CREWE COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

RESPONSES TO STAGE 2 CONSULTATION

REPRESENTATIONS FROM **COUNCILLORS IN SUPPORT OF THE COUNCIL'S DRAFT RECOMMENDATION**

Cheshire East Council

208 MIDDLEWICH ST
CREWE
CW1 4DL
23/12/09.
581978

TO LINDSEY PARTON.
ELECTION TEAM MANAGER.

GOVERNANCE TEAM REVIEW.

Dear Lindsey

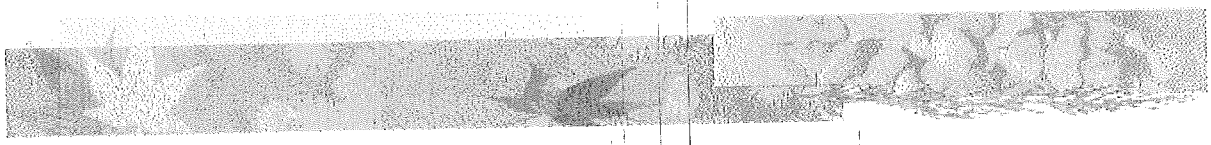
I accept the vote for NO CHANGE.
I therefore do not support a Town Council but support the Charter Trustee's and Ward Forums.
Over the last 12 months not one person has contacted me to support a Town Council quite the opposite infact.

Regards.

C.L. Chris Thorley.
Margaret Thorley

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: BEBBINGTON, Derek (Councillor)
Sent: 29 November 2009 16:25
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW



I would like formally to submit my response to the second stage of the governance review of Crewe.

My belief is that the people of Crewe, would be best served by having no change in the current arrangement and the keeping of the Crewe Charter Trustee's.

It is also my belief that the people have voted for no change and that Cheshire East council should respect that vote.

Yours

Derek Bebbington

Cllr Derek Bebbington
Crewe North Ward
Cheshire East Council
Crewe Charter Trustee
Tel: 01270 522902
Email: cllr.derek.bebbington@cheshireeast.gov.uk

FW: Re Town Council for Crewe

REED, Brian

Sent: 07 January 2010 08:34

To: Parton, Lindsey

Brian Reed
Democratic Services Manager
Cheshire East Council
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ
Tel: 01270 686670
Fax: 01270 529891
email: brian.reed@cheshireeast.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----
From: DYKES, Brian (Councillor)
Sent: 06 January 2010 17:42
To: REED, Brian
Subject: Re Town Council for Crewe

Good Evening Brian

Will you please Note that I am NOT in favour of A Town Council for Crewe and support the wishes of the residents.

Regards

Brian

Cllr Brian Dykes

Cheshire East Council

FW: Crewe Governance Review

REED, Brian

Sent: 07 January 2010 08:28

To: Parton, Lindsey

Brian Reed
Democratic Services Manager
Cheshire East Council
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ
Tel: 01270 686670
Fax: 01270 529891
email: brian.reed@cheshireeast.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----
From: JONES, John (Councillor)
Sent: 07 January 2010 07:41
To: REED, Brian
Subject: Crewe Governance Review

Mr B Reed

I would like to place on record my support for the democratic decision by the people of Crewe to maintain the Charter Trustees' and not to have a Crewe Town Council.

John Jones Cllr Crewe North, Cheshire East Council.

-----Original Message-----
From: SILVESTER, Brian (Councillor)
Sent: 06 January 2010 15:58
To: REED, Brian
Cc: FITZGERALD, Wesley (Councillor)
Subject: Crewe Governance Review Further Consultation

Brian,

There was a ballot last year of Crewe residents and a majority voted not to have a town council. The Cheshire East Council then resolved to accept the views of the Crewe people that there should not be a Town Council. I think that the Cheshire East Council was right to accept the views of Crewe residents that there should not be a town council at the present time.

With best wishes,

Brian Silvester

CREWE COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

RESPONSES TO STAGE 2 CONSULTATION

REPRESENTATIONS FROM **INDIVIDUALS IN SUPPORT OF THE COUNCIL'S DRAFT RECOMMENDATION**

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: info@cheshireeast.gov.uk
Sent: 03 December 2009 12:40
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW; ARGENT, Katherine
Subject: crewe_community_governance_review_2009 - form submission

Email Result For Form :
Name : Philip Broadhurst

Address : 37 Hazel Grove, Crewe

Your Feedback : Although not in favour of the original concept of the 'Cheshire East Council' as dictated by the Government of the day, we are where we are and all areas are adequately represented on the 'new council'. To introduce another layer of governance is, I feel, futile and unnecessary. We have the 'Charter Trustees' to protect our heritage and perform the ceremonial and who are more than adequate to make representations to the full Cheshire East council in their capacity as councillors for the Town.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: info@cheshireeast.gov.uk
Sent: 15 December 2009 14:10
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW; ARGENT, Katherine
Subject: crewe_community_governance_review_2009 - form submission

Email Result For Form :
Name : Bob Squirrell

Address : 31, Whirlow Road, Crewe, CW2 6SR

Your Feedback : To me the questions were clear and the result is also clear, that a majority of those that voted want no change.

It is being said that the questions were not clear. The only possible confusion would be if people did not understand in question 1 that it meant parish council OR town council.

The low response also suggests that there is not much enthusiasm for any change.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: Clive Lane [clive_lane_cgs@hotmail.com]
Sent: 09 December 2009 14:36
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

With regard to the proposed draft recommendation of Cheshire East Council 'to accept the vote from the people of Crewe to reject the notion of a Town Council for Crewe at this time' may I say I find it both insulting and patronising for those in favour of a Town Council to suggest that Crewe people rejected the notion of a Town Council for Crewe because they did not fully understand a perfectly worded, simple question - do you want a Town Council for Crewe of not.

Crewe people new EXACTLY what they were voting for. They were voting against another unnecessary layer of beaucracy and expence, and a rejection of a return of Peter Kent and his labour cronies who over the years have inflicted so much damage on this once great town.

Stick to the result. It was clear enough. No Town Council for Crewe.

C. Lane

FW: Crewe Town Council

REED, Brian

Sent: 07 January 2010 12:27

To: Parton, Lindsey

Brian Reed
Democratic Services Manager
Cheshire East Council
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ
Tel: 01270 686670
Fax: 01270 529891
email: brian.reed@cheshireeast.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----
From: joanduffy06@aol.com [mailto:joanduffy06@aol.com]
Sent: 07 January 2010 12:06
To: REED, Brian
Subject: Crewe Town Council

Sir. I agree the people of Crewe have spoken and therefore there should not be a Crewe Town Council

Regards Joan Duffy.

FW: Crewe Town Council

REED, Brian

Sent: 07 January 2010 15:44

To: Parton, Lindsey

Brian Reed
Democratic Services Manager
Cheshire East Council
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ
Tel: 01270 686670
Fax: 01270 529891
email: brian.reed@cheshireeast.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----
From: Cath [mailto:cathtuppence60@btinternet.com]
Sent: 07 January 2010 15:03
To: REED, Brian
Subject: Fw: Crewe Town Council

----- Original Message -----
From: Cath
To: brian.reed@cheshireest.gov.uk
Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2010 6:00 PM
Subject: Crewe Town Counsil

Please note that as a Crewe resident I feel that it is most important and correct that Cheshire East Council respects the views of Crewe residents that there should not be a town council at the present time.

Parton, Lindsey

From: REED, Brian
Sent: 08 January 2010 10:53
To: Parton, Lindsey
Subject: FW: Crewe Governance Review

Brian Reed
Democratic Services Manager
Cheshire East Council
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ
Tel: 01270 686670
Fax: 01270 529891
email: brian.reed@cheshireeast.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----
From: SILVESTER, Brian (Councillor)
Sent: 07 January 2010 18:35
To: REED, Brian
Cc: 'ian.hughes1@homecall.co.uk'
Subject: FW: Crewe Governance Review

Brian,
Ian Hughes has asked me to pass the e-mail below onto you as part of the Crewe Governance Review.

With best wishes,

Brian Silvester

-----Original Message-----
From: Ian Hughes [mailto:ian.hughes1@homecall.co.uk]
Sent: 07 January 2010 16:10
To: SILVESTER, Brian (Councillor)
Subject: RE: Crewe Governance Review

Dear Brian

I have to support the views of Crewe People that there should not be a Crewe Town Council. The reorganisation of the Local Authority and the creation of two Unitary Councils in Cheshire should have brought economies of scale to the Council Tax Payers of Cheshire. It is time to question the value that the Nantwich Town Council brings to its residents and whether the potential limited benefits represents value for money from the Council Tax Payers.

I would welcome feedback on what savings have been made and whether the Council Tax Payers of Cheshire East are going to see a reduction in their Council Tax Bills in the coming Tax year.

