD LIKE AN ANSWER TO  
REGARDING THE FORMER CHESHIRE CO.  
COUNCIL. ? THIS OF COURSE APPLIES TO  
MANY OTHER COUNCILS AS WELL, THAT IS  
WHAT HAS BEEN DONE, IF ANYTHING

③ ABOUT THE DISCLOSURES LAST YEAR,  
AND I AM ONLY REFERRING TO THE OLD  
CO. COUNCIL, ABOUT THE £8 MILLION  
OR SO THAT SOMEONE IN AUTHORITY  
"INVESTED" WITH OUR MONEY INTO THIS  
"PHONGY" OR SHOULD I SAY "DODGY"  
BANK IN ICELAND OF ALL PLACES..  
I RECENTLY READ IN THE PRESS THAT  
THEY HAVE NO HOPE OF RECOVERING IT..  
IF THOSE RESPONSIBLE WERE COUNCILLORS  
ARE THEY STILL COUNCILLORS?  
HAS ANY INQUIRY EVER BEEN MADE?  
HAS ANY ONE BEEN "REPRIMANDED"  
"DISCIPLINED" ETC. PEOPLE ARE STILL CURIOUS..  
NOW, ABOUT THESE "MODUS" PEOPLE  
THESE "WEALTHY" PEOPLE WHO WERE  
GOING TO DO ALL THESE "WONDERFUL"  
"HEATH ROBINSON" THINGS TO "REVITALISE"  
CROWE, CREATE A "DISNEYLAND" IN THE  
TOWN CENTRE, NOW WE FIND THEY WERE  
JUST LIKE ALL THE OTHER "DEVELOPERS"  
OPERATING ON BORROWED MONEY WHEN  
THE BANKS WENT BUST, SO DID THEY...

④ VERY FUNNY YOU SAY WELL PERHAPS  
MANY PEOPLE HAVE NOT REALISED HOW  
CLOSE WE WERE TO HAVING LARGE  
AREAS OF THE TOWN CENTRE KNOCKED  
DOWN. AND WE WOULD HAVE BEEN  
LEFT WITH PILES OF BROKEN BRICKS ETC  
BELIEVING IT WAS ONLY THE DELAY  
CAUSED BY THE MEMORIAL DISPUTE  
THAT AVOIDED THIS. FULL STOP.

CRGWG IS ALL RIGHT AS IT IS, IT  
WAS OK AS IT WAS BEFORE 1960'S  
IT IS ONLY AN OLD RAILWAY TOWN  
WHAT PEOPLE SHOULD BE INTERESTED IN  
OR PROUD OF, IS THOSE OLD RAILWAYMEN  
WHO BUILT THE PLACE, WHERE IS THERE  
ANY MENTION OF EVEN THE MAN  
WHO FOUNDED CRGWG JOSEPH LOCKE  
I'VE SPOKEN TO SCHOOL LADS 14 TO 15 YEAR  
OLD WHO HAVE NEVER HEARD OF HIM...  
I EVEN SPOKE TO ONE OF THEIR TEACHERS  
RECENTLY HE DIDN'T KNOW..

~~Harry Fortuna~~ ALSO KNOWN AS FH TWISS  
HARRY FORTUNA

~~FH Twiss~~

WHY SHOULD PENSIONERS  
BE EXPECTED TO PAY MORE  
COUNCIL TAX FOR THIS  
ADDITIONAL LAYER OF  
GOVERNMENT (OR THIS CASE  
NON-GOVERNMENT) ?

HAS THIS BEEN PROPOSED IN  
ORDER TO RE-INFLATE THE  
EGOS OF FORMER COUNCILLORS ?

NOT TO MENTION EXPENSES

---

**From:** KENNETH JONES [mailto:kejones@btinternet.com]  
**Sent:** 04 September 2009 07:51  
**To:** Parton, Lindsey  
**Subject:** Local governance in Crewe

--- On Fri, 4/9/09, KENNETH JONES <kejones@btinternet.com> wrote:

From: KENNETH JONES <kejones@btinternet.com>  
Subject: Local governance in Crewe  
To: lindsey.parton@cheshireeast.gov.uky  
Date: Friday, 4 September, 2009, 7:48 AM

Dear Ms Parton

I understand that you are the person to whom representations should be made about the public consultation on local governance for Crewe. I hope that an email is acceptable (if not I will willingly write) and that I have your email address correct.

As a former long-serving member and Chairman of Shavington-cum-Gresty Parish Council, I can assert the advantages to the people of a homogeneous area of having one voice to represent their views. With the greatest respect to your authority, there will be times when there is no common interest binding, let us say Prestbury, with Crewe. Crewe has a very distinct and homogenous identity. It has a common economic and cultural interest, and one that is very distinct from most of the Cheshire East council area. With only 12 councillors to represent it out of over 80, there is an overwhelming and - I would have thought - very obvious need for it to have a democratically accountable organisation whose remit is solely restricted to Crewe alone.

Despite having lived and worked away from the area for some years, I still take an interest in local matters through family and friends and I'm sure that the adjacent parished areas will want to support this and work with a Crewe Town Council.

Yours sincerely,

Ken Jones



Please forward to the office  
who passed this form for use.

Mary Gill

345 Alton St.,

Crewe

CW2 7RS

4th Sept 09

Dear Sir/Madam

I would like to say  
I felt this form was very  
poorly put together.

I actually had to ring  
for guidance in forwarding  
my genuine wish.

I am sure I am not the  
only person that felt like  
this.