It is time that the Management of Local Authorities was more accountable to voters.

As a separate issue the gritting of the roads particularly the minor roads seems to have been very poor. I wonder just how many admissions have been made into local Accident and Emergency Hospitals due to the lack of gritting.

Yet again it appears to be a lack of joined up planning in dealing with the conditions created by this winter weather.

The voters want to see value for money from their taxes.

Ian

Ian Hughes

Parton, Lindsey

From: REED, Brian
Sent: 08 January 2010 12:32
To: Parton, Lindsey
Subject: FW:

Brian Reed
Democratic Services Manager
Cheshire East Council
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ
Tel: 01270 686670
Fax: 01270 529891
email: brian.reed@cheshireeast.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----
From: beverleyshenton@aol.com [mailto:beverleyshenton@aol.com]
Sent: 08 January 2010 03:40
To: REED, Brian
Subject:

At the ballot last year of Crewe residents the majority voted not to have a Town Council.
Cheshire East accepted this view and I think they were right to accept the views of the residents that there should not be a Town Council at present.

Regards.
Kirk and Beverley Shenton

CREWE COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

RESPONSES TO STAGE 2 CONSULTATION

REPRESENTATIONS FROM COUNCILLORS AGAINST THE COUNCIL'S DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: Parton, Lindsey [lindsey.parton@cheshireeast.gov.uk]
Sent: 01 December 2009 11:06
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Cc: BASON, Ralph
Subject: FW: Crewe Community Governance Review - Stage 2 consultation

---

From: Roland Domleo [mailto:domleor@btinternet.com]
Sent: 30 November 2009 21:05
To: HAWTHORNTHWAITE, Gaynor
Subject: Re: Crewe Community Governance Review - Stage 2 consultation

30th November 2009

I do wish to make a representation.

a) I believe that the people of Crewe were misinformed by those that claimed a Town Council "could " cost £9 million over four years. That is patently not true. Had they not been so misinformed then they may have voted differently.

b) Part of the "People and Places" bid which led to the formation of Cheshire East is based on the premise of devolving service delivery down to the lowest level practical, which is in effect Town and Parish Councils. That means we need to be fully parished.However we face the prospect of all of Cheshire East being parished with the exception of Crewe.

We cannot have local Town and Parish Councils paying for and providing services in their local areas whilst those services in Crewe are paid for by all the tax payers in Cheshire East.

We must press ahead with a single Town Council for Crewe.

Best Regards
Roland Domleo

Cllr. Roland M. Domleo, Congleton Town West Ward, Cheshire East Council, Cabinet Member For Adult Services, 9 Kirkstone Court, Congleton. CW12 4JW tel 01260 278745. Mobile 07710 126406 e- mail roland.domleo@cheshireeast.gov.uk

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: Cllr Howard Murray [howard.murray@ntlworld.com]
Sent: 26 November 2009 15:59
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: A Council for Crewe

I strongly believe that Crewe deserves a Town Council:

- It will increase the numbers of Cllrs available to represent the views of the local people – better democratic accountability and greater community involvement;
- It will ensure a better political balance;
- It will ensure that services that should be delivered locally will be delivered locally and in a more cost effective manner;

To not give Crewe a Council will seriously disadvantage its residents in terms of representation and ensuring that they get the services that they deserve. The cost per household is tiny compared to the benefit of better service delivery and Cllr representation.

hm

Cllr Howard Murray
Representing:
Poynton Ward - Cheshire East Council;
Central Ward - Poynton Town Council.
(T) +44 (0)1625 878367
(M) +44 (0)77 3971 6111
howard.murray@cheshireeast.gov.uk

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: MORAN, Arthur (Councillor)
Sent: 02 December 2009 14:14
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Crewe Town Council

As a Nantwich Town Councillor for 23 years I believe that Town and Parish Councils are a very important level of Local Government and have a vital role to play in the new two tire system since Cheshire East was formed.

I therefore support the formation of a Town Council for Crewe a Town with a very important industrial history and it is vital that Crewe as a voice and local representation at this level.

Regards
Councillor Arthur Moran.
Cheshire East
Nantwich

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: info@cheshireeast.gov.uk
Sent: 08 December 2009 20:40
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW; ARGENT, Katherine
Subject: crewe_community_governance_review_2009 - form submission

Email Result For Form :
Name : Cllr Terry Beard

Address : 1 Tollemache Drive Crewe

Your Feedback : I do not agree with the councils draft resolution because I do not believe that the people of Crewe did reject the notion of a town council.As representative of unparished areas of Crewe I am being constantly asked when will a town council come into effect,its widely believed that the vote was flawed and a straight vote of yes or no vote is required and it would be overwhelming for a town council for Crewe.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: CONQUEST, Steve (Councillor)
Sent: 03 January 2010 17:21
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Crewe Community Governance Review - stage Two Consultation

Dear Sir/Madam

I have been asked to provide a contribution to the second stage of the Consultation process in my capacity as Charter Trustee.

At October`s Full council meeting I explained the reasons why the Council`s draft recommendation to reject the notion of a Town council is based upon a fundamentally flawed public consultation. The details will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which I proposed an amendment to the draft recommendation.

I still hold firmly to this view and believe that the majority of Crewe residents are in favour of a Town council. A single Town council represents an opportunity to have a single, democratically elected body to represent the people of Crewe and in doing so provide the unity of purpose to help drive the regeneration of Crewe forward at a critical time within the current economic cycle.

Should the draft recommendation be approved then I believe that Cheshire East council will have missed a real opportunity to respond positively to the challenges that Crewe faces and the contribution that a Town council could have made towards this.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Steve Conquest

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: FLUDE, Dorothy (Councillor)
Sent: 04 January 2010 09:10
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Crewe Town Council

I am in full support of a single town council for the un-parished part of Crewe Town
Dorothy Flude
Labour Group Leader Cheshire East

Response to the Crewe Governance Review: Date 6th of January 2010.

I would like respond to this review not only because I am an elected representative for Crewe West Ward but for the whole of Cheshire East Borough Council Area and feel its important to enhance local representation and democracy and in that regard feel that large areas in this borough which because of Local Government Reorganisation are without this means of Governance which I believe to be a fundamental right to have Town Council. We must as a principal council ensure that a fair means of addressing that issue of democratic disadvantage in areas like Macclesfield, Wilmslow. Handforth and Crewe which have no local Town Council but elsewhere in the Borough the area is dominated by Town and Parish Councils:

Alsager, Bollington. Congleton, Knutsford, Middlewich, Nantwich, Poynton, Sandbach.
Acton,Edleston & Henhull, Adlington, Agden, Alderley Edge, Alpraham, Arclid, Ashley, Aston-by-Budworth, Audlem, Barthomley, Betchton, Bickerton & Egerton, Bosley, Bradwall, Brereton, Brindley & Faddiley, Buerton, Bulkeley & Ridley,
Bunbury, Burland, Calveley, Chelford, Cholmondeley & Chorley,
Cholmondeston & Wettenhall. Chorley, Church Lawton, Church Minshull, Cranage, Crewe Green, Disley, Dodcott-cum-Wilkesley, Doddington & District, Eaton, Gawsworth, Goostrey, Great Warford, Hankelow, Haslington,Hassall, Hatherton & Walgherton, Haughton, Henbury, Higher Hurdsfield,
High Legh, Holmes Chapel, Hough & Chorlton,
Hulme Walfield & Somerford Booths, Kettleshulme,Little Bollington, Little Warford, Lower Withington, Lyme Handley, Macclesfield Forest & Wildboarclough,Marbury & District, Marton, Mere, Millington,
Minshull Vernon & District, Mobberley, Moston, Mottram St Andrew,
Nether Alderley, Newbold Astbury-cum-Moreton, Newhall, North Rode,
Odd Rode, Ollerton & Marthall, Over Alderley, Peckforton Peover Inferior,
Peover Superior, Pickmere, Plumley with Toft & Bexton, Pott Shrigley,Prestbury,
Rainow, Rope, Rostherne, Shavington-cum Gresty, Siddington, Smallwood,
Snelson, Somerford, Sound & District, Spurstow, Stapeley & District,
Stoke & Hurleston, Sutton, Swettenham, Tabley, Tatton, Twemlow, Wardle,
Warmingham, Weston & Basford, Willaston, Wilmslow, Wistaston,
Worleston & District, Wrenbury-cum-Frith, Wybunbury,Wincle.

Then why do I ask for a town council for the unparished area of Crewe well because that is what the people want.
This has been expressed via a petition, ballot result, and debate and a consensus amongst the local residents who do not understand why they cannot have a town council for Crewe they have definitely rejected the notion of multiple councils for Crewe and the argument for them has diminished.

Many Parish Councils have warding arrangements which in effect means that there are multiple parishes under a parent or governing body which has the final say on how the council directs itself and allocates funds and sets a preset, so the difference between the two options on the first Stage Consultation Ballot is a fine line between them but the fundamental difference is the numbers of electors that have asked for a whole Town Council for the unparished areas of Crewe.

This overwhelming Majority must be the deciding factor for deliberations whether they have a one town council for the unparished area Crewe or the status quo still applies.

If the decision is no to a town council then the democratic disadvantage will continue and the implications for the principal council this will bring.
This I believe will only engender mistrust and resentment towards Cheshire East Borough Council for years to come and will disenfranchised a large area of the Borough which in effect will not feel part of the newly fledged Council.

Throughout this consultation I can not see any other viable alternative to one town council this has been bourn out of many groups' organisations and individual residents who have asked for a town council, one voice to help Crewe to regenerate and improve the Town for the good of the its people that is what people expect to happen throughout Cheshire East Borough Council area if they are in a parish.
So why Crewe should be treated any differently than anywhere else like the list above? please give us a town council.

Councillor Roy Cartlidge
Crewe West Ward
Cheshire East Borough Council
8 Coppenhall Lane
Crewe
CW2 8TT

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: D CANNON [cannon380@btinternet.com]
Sent: 05 January 2010 15:23
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: CREWE COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

from Cllr David Cannon/ Crewe South Ward.

I make this submission primarily as a Charter Trustee of Crewe.

Towards the end of 2009, Cheshire East's Head of Democratic Services issued guidance notes to the Trustees, prepared by the Department for Communities and Local Government. Included in these notes is the passage: "the sole purpose of creating Charter Trustees is to maintain and preserve the historic rights, privileges (including ceremonial rights and privileges) and traditions ("historic rights") associated with those local authority districts which were subsumed into a larger local government area as part of local government reorganisation and where a suitable parish does not exist to preserve those rights; ... their creation is a temporary and caretaker arrangement to preserve historic rights locally (and not create a break in those traditions) until such time as a parish can be created."

My impression is that most of the Members of the former Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council who voted to establish the Trustees for Crewe (including me) did so expectating that the Trustees would continue for only a short period. The Trustees were established to preserve the office of Mayor, an office that began when Crewe became a Borough in 1877, and continued when it was subsumed into the new Borough of Crewe & Nantwich in 1974. In my view, the correct way to maintain that office is for future mayors to be elected by members of a reconstituted Town Council, and to chair meetings of that Council. A 'Mayor' merely chosen from the twelve people who happen to represent Crewe wards on Cheshire East Council is a travesty - preservation of the trappings of office with none of the substance.

Re-establishment of Crewe Town Council does of course depend on the consent of the electors in the unparished areas of the town. Cheshire East Council deserves credit for organising a ballot during the public consultation in the first stage of the Governance Review. With hindsight, it was a mistake to make that a double ballot. The results of the two votes are contradictory: one vote apparently against a Crewe Council, the other in favour.

A natural response to these results would be to seek clarification in the second stage consultation, and it is regrettable that this opportunity was not taken up. It is also regrettable that the result of the votes has been presented in a misleading way during this second consultation.

The result of the first ballot question is presented as: 3655 electors wanting a parish council and 4059 electors wanting no parish council. This ignores the 321 electors who didn't vote on this question at all, but who by voting on the second question clearly indicated support for a council. Thus less than a hundred votes separates the totals for and against a "parish" council, a term that undoubtedly confused some of the electors. Yet this result has been allowed to override the vote 5617 in favour, 1475 against a "town" council, the term that was used in the original petition.

The belief seems widespread amongst the membership of Cheshire East Council, that a Crewe Town Council will be established eventually. However it is not clear in what circumstances a second Governance Review would take place, or what object is gained in delaying establishment of a Council beyond 2011. Many people within the town and beyond it assumed that the original petition signed by more than 10% of eligible electors was sufficient in itself to secure a Town Council. It is

perverse not to take this step in the establishment of a uniform pattern of local government in east Cheshire, when just 4059 voters - less than 12% of the electorate - have expressed opposition to it.

David Cannon

CREWE COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

RESPONSES TO STAGE 2 CONSULTATION

REPRESENTATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS AGAINST THE COUNCIL'S DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

COLIN TOMKINSON,
36, RUSKIN ROAD,
CREWE,
CW2 7JR

RE-CREWE CHRONICLE 9-12-09

16-12-09

Dear Lindsey Parton,

Concerning Cheshire East Council, have never wanted a Crewe Town Council. The "Election" was such, that I cancelled out my own vote as did many other voters. Surely the "VOTE" should have been a straight YES or NO.

I believe the election was arranged to give the result they wanted, rather than what the majority of Crewe Town Residents want.

Crewe Towns future looks very bleak ruled from above by Cheshire East Council.

Yours Sincerely

C Tomkinson

P.OLLERHEAD. MA.
320, BROAD STREET,
CREWE,
CW1 4JH

Telephone 01270 585622
email: p.ollerhead@tiscali.co.uk

Dealer in Second-Hand Books

19th December 2009

Dear ~~Sir~~, Madam

Following attendance at a public meeting in Crewe to discuss the draft recommendations for a town council or four parish councils for Crewe I wish to make the following observations.

1. The draft recommendation states that the outcome of the Council's review is:

"To accept the vote from the people of Crewe and to reject the notion of a town council for Crewe."

I desire to register a strong denial that the flawed vote based upon two questions, one of which was ambiguous in the extreme expresses the will of the people of Crewe. I am reasonably intelligent yet I apparently voted for no change in the status quo, which means that I voted to reject a town council. Anyone who lives in the town (not Cheshire east councillors who do not live here) knows that the overwhelming desire is for a town council.

I am fully aware that this consultation is but window dressing and that the desires of Cheshire East Council to deny Crewe a council will be voted through. It will however be a bad day for democracy.

2. If as seems likely parish councils will be installed into Crewe I wish to say that Crewe is one entity. Unlike Wistaston or Willaston, which always had separate identities even, when part of the old Crewe and Nantwich Borough, Crewe however has no recognised parishes. Do not let anyone on Cheshire East say that it has. As a student of Crewe's history (three books in print and two at the publishers) I can state categorically that the town is an entity NOT an amalgam of parishes. To foist parish councils onto Crewe will be ridiculous. We want a council for the whole of the unparished area of the town.

Yours faithfully,

Ollerhead

P. OLLERHEAD

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: info@cheshireeast.gov.uk
Sent: 23 November 2009 07:55
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW; ARGENT, Katherine
Subject: crewe_community_governance_review_2009 - form submission

Email Result For Form :
Your Feedback : I totally disagree that the people of Crewe voted down the proposal for a town council. The form supplied to record a vote was ambiguous and difficult to understand. I am a retired teacher and an ex-engineering drahgtsman but could not understand the first section of the form. I wish now to state complain about the first stage even though it has been accepted by the council. I also wish to state that Crewe NEEDS a town council not four parish councils or however many Cheshire East intend to foist upon us.
P. Ollerhead, 320, Broad Street, CREWE CW1 4JH

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: Steve Hogben [steven.hogben@googlemail.com]
Sent: 21 December 2009 11:53
To: Parton, Lindsey; COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Crewe Community Governance Review Stage 2 consultation

Dear Mrs Parton,

Recently you wrote to me in my capacity as a member of a community group in Crewe, a parish councillor and an Honorary Alderman of the Borough, to seek my views on the draft recommendation of Cheshire East Council **"to accept the vote from the people of Crewe, and to reject the notion of a Town Council for Crewe at this time".**

I am writing to express my emphatic rejection of the draft recommendation. In my opinion, the Council's recommendation is wrong because it ignores many of the results of the first stage of consultation. The purpose of Stage One consultation was to collect views from residents and stakeholders to enable the Council to form a rational conclusion, based on evidence. There is ample evidence to demonstrate that the people of Crewe want a town council.

The Stage One voting result came in two parts.

It is fair to say that the first question on the voting paper produced an inconclusive result:

In favour of a parish council	3655
No change	4059
Abstained	342
Total	8056

I attended the first public consultation meeting held at 2.30 p.m. on 1st September 2009. I know (because he said as much) that Honorary Alderman Ray Stafford attended specifically to ask whether respondents had to complete both parts of the voting paper, or was it possible to fill in just one part. This question is included in the record of that public meeting. The response to his question is recorded as being **"as this was not a ballot, respondents' views would not be invalidated if both parts were not completed, but it would reduce the amount of evidence upon which a reasoned conclusion could be drawn".**

So plainly there were people who did not wish to complete part one of the ballot paper but who did wish to express a preference for a town council. In fact, Ray Stafford stated that many residents had contacted him simply because they did not fully understand the voting paper, but did want to back a town council for Crewe. Mr Stafford said this in the abovementioned public meeting that was chaired by Councillor Kolker, and his comments were clearly heard by all present, including the press. Others in attendance, including me, had been asked similar questions by local residents and supported his contention.