Sincerely  
Mary Gill

## COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

---

**From:** Pete [midgley@midgleypr.freemove.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 06 September 2009 17:47  
**To:** COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW  
**Subject:** Crewe community governance review

Hello Reviewers,

Thanks for your

I'm Peter Midgley of 32 James Atkinson Way; these are some thoughts on the subject, there may be others to follow:

1. A point about boundaries:

It makes no sense to mark the boundary in Leighton halfway through the 'Oakley Fields' (old Rolls Royce playing fields) estate, excluding Farmleigh and the new houses north of Bradfield Rd, Parkers Rd. Can't they be included? they all use the same services so it would be a lot more realistic. I think the same point applies regarding Wells Green and Berkeley Towers.

It appears from your website that Cheshire East have the devolved power to alter the boundary to reflect developments.

2. My neighbours and I wonder what value would be added to justify the extra expense, of having a Town Council. Can anyone answer that?

3. If there is no Town Council at present, how are the Allotments, bus shelters, local crime prevention etc being handled and how effectively?

4. If a Town Council also had judicial powers they could bring in local justice such as the stocks which would doubtless curb anti-social behaviour! This might seem a bit old-fashioned but you must admit it might take some radical thinking to re-engage 21st century urban dwellers into thinking they are actually part of a community.

sincerely

Peter Midgley.

Mrs J Parton,  
Elections and Registration Manager,  
East Cheshire Council,

Mr Peter Slackton,  
37 Jennyson Ave,  
Crewe,  
Cheshire,  
12-09-09,

Dear Madam  
Subject: Crewe Community Governance Review.

The first I knew about the above, was when the voting forms arrived through my letter box on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> of August, having read the voting papers, it appeared to be ambiguous and at the very least, to have a bias in favour of selecting either a new Crewe Town Council or a Parish Council.

I noted that of the four choices on the voting paper, three of those choices, would involve the Crewe rate-payers in paying an additional cost over and above the present Council Tax bill each year.

I have been given to believe a sum of £20 plus to £200 plus P.A for the most expensive option - a new Crewe Town Council.

Having recently voted for a change, from Crewe Town Council to our present Cheshire East Council, I find it a costly and backward move to now ask Crewe ratepayers to fund a new Crewe Town Council, since they have no purpose or no accurate costing.

Cheshire East Council now provide all Crewe's services, previously provided by the now disbanded Crewe Town Council.

Chester East councillors are accountable for all the wards within the Crewe boundaries, any person can seek advice or discuss any concerns they may have.

I have received a Labour propaganda leaflet, posted through my letter box this week (please see enclosed). you will note that it fails to put the facts of the situation fairly, neglecting to point out the cost implication for the Crewe rate-payers, if the new Crewe Town Council were successful in its bid.

If the ex Crewe Town councillors think they have a valuable contribution to make to the people of Crewe, I suggest they stand for the position of councillor for Chester East at the next opportunity.

If in the passing of time, the Chester East Council choose in favour of setting up a new, and in my view unnecessary new Crewe Town Council, and in doing so passes this additional cost onto the Crewe rate-payers. I feel there will be great dissatisfaction and anger, not only with the ex Crewe Town Councillors, but also with the Chester East Council.

In closing, I would say to the Chester East Council, so far I have found the services provided by yourselves to be excellent, please continue with the good work.

Please do not add cost to an already costly Council tax bill, particularly at a time when we are all having to tighten our belts, with the current financial conditions within our Country at this time

Yours Respectfully  
P. Stockton

## COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

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**From:** Parton, Lindsey [lindsey.parton@cheshireeast.gov.uk]  
**Sent:** 28 September 2009 10:28  
**To:** COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW  
**Cc:** Bason, Ralph  
**Subject:** FW: Community Governance Review Crewe

---

**From:** FLUDE, Dorothy (Councillor)  
**Sent:** 28 September 2009 10:01  
**To:** Parton, Lindsey  
**Subject:** Community Governance Review Crewe

Hello Lindsey

Please include in the submission my full support for One Town Council for the at present un-parished part of the town of Crewe.

Dorothy Flude  
Councillor Crewe South  
Leader of the Labour Group Cheshire East Borough Council

6 Tynedale Ave  
Crewe  
CW2 7NY  
01270664121

**From:** Conquest, Steve Cllr (Cheshireeast)

**Sent:** 27 September 2009 16:43

**To:** HAWTHORNTHWAITE, Gaynor; Parton, Lindsey

**Subject:** RE: Crewe Community Governance Review

Dear Gaynor

I would like to confirm my belief that the creation of a single Town Council would constitute the best outcome for the people of Crewe.

I set out my views in more detail at the extraordinary meeting of Crewe Charter Trustees on 24 September and trust that the minutes of this public meeting will be made available to you and included in the consultation process.

Kind regards

Steve

---

**From:** HAWTHORNTHWAITE, Gaynor

**Sent:** 26 August 2009 13:03

**To:** Cheshire East Members

**Subject:** Crewe Community Governance Review

Dear Member

Cheshire East Council is conducting a review of Community Governance arrangements in response to a petition received from members of the public calling for a single Town Council for the unparished parts of the town.

The Council would welcome your views on community governance arrangements for Crewe and whether you feel that a single town council, multiple parish councils, or some other form of community governance should be created.

The Council is consulting electors, stakeholders and local organisations in the Crewe area throughout September and is seeking your views on this important issue. Your views will be taken into account in reaching any decisions.

Following this initial period of consultation, a draft recommendation will then be formed by the Council in October, following which there will be a second round of more limited consultation in the Autumn.

Any new arrangements would take effect from the date of the next local elections in May 2011, when elections to any new Town Council created would take place.