In view of this, it seems to me that the result of the vote on the first question must be augmented by responses to question two. According to the Council's own figures, of the 342 people who abstained from answering the first question, 301 supported one town council for Crewe, 10 favoured four parish councils for Crewe and 31 responses were rejected by the Council, presumably because they were invalid in some way. So in effect 88% of the "plumpers", who only answered question two, wanted a town council for Crewe.

This suggests strongly that the result of the vote on question one should be interpreted as being **at least** 3966 in favour of parish council arrangements for Crewe, and 4059 against parish council arrangements for Crewe, with 31 rejected voting papers. In any rational statistical analysis, this has to be seen as too close to be decisive, and easily within the range of statistical (and other) error.

The response to the second , less ambiguous question on the voting paper by contrast was very decisively in favour of a town council for Crewe. Almost 70% of all those who voted preferred a single town council for Crewe to any other outcome.

5617 in favour of a single town council for the unparished area of Crewe

1475 in favour of four parish councils for the unparished area of Crewe
111 who favoured a parish council did not express a preference between the two options
822 who wanted no change did not express a preference between the two options
31 voting papers were rejected

8056 in total

I now turn to the corporate category, if it can be so described. Of the 41 representations received from stakeholders, 28 preferred a single town council to any other of the many options available. This is a clear two-thirds majority. And it should be noted that these responses did not include replies from significant stakeholders in the town, such as the Crewe Chronicle, MMU Cheshire and Crewe Alexandra FC, all of whom had publicly supported a town council for Crewe beforehand, but none of whom were consulted at Stage One by Cheshire East Council.

Two other very clear pieces of evidence of popular support for the creation of a town council for Crewe also appear to have been overlooked by Cheshire East Council in producing its draft recommendation. These are the petition signed by 3,672 registered electors in the unparished area of Crewe, and the results of a telephone poll by Telsolutions, a reputable independent polling company, whose results can be supplied on request.

In conclusion, the bulk of the evidence points to a wish by the people of Crewe for a town council.

Quite apart from all the above, if Cheshire East is to operate most effectively as the strategic authority intended by government when it created the new unitary council, it is expected by government to devolve powers and budgets to the lowest level, in other words to local councils. This was a basic assumption in the 2007 Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act, and was sometimes referred to as "double devolution". It is the case that there needs to be a network of local councils within the area of a new unitary council capable of delivering front-line local services: this is another compelling reason for Cheshire East to take the opportunity now to introduce local councils in all those areas that are currently unparished, including Crewe, Macclesfield, Wilmslow and Handforth. Since community governance reviews are about to commence for Macclesfield, Wilmslow and Handforth, which must be concluded by the autumn of 2010, the principle authority has a golden opportunity now to ensure a consistent outcome, whereby local councils cover the whole of its administrative area.

Even if some elected members have doubts about the strength of local support for a Crewe town council, they have a real opportunity to show true community leadership and make the decision now to introduce local council arrangements for the town from May 2011. I urge all elected members to seize that opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

Steven Hogben

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: Malcolm Scane [malcscane@ic24.net]
Sent: 12 December 2009 18:44
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Crewe Town Council

The Elections and Registration Team Manager,
Cheshire East Council,
Westfields,
Sandbach,
Cheshire,

Dear Lindsey

Would you please register my support for the proposed Town Council for Crewe

Malcolm Scane
43 Catherine Street
CREWE
CW26HD

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: Pat Parry [pat.m.parry@btopenworld.com]
Sent: 23 October 2009 12:36
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Crewe town council ballot

I was not at all happy with the format of the ballot paper. I did not understand the first set of choices. Why would anyone opt to stay as we are when at the moment we are in a state of limbo, yet to have gone for the other option would not have indicated my wishes either. To put a question mark on the ballot paper would have invalidated it so I simply opted not to vote on the first question. My wish was for a Crewe Town Council and I assumed that by voting for that in the second part of the ballot would have made my wishes clear. I now read that by not voting in the first element Cheshire East has chosen to ignore voters whishes as indicated in the second question. I asked numerous friends and colleagues, including former C & N borough councilors but none of them was able to explain to me what the first choice really meant.

If the first choice was between Crewe having some form of local council or not then that is what the ballot paper should have stated.

I am really angry that Cheshire East seems to be ignoring the results of the second question, which, if what I have read in the press is correct, indicated that the majority of people who voted wanted a Town Council as opposed to four separate parish councils. If residents did not want one or the other of those they would not have voted at all.

pat.m.parry@btinternet.com
Crewe

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: info@cheshireeast.gov.uk
Sent: 23 November 2009 19:40
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW; ARGENT, Katherine
Subject: crewe_community_governance_review_2009 - form submission

Email Result For Form :
Your Feedback : I thought I voted to have a town council for Crewe, but now I'm not sure. The ballot paper was confusing to say the least. Crewe is the largest town in South Cheshire and needs a voice of it's own. There is a very real danger that others, in Cheshire East, will seek to marginalise Crewe in order to pursue their own agenda(s. This must not happen, one town, one voice.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: stephen pennell [smpennell@hotmail.com]
Sent: 25 November 2009 13:19
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Crewe town council governance review

As a person who signed the petition I feel the process was hijacked by Cheshire East Council looking for political gain, And to influence the result with a loaded ballot paper the petition asked people to sign up in support of a Crewe town council. the question on the ballet paper should have been a simple yes or no answer. By fiddling the ballet paper they achieved a different result this makes a mockery of the petition and ignores local feeling regards this issue. The ballot should be rerun with a simple yes no answer. As regards the 4 parish council option as anyone seen a petition or mandate for its inclusion on the ballet paper, no will be the answer as there was none,

Mr S M Pennell
1 Castlemere Drive
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 4SP

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: ROBERT ICKE [r.icke@btinternet.com]
Sent: 26 November 2009 19:32
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Question 1
1. I want a parish council for my area
2. I want no change to the current arrangements (no parish council)
Question 2: You can still vote for your preference even if you have voted above for no change
A. A single Town Council for the whole of the unparished area of Crewe
B. Four parish councils for the unparished area of Crewe

I must say the questionaire was very very confusing - I wanted a Town Council but because of how poorly the questionaire was written my vote would have been registered as a NO Town Council - which is wrong and probably like others falsely accounted for.

I did not want a Parish Council - But I wanted a TOWN COUNCIL so I indicated NO to a Parish Council.

ONLY in Question 2 do you talk about a TOWN COUNCIL in which I voted A for a single town Council.

I am not sure whether this was a deliberate misleand on the Leading Conservative Party as they were anti - towm council. However I do believe it was VERY VERY misleading and in all due respect a Unfair ams one sided result.

Quetion one should have Read Do you want a TOWN COUNCIL Yes or NO
Question two shoould have read IF there is to be a TOWN COUNCIL would you like 1 TOWN COUNCIL or Crewe divided into 4 PARISH COUNCILS.

I hope this infomation will be passed onto the Obusman so they can see how poorly thr questioning was and why the results shold be null and void.

Yours

Robert Icke

A COUNCIL TAX PAYER

Please can I have reponse to my email

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: D WILLIAMS [d.williams24@btinternet.com]
Sent: 27 November 2009 08:55
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Crewe Town Council

The form for the Stage 1 consultation was very confusing for most people.
The people of Crewe need **ONE TOWN COUNCIL**, other areas are represented by Town/Parish Councils' so why should Crewe be different.
The people in the unparished parts of Crewe are not being listened to. Why do you not get out into the communities and speak to the electorate and ***listen*** to their views

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: info@cheshireeast.gov.uk
Sent: 05 December 2009 22:25
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW; ARGENT, Katherine
Subject: crewe_community_governance_review_2009 - form submission

Email Result For Form :
Name : john rhodes

Address : 22 Brooklyn street Crewe cw27jf

Your Feedback : Who ever came up with the wording for the ballot paper successfully confused the good people of Crewe. Was that the intention?
Crewe badly needs a town council to co-ordinate activities it cannot be left to cheshire east council alone,it failed us miserably over the christmas arrangements in the town centre.
A town council should be a democratically elected body comprised of people who live in Crewe and have its best interest at heart.Not a political football.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: janncncab@googlemail.com on behalf of Julie ann Ankers [julieann@cecab.org.uk]
Sent: 09 December 2009 11:59
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Town Council

To Elections & Registration team Manager,

I consider myself fairly well educated and able to understand forms, but the voting paper you sent out regarding the Town Council was totally misleading.

I answered no to question one but now find that I voted No to a town council? This is not the case, I wanted to have a town council but the way it was worded was very confusing.

Also to question two I voted No to a split in to four parishes.

I feel that Crewe & Nantwich should have a local council, as it is one of the largest populated area's in Cheshire East.

Was this a ploy by Cheshire East to confuse people, and what agenda have they got for refusing Crewe & Nantwich A Local Voice?

In terms of the new consultation it is very unfair that it has ONLY been advertised (in a hard to find spot I might add) in the Crewe Chronicle. Not all residents but this paper. It should be a whole consultation process not just a small article in a local paper!

We went to the Municpal Buildings as advertised and even the staff there did not know what we were talking about. The lady had to telephone Sandbach for the details and was told it was only a sentence anyway? This is not very good especially in communication to us of Crewe.

This is e-amiled on behalf of Thelma Grace but please respond to this e-amil address.

I will pass on the response to Thelma Grace.

Many thnaks

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: PAM MINSHALL [pam.minshall@btinternet.com]
Sent: 10 December 2009 14:56
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Consultation

CREWE COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - STAGE 2 CONSULTATION

The wording of the draft recommendation seems particularly disingenuous. The people of Crewe did not reject the notion of a Crewe Town Council - in fact by far the largest number voted for one town council, and that the figures can be so manipulated is due to the faulty ballot paper that was sent out in the first stage of the consultation.

I believe that a single town council for Crewe should be established now. It is certain that there will be one in the future, and one would have thought that in fact, Cheshire East Council would welcome such a body as a significant part of the wish to devolve some matters to a more local level.

Crewe, like other towns within the authority, has its own particular history and culture and a town council will help preserve this as well as promoting community cohesion and giving residents a very local focus and a say in purely Crewe matters and concerns.

I therefore reject the draft recommendation from Cheshire East Council, and request the immediate establishment of a single Town Council for the unparished areas of Crewe.

(Mrs) P M Minshall
145 Gainsborough Road
Crewe
CW2 7PL

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: Trevor Clowes [handt136@talktalk.net]
Sent: 12 December 2009 12:36
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Crewe Town Council

Were it not for the incredibly devious wording which this corrosive East Cheshire Council chose to utilise in the ballot paper in order to frustrate the due election process, it is generally believed that there would have been a clear majority in favour of the appointment of a town council.
East Cheshire Council have rapidly squandered any credibility which they might have once carried into their recent establishment.
Trevor Clowes
Crewe.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: info@cheshireeast.gov.uk
Sent: 21 December 2009 10:40
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW; ARGENT, Katherine
Subject: crewe_community_governance_review_2009 - form submission

Email Result For Form :
Name : denvir champion

Address : 7 Masefield Drive,crewe CW1 5JU WALDREN WARD

Your Feedback : I am totally in suport of a town council for Crewe the form was very confusing delibertly.
I am watching this conservitive run council to decide how to vote in national and local elections and after dead christmas trees the Queens park, town center renewal, moving the rail station out of crewe to nowere I can see nothing to recomend a vote for Cameron or Timpson goverment.And his handling of Post office and Crewe works but this is in line with there plans to outlaw unions

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: info@cheshireeast.gov.uk
Sent: 16 December 2009 15:10
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW; ARGENT, Katherine
Subject: crewe_community_governance_review_2009 - form submission

Email Result For Form :
Name : R.A.Harding

Address : 7 Nigel Gresley Close, Crewe, Cheshire CW1 5GW

Your Feedback : I must first state that I was & still am in complete diagreemaent with the splitting of the county and believe it was a very silly , politically motivated and costly mistake. However, it has now taken place and the question is,"Should Crewe have its own town council"? I think that to have any focussed representation under the current county plan??, that Crewe must have its own town council. I'm sure this will add to the cost of Government (see my dismay above), but it is the lesser of the two evils.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: info@cheshireeast.gov.uk
Sent: 27 November 2009 00:40
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW; ARGENT, Katherine
Subject: crewe_community_governance_review_2009 - form submission

Email Result For Form :
Your Feedback : Your decision to reject the formation of one council for Crewe is wrong. The forms for stage one were misleading.
Crewe should have its own Town Council like other areas.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: info@cheshireeast.gov.uk
Sent: 23 November 2009 19:40
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW; ARGENT, Katherine
Subject: crewe_community_governance_review_2009 - form submission

Email Result For Form :
Your Feedback : I thought I voted to have a town council for Crewe, but now I'm not sure. The ballot paper was confusing to say the least. Crewe is the largest town in South Cheshire and needs a voice of it's own. There is a very real danger that others, in Cheshire East, will seek to marginalise Crewe in order to pursue their own agenda(s. This must not happen, one town, one voice.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: info@cheshireeast.gov.uk
Sent: 01 January 2010 15:40
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW; ARGENT, Katherine
Subject: crewe_community_governance_review_2009 - form submission

Email Result For Form :
Name : Rowena Gomersall

Address :

Your Feedback : Looking at the results it would seem more people who commented on the proposal wanted a single council for Crewe. I feel the people of Crewe need a strong voice to be heard in the new authority. However past experience shows that the wishes of the people are usually ignored. Very few people wanted two unitary authorities but that's what we got thanks to Hazel Blears. We (and CWAC) are now reaping her rewards with swingeing cuts in services and jobs when it was obviously going to be an expensive central government con.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: info@cheshireeast.gov.uk
Sent: 02 January 2010 12:10
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW; ARGENT, Katherine
Subject: crewe_community_governance_review_2009 - form submission

Email Result For Form :
Name : V.G.Roberts

Address : 29 Berkeley Crescent, Wistaston, Crewe CW2 6QA

Your Feedback : In order to provide cohesion and a sense of community for the town of Crewe, I consider that there should be a Crewe Town Council made up of representatives from the Electoral Wards of Coppenhall, Delamere, Grosvenor, Maw Green, St.Johns, Valley and Waldron, and those parts of Alexandra, Leighton, St.Barnabas and Wistaston Green which do not already fall into an existing parish. BUT the Town Council should be NON - POLITICAL like present parish councils.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: Mick Roberts [michaelleslieroberts@hotmail.co.uk]
Sent: 03 January 2010 20:08
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Crewe Community Governance Review - Stage 2 consultation

Colleague,

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the second stage of the consultation on the review.

As a supporter of the "A Voice for Crewe" I do not agree with the Council's recommendation. The success of that petition and the manner in which those conducting the approach to voters were responded to by the majority of Crewe people shows they wished to have their own Town Council.

The ballot produced a result but in doing so it is clear that a significant number of people were confused by the ballot. One cause of confusion was the introduction of an option for multiple parishes.

Therefore the Council should take full opportunity to use the second stage to conduct a telephone poll, or something similar, to seek to bottom out the issue of voter confusion. An unambiguous approach to voters would be welcome.

Hopefully the Council, in recognising there were issues connected to the handling of the ballot and how voters interpreted this, will make every attempt in the second stage to establish what can be accepted by all as a clear and concise outcome of local opinion on the matter of a Town Council.

Yours fraternally,
Mick Roberts

78 Ford Lane,
Crewe,
CW1 3EH.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: jonollerhead@aol.co.uk
Sent: 04 January 2010 17:48
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: town council

As a resident and ratepayer of Crewe I wish to object to having four parish councils in place of a town council. The original questions were ambiguous and the statement that the residents of Crewe voted against a town council is flawed.
My desire is for a town council and not four parish councils.

J. Ollerhead

Remer Street
Crewe

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: paulblurton@tiscali.co.uk
Sent: 05 January 2010 13:25
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Crewe council

Dear Sir/Madam, I for one can not understand why there has been so much opposition by certain of our East Cheshire elected representativs to a Crewe Town Council. Are these people scared of something? There has been a referendum calling for a council. The election rigging looks like the situation in Afganistan. Isit East CC intention that Crewe should have no voice?
Paul Blurton 41 CW2 7NT

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: Steve Clapham [steve.clapham@yahoo.co.uk]
Sent: 05 January 2010 16:07
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Crewe Town Council Consultation

Dear Lindsey Parton,

Thank you for the information pack containing draft recommendations from the consultation.

At the time of the initial consultation I found the terminology in the questions confusing and misleading. The use of the term Parish Council in Question 1 and Town Council in Question 2 was politically designed to confuse voters and result in a split response that would muddy the water and lead to inaction.

Looking at the results you sent me I can see that that is exactly what has happened.

It is clear that a majority of those who voted were trying to express the desire for a Town Council in Crewe. This is clear from the large majority in favour to Question 2.

Looking at the response to Question 1 in light of this, a split decision, indicates to me that people were unsure about what a Parish Council means – and whether they would want one.

The response to the detailed questionnaires seems to mirror this interpretation.

Therefore, the Council's draft recommendation "To accept the vote from the people of Crewe and to reject the notion of a town council for Crewe at this time." is the wrong response and goes against the expressed desire of the people of Crewe.

I'm not sure what can be done now – given that a flawed consultation process has led to a flawed and confused response. Ideally the consultation should be done again with a simple question for or against a Town Council – to which the people of Crewe would give their support judging from the response to Question 2.

hope that your team can look again at this question and take on board these comments.

Yours Sincerely,
Steve Clapham.

Revd. Steve Clapham
All Saints Vicarage, 79 Stewart Street, Crewe, Cheshire. CW2 8LX
Phone: 01270 560310
Mobile: 07891 219048
Email: steve.clapham@yahoo.co.uk
Web: www.allsaintsandstpeters.org.uk

5 Hardy Close
Wistaston

Dear Sir

I am in favour of a Town council for Crewe We need some decent shops and not have to go to Hanley or Chester for special things The only thing that worries me is when Peter Hunt was the leader of the Labour Party he did leave Crewe in a mess of parking with moveing the monument that is why people got rid of him and few more of his merry men

Yours Sincerly

Cllr Pamela Williams
Wistaston PARISH COUNCIL

34 Lea Avenue
Crewe
CW1 6HH

Telephone: 01270-583847

8th January 2010

Dear Sir,

Re: Crewe Community Governance Review Stage 2 Consultation

I write, having served as a Borough Councillor for Crewe and Nantwich over 26 years, to say that I continue to support the view of Crewe having its own Town Council.

Whilst I was not able to attend the before-Christmas head-to-head debate which took place at the Beechmere Residential Building on Rolls Avenue in Crewe, I 100% support the residents and their guests in their vote at the end of the debate, which was 14-1 in favour of having one town council. Furthermore I do know, generally, this had been the sort of reaction throughout the town.

I am fully aware that Councillor Ray Westwood spoke in favour of having several parish councils in the Crewe Town area, and that Peter Kent presented the case for having one Crewe Town Council. I believe that it is true to say that Crewe people generally thought the process to be "flawed", with the first stage of consultation where many said they did not understand the ballot paper.

I was a most active member of the "Voice for Crewe" campaign held late last year, and continue to support all the various points put forward for doing so. After all, some 3,700 signatures had been gathered from residents demanding that Crewe had its own local authority.

My strength throughout the 26 years I was on the council was "people and community", and, therefore, knowing and responding to their needs (this is what I call local accountability). I would hope that Cheshire East would now agree to allow Crewe to have its own "Town Council" in response to the residents of the Town.

Yours faithfully,

Ray Stafford M.B.E.

Honorary Alderman of the Borough

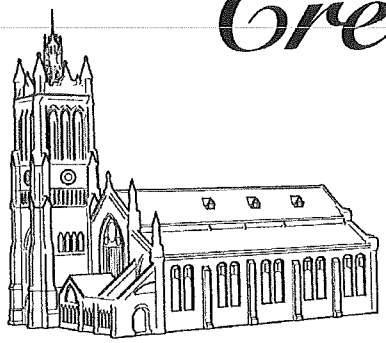
CREWE COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

RESPONSES TO STAGE 2 CONSULTATION

REPRESENTATIONS FROM ORGANISATIONS AGAINST THE COUNCIL'S DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

Rec'd 1/12/09

Crewe Historical Society



Mr C Chapman
Borough Solicitor
Westfields
Middlewich Road
Sandbach

LP

Mrs Pam Minshall
Chairman
Crewe Historical Society
145 Gainsborough Road
Crewe
CW2 7PL

28 November 2009

Dear Mr. Chapman

GOVERNANCE OF CREWE

Crewe Historical Society members have asked me to write to strongly support the establishment of a Crewe Town Council. The view was expressed that the consultation exercise carried out via a referendum, while it was flawed and confusing, nevertheless, along with the earlier petition, did indicatethat there was clear support for such a council.

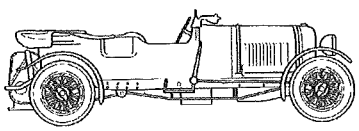
The Society feels that Crewe's distinctive history and culture requires and deserves the kind of voice and focus a Town Council would provide, helping community cohesion and local involvement of the kind we see happening in our neighbouring towns and parishes.

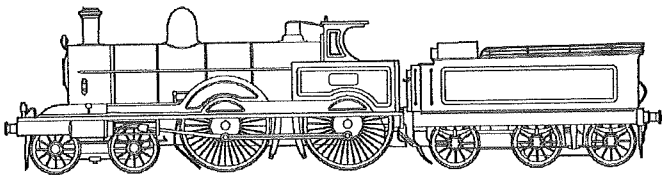
I was also asked to point out that the Society did not respond to the first stage of consultation because of the timing: we do not meet between the end of May and the end of September and so there was no opportunity to consult with members.

Yours sincerely

P M Minshall

P M Minshall
Secretary





avantage
choice, quality & independence

Marion Shaw
Avantage Harvest Housing
Beechmere
Rolls Avenue
Crewe CW1 3QD

Lindsey Parton
Elections & Registration Team Manager
Cheshire East Council
Westfield's Middlewich Road
Sandbach CW11 1HZ

Date 18th of December 2009.

Re: Response to the Crewe Governance Review Second Stage Consultation.

Dear Madam
I am writing to you to inform you of the result of a debate held at Beechmere Retirement Village on Friday 18TH of December 2009 and confirming the result and the comment that the residents would like one single Town Council for the unparished area of Crewe and reject the notion that multiple Parish Councils, this was bourn out of the 21 residents and other electors present only one was in favour of more than one Parish Council and lived outside the area of Crewe.
Furthermore 12 residents were in favour of a single Town Council and expressed concern over the Ballot result of the first round of consultation and ask for redress by using a Telephone canvass results which were made available in the first stage consultation but were ignored.
Attached to this letter are a number of documents an invitation, two posters, attendance list and a signed preference sheet submitted as evidence to verify the feeling of the meeting a views expressed there.

Yours sincerely
M Shaw

Marion Shaw Centre Manager Beechmere

AGAINST A TOWN COUNCIL

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
J.E. RICHARDSON	IN FAVOUR OF MULTIPLE PARISH COUNCILS FOR CREWE.	J.E. Richardson

FOR A TOWN COUNCIL

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
MRS A BURGESS	BEECH MERE	A Burgess
MR A LARGE	24 COPPENHALL LANE CREWE	A Large
MRS M LARGE	24, Coppenhall Lane Woolstanwood Crewe CW2 8TT	M Large
MR A. GUNSTON	18. DODDINGTON RD CREWE CW2 8HD	A Gunston
IRENE EDWARDS	33 BEECHMERE,	I. Edwards
DOROTHY HAND	45 " "	D. Hand
STEVEN ROBERTS	4 LAWTON ST	Steven Roberts
JUNE ROBERTS	WEBBYS EST.	
IRENE BOULTON	BEECHMERE	I Boulton
IRENE WALKER.	Beechmere	I. Walker.
KEVIN LARKIN	23 TOLLEMACHE DRIVE CREWE CW1 3YA	
Peter Otterhead	320, ~~BROAD~~ ST CREWE CW1 4TH	

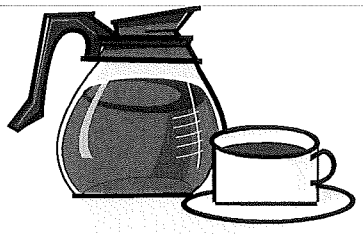
4 OF TEN

ATTENDANCE SHEET CTC TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

18/12/09

First Name	Surname	Email address	Contact Number
ARTHUR	LARGE		
IRENE	BOULTON		
MARGARET	LARGE		
IRENE	EDWARDS		
KEVAN	LARKIN		
A Bugden			
[illegible]			
P Bilenhead.			
STEVEN	ROBERTS		
JUNE	ROBERTS		
Adrian	[illegible]		
[illegible]	BEARD.		
TED	RICHARDSON		
STEVEN	HOGBEN		
Kate	WEESE		

First Name	Surname	Email address	Contact Number
Gillian	WEESE		
M PRICE-	PRICE.		
BRENDA	TILLEY		
MARY	RUSCOE		
D-	Hamd.		
~~PETER~~	~~OLLERHEAD~~		



Residents meeting

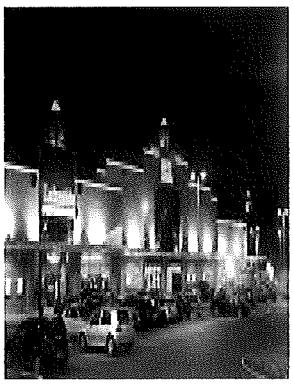
18th December 2.30pm

Coffee and a chat in the village hall

2 local Councillors from the local area will be here!

Look forward to seeing you all.

You are invited to attend a debate on the formation of a Town Council for Crewe



Beechmere Building,
Rolls Avenue Crewe
On
Friday The 18th December 2009
14:30 Hours

Guest Speakers include
Alderman Mr Peter Kent
and Councillor Ray Westwood

Public meeting open to all!

Do you want a Town Council yes or no you decide?

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: Jack Wimpenny [jack.wimpenny@tiscali.co.uk]
Sent: 26 December 2009 20:38
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Crewe Community Governance Review - Stage 2 Consultation

Thank you for including me in this consultation process.

Your explanatory leaflet, issued with the ballot paper, only covers the basic facts relating to the creation of a Town Council for Crewe. You have not listed those services that a Town Council could take on as an alternative provider to the Cheshire East Council. Without this information, voters had no means of assessing whether the proposal for a Town Council had potential benefits for the town's residents and businesses.

What you did provide was an indication of the charges made by other Town Councils but, without knowing the services they provide, the data is meaningless and should not have been included. I think it served merely to put voters off the idea by indicating that it would cost more.

With regard to the results of the ballot, I feel that you unfairly clouded the issue. Question 1,1 asks whether people wanted a Parish Council for their area. This, despite the fact that local debate and the valid petition clearly set out the nature, name and area for a Crewe Town Council. It is not surprising that voters would reject the idea of a Parish Council since this had never been on the agenda for discussion.

I understand that Town and Parish Councils are legally one and the same but this point might well be lost for the voting public especially when considering the wording of Question 2. Here is the first mention of the Town Council to which the valid petition referred, However, tagged on to this is yet another option, for four Parish Councils. Again , this option was never on the agenda until the ballot. It is not surprising that voters chose the Town Council option because this is what the petition had called for.

The petition was clear in its intent and the voting paper should have reflected this. It should have asked, simply, whether voters wanted a Town Council for the whole of the unparished area of Crewe or not.

On a matter of principle, I do not agree that Cheshire East Council should have introduced the notion of a '4 Parish Council' arrangement. This should only have been offered had the proposal for the Town Council been rejected by voters.

Yours Faithfully,

Jack Wimpenny,
Chair of Governors
St Mary's RC Primary School
Crewe.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: PAM MINSHALL [pam.minshall@btinternet.com]
Sent: 21 December 2009 15:42
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Cc: Peter Ollerhead
Subject: Consultation

CREWE COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - STAGE 2 CONSULTATION

At the recent meting of the Crewe and District Local History Association the following response to the consultation was agreed:

We reject the Council's draft recommendation and ask that a town council for the unparished area of Crewe is set up as soon as possible. The petition for a town council, and the 5617 residents who voted for a single town council in the clear and straightforward part of the flawed ballot paper show that there is considerable support for such a move. Crewe has a distinctive economic and social make-up and needs the voice and focus such a council will provide.

(Mrs) Pam Minshall
Secretary

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: PAM MINSHALL [pam.minshall@btinternet.com]
Sent: 17 December 2009 16:04
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Response

CREWE COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - STAGE 2 CONSULTATION

After consultation with the governing body of Ruskin Sports College, I have been asked to respond to the Council's draft recommendation.

We feel that in fact, a town council for Crewe should be established immediately. The town is significantly different in its social and economic make-up from other areas in the new Cheshire East Council, and we believe that it needs the distinctive local voice that a town council would provide.

(Mrs) P M Minshall
Chairman of Governors

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: Christopher Moulton [shavington@btinternet.com]
Sent: 04 December 2009 15:21
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Crewe Community Governance Review

Dear Lindsey

Further to the documentation received by the Parish Council in respect of the Stage 2 consultation process, my Members have asked me to write to advise Cheshire East Council that Shavington-cum-Gresty Parish Council is in favour and supports the principle of a Town Council for Crewe.

I would be grateful if you could report this these views to the Council when it considers the responses to the consultation.

Kind regards

Chris Moulton
Clerk to the Council
Shavington-cum-Gresty Parish Council

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: jill rhodes [rhodesclan2003@yahoo.co.uk]
Sent: 05 December 2009 21:43
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Comminity Governance review

Dear Lindsy Parton
I write in response to a letter requesting my views on the recommendation not to have a Crewe Town council.
I feel that Crewe should have a town council as does Nantwich. Westminster Nursery is situated in a park that was owned by the Crewe & Nantwich council. This was a local council that was easy to deal with. Dealing with a larger body makes things more difficult.
When I read the possibiliites it seems to me that the initial question was misleading. People in Crewe want a town Council, not a parish council.
The state of Crewe town centre this Christmas has prompted me to reply. A dead Christmas tree and one string of lights. Crewe has never been renowned for its Christmas lights but in previous years there has at least been a switch on and a recognition of the season. This year there has been nothing and this is because there is no local body to organise the celebrations. The lights in Nantwich with its local governance are far better because there are local people to organise them.
I and many others I have spoken to, strongly disagree with the suggested recommendation. Crewe needs a Town Council and the sooner we have one the better.
Yours Sincerely

Jill Rhodes
Chairman of westminster Nursery

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: PEBBLE BROOK HEAD
Sent: 09 December 2009 14:46
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Town Council

Dear Gaynor
I am a head teacher at Pebble Brook Primary School Crewe

I am writing to state that I wholeheartedly support the view that Crewe should have its own Town Council

Having its own Town Council gives Crewe at least some ownership in decision making within its community

Community cohesion plays a large part in the School Self Evaluation Report that all schools have to complete for OFSTED and I would state that in giving Crewe its own Town Council, that this would be developing that community cohesion - something that the Cheshire East split has not done.

Thank you
Donna Reed
Head teacher

112- 114 Frank Webb Ave
Webby's
Frank Webb Ave
Crewe
Cheshire CW1 3NE

Crewe West Community Group.

December 21, 2009

Dear Sir or Madam:

When we responded to the first stage consultation, we asked for a Town Council we except the results of the vote but were disappointed
With how the ballot sheets were presented, we believe that it should have just been a simple vote
'Do you want a Town Council' Yes or No. And we again reiterate that we need a town council.
We deplore the draft recommendation To Accept the vote from the people of Crewe and to reject the notion of a town council for Crewe at this time and ask for the decision that we do not need a town council, and revisit the telephone poll and how the ballot was carried out.
And please give us a Town Council!

An example of the benefit of town councils was highlighted recently when the Christmas Lights switch on, business stayed open late due to the expected influx of people, because this did not happen which had derogatory effect on business this would have not been the case if we had a Town Council like other Cheshire East areas.

And we believe the formation of a Town Council can help regeneration and help Crewe to weather the economic storm better, also funds would help small groups like ourselves coming from residents locally for extra money to be spent in the area of most need.

So once again we request a town Council for the unparished area of Crewe.

Sincerely,
Lynne Tilley

Secretary

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: peter kent [peterakent@tiscali.co.uk]
Sent: 03 January 2010 23:21
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: FW: Crewe Community Governance Review - Stage 2 consultation
Attachments: Publication of draft Recommendations.doc

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the second stage of the consultation on the review.

It will be no surprise that the campaign for "A Voice for Crewe" does not agree with the Council's recommendation. The success of our petition, and the manner in which we have been received by the overwhelming majority of Crewe people, means that we continue to believe that they wish to have their own Town Council.

Of course, it will be claimed that the ballot produced a result which could be interpreted as contradictory to this view. However, it is clear that a significant number of people were confused by the ballot. Although we believe that this confusion was sufficient to substantially change the result of the vote, no-one can be sure. For that reason, we believe that the council should have taken the opportunity to use this second stage to conduct a telephone poll, as I outlined when addressing the Council at its full meeting in Nantwich. This could have been done at a cost which would be negligible to your council and would have helped to produce a conclusion which could have been accepted by all sides.

One of the causes of the confusion was the introduction of an option for multiple parishes. Despite frequent requests for information, it is still not clear why this option was introduced, except for the view of one councillor who does not represent Crewe. Our conclusion is that the opportunity to create confusion was one that was eagerly grasped by those of your members who opposed a Town Council for reasons of political advantage. Our campaign has been essentially cross-party and we have supporters from all mainstream political parties, and many with no allegiance at all, so we find it disappointing that a vision for Crewe is being degraded.

Finally, we question the sincerity of the Council in handling this second stage. The legislation compels you to conduct a further stage and your officers are clearly doing their best to conduct it properly. However, a majority of your members have declared themselves against the idea of a Town Council for Crewe (though apparently not for other parts of Cheshire East). Consultees may therefore ask themselves what is the point of responding ? When I addressed your Council I invited members to say what sort of response would persuade them to change their minds. There was no attempt to offer an answer to this.

Your council has promised to listen to the people of Crewe (and many in surrounding areas who look to the town to provide leadership). Although we genuinely believe that you will disprove our fears, all the evidence so far forces us to the conclusion that this exercise is a meaningless sham.

Peter Kent

From: HAWTHORNTHWAITE, Gaynor [mailto:Gaynor.Hawthornthwaite@cheshireeast.gov.uk]
Sent: 26 November 2009 15:53
To: peterakent@tiscali.co.uk
Subject: Crewe Community Governance Review - Stage 2 consultation

Dear Mr Kent

Following receipt of a petition from local residents recommending that a single town council is created in Crewe, Cheshire East Council has been conducting a Community Governance Review.

Public consultation took place between 1st and 30th September, when views were sought on future community governance arrangements, including whether a town council should be created in the unparished parts of Crewe.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: J Welch [welch-j@sky.com]
Sent: 06 January 2010 20:33
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Community Goverance Review Stage 2- Crewe Town Council.

Lindsey Parton,

Elections and Registration Team Manager,

Democratic Services,

Westfield House,

Middlewich Road,

Sandbach,

Cheshire,

CW11 1HZ.

Ref: Crewe Community Governance Stage 2 consultation

Dear Linsey,

I write, as Chair to the Governors of Adelaide Special School, Adelaide Street, Crewe, regarding your request for school views relating to the possible formation of a Crewe Town Council. This response is in respect of the Second Stage (2) consultation process.

There are potentially benefits for this, and other schools, which might emerge if a Town Council was established. Adelaide School is actively seeking to involve our children in community activities. We are member of the 'Excellence in Crewe' (EIC) consortium and several other local groups. A Town Council, for Crewe, might further facilitate our local involvement and offer a further focus for our activities.

In terms of curriculum development we see benefits in the potential to introduce the application of local government and political debate into our citizenship studies. A local presence, such as a Town Council, might generate, and stimulate an interest in civic affairs in our children which may yield longer term benefits.

From the tenure of the above comments you will be aware that we are in favour of the establishment of a Crewe Town Council. Such an innovation might yield both benefits to the school and the community.

I am willing to be contacted if you require further elaboration of our views and can be contacted at home on 01270 583002 or at the school, via the Head Teacher, Mr Lloyd Willday on 01270 685151.

Yours Sincerely,

Jeffrey Welch M.A., B.A., A Dip Ed., Cert Ed.

Chair of Governors,

Adelaide School.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: Andrew Taylor [andrewn.taylor@btinternet.com]
Sent: 08 January 2010 10:40
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Cc: Helen Birtles; Malcolm and Sandra Riley; Paul Boskett
Subject: Crewe Community Governance Review

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write on behalf of Union Street Baptist Church, whose leaders have again considered the proposals in respect of the community governance review.

We remain firmly of the view that there would be considerable value in a single town council being established for Crewe, with the standing of the equivalent councils that now exist for Nantwich and other local towns. Both the unique history and heritage of Crewe, and its continued development requires a forum in which town matters can be discussed and from which a consequent town view can be expressed.

Our thoughts in this matter are, in part, influenced by the resurgence in recent years of Churches Together in Crewe, which has indicated that, not withstanding denominational and theological differences, there are town-wide enterprises and activities which can draw town-wide responses and co-operations. People wish to be part of an identified town community, and a town council would give appropriate expression to this.

We look forward to learning the Council's decision in due course.

Your faithfully,

Andrew Taylor
Minister

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: Malcolm Riley [msriley@btinternet.com]
Sent: 08 January 2010 16:54
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Cc: Andrew Taylor; Helen Birtles
Subject: Re: Crewe Community Governance Review

Dear Sir/Madam

I have received copy of an email sent to you by our Church Minister Rev. Andrew Taylor on 8/01/10, supporting the establishment of a Town Council for Crewe. I fully endorse everything Andrew has said, and would therefore add my support for this proposal.

We have recently acquired (through the good offices of Cllr Floude) copies of the original architect's plans for this church, when none were thought to exist. These were in the Cheshire CC's Archives, and were in the original brown filing envelope held by, and determined by, **Crewe Borough Council** in 1882. The Church Sunday School and Chapel were then built at speed and completed ready for use by September 1884.

The leader of the group who pursued the erection of the church premises was Mr Richard Pedley J.P. who was prominently associated with the public life of Crewe, becoming an Alderman and Mayor of the Borough. Our earliest church meeting minutes record the following:

"He [Mr Pedley] responded to the appeal wholeheartedly, and placing himself at the head of the movement used his influence and means to bring about its accomplishment. Without his help it is probable that the project would have languished, and might finally have ceased. His memory should be perpetuated and held in the highest esteem so long as the Church exists."

The Church does indeed exist today - and has served the community of this town well for over 125 years since Crewe Borough Council's decision to approve its construction. We have done our best to perpetuate the founder's memory, not least by maintaining a strong civic link with the Borough Council by inviting the Mayor's presence and participation in many special events and services over the years.

It would be a sad day if the significance of Crewe Borough Council - and its civic leaders - became lost in time due to this latest local government re-organisation. Our Church is now perpetuated in the history of this relatively young town as a Grade 2 Listed Building and an active centre for worship and commmunity activities, having been constructed at a time of intense industrial progress through the Railway Industry. As Andrew Taylor has implied, this 'people's building' is "...part of an identified town community, and a town council would give appropriate expression to this".

Please give your utmost support to this plea.

Yours faithfully

Malcolm Riley - Church deacon and Property steward, Union Street Baptist Church, Crewe

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: Malcolm Riley [msriley@btinternet.com]
Sent: 10 January 2010 19:41
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Cc: Andrew Taylor
Subject: Crewe Town Council

Dear Sir/Madam

We refer to our representations emailed to you on 8/01/10 in support of the formation of a Crewe Town Council, which we trust will be considered before the final decision is made. We believe our observations made in the representations remain pertinent in respect of the key principle of establishing a Town Council for Crewe

We have also had another look at the 'Publication of Draft Recommendations Arising From The First Phase of Consultation', via your website, and wish to make the following approach in respect of the process that is being followed.

The Draft Recommendation appears to be in error for the following reasons :-

The questions as put were not particularly informative. Firstly, on page 3, Question 1 and subsection 1 reads "I want a parish council for my area". To accord with the recommendations at the beginning of the report under the heading 'The Review' (on page 1), the question should have been ..."I want a new parish for my area, to be known as Crewe Town Council".
The question as put does not accord with the Review Recommendations, because the only possible name for a 'new parish' in Recommendation 1 is that specified in Recommendation 2 i.e. ..."That the new parish should have a Council to be known as Crewe Town Council".

The corollary to this dilemma is that the two sub-questions in Question 1 are irrelevant, because (by reason of the wording of the Review Recommendations) a 'parish council' was not an option, but a 'new parish' having a ...'Council to be known as Crewe Town Council' was.

In respect to Question 2. Preference A received an overwhelming majority expressing a view for a single town council for the whole of the unparished area of Crewe. In addition, the majority of views expressed in the representations on pages 3 & 4 are in favour of a single town council. Since 'a single town council' was the only option for a parish to be constituted out of the three recommendations of The Review, the wording of the draft recommendation of the Council at its meeting on 15 October 2009 is incorrect, since the greatest number of electors (5617) actually voted for preference A ..."A single Town Council for the whole of the unparished area of Crewe".

We therefore ask that you annul this draft recommendation either before, or at the special meeting of the full Council at the end of January 2010.

Yours faithfully

Malcolm Riley - Church deacon and Property steward, Union Street Baptist Church, Crewe
Andrew Taylor - Minister, Union Street Baptist Church, Crewe

CREWE COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

RESPONSES TO STAGE 2 CONSULTATION

OTHER REPRESENTATIONS

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 – STAGE 2

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

As I stated in my previous submission, 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.

This overview was published in the Council's letter of 2 October 2009.

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

Yours sincerely,

Edward Timpson

EDWARD TIMPSON
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR CREWE & NANTWICH
www.edwardtimpsonmp.com

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

From: hugh. emerson [secretary@npa-crewe.org.uk]
Sent: 14 December 2009 20:44
To: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Subject: Crewe Town Council

We feel the original consultation failed on three counts.

Firstly it was confusing in having two contradictory questions in the first part.
Secondly the petition only requested a single parish yet an option for four parishes was presented.
Thirdly public meetings were not adequately notified and there was no opportunity for any public debate on the merits or otherwise of a Town Council.

There should be a further referendum with one simple question - Do you want a Town Council for Crewe - yes or no?

--
Hugh Emerson
Secretary
Northern Pensioners Association
Crewe & District
Tel: 01270 664645
5 Ripon Drive
Crewe CW2 6SJ
www.npa-crewe.org.uk