

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Constitution Committee

Date of Meeting: 30th September 2010
Report of: Democratic Services Manager
Subject/Title: Wilmslow Community Governance Review

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 The Chairman is of the opinion that this matter constitutes urgent business and may be dealt with at this meeting in accordance with Committee Procedure Rule 37.2. The reason for urgency is as follows:

“To enable the Wilmslow Community Governance Review Sub-Committee to continue with the next stages of the Review in accordance with the statutory timetable.”

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the terms of reference of the Wilmslow Community Governance Review Sub-Committee be extended to enable it to make recommendations on precepting for any new parishes created by the Review and to deal with such governance, accommodation and other preparations as may be required.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 To enable the Sub-Committee to make recommendations on precepting and on any other necessary preparations.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 Wilmslow North and Wilmslow South.

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 Local ward members for the above wards.

6.0 Policy Implications including - Climate change - Health

- 6.1 None identified.

7.0 Financial Implications

- 7.1 None identified at this stage.

8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

8.1 None identified.

9.0 Risk Management

9.1 None identified.

10.0 Background and Options

- 10.1 The Wilmslow Community Governance Review Sub-Committee met on 27th September 2010 to consider the outcome of the Stage 2 consultation and to give initial consideration to the potential running costs and budgetary requirements of the three proposed parish councils.
- 10.2 Members were advised that established Parish Councils advised the Borough Council in January each year of their precept requirements and these were then included by the Borough Council as part of the total Council Tax-setting process.
- 10.3 The difficulty with the process for proposed new parish councils in the Wilmslow area (if that were the outcome of the review), was that the parish councils themselves would not come into operation until Councillors had been elected in May 2011. Action was therefore required by Cheshire East Council to ensure that the new parish councils had a budget to work with.
- 10.4 The Sub-Committee felt that as part of its work on the Review, it should make recommendations on precepts for the first year of the new parish councils. This would require an extension to the Sub-Committee's terms of reference by the Constitution Committee.
- 10.5 It is important to be clear in considering this matter that the outcome of the Community Governance Review is not being prejudiced. However, in view of the tight timescales involved, thought must be given to matters of precepting, budgets and governance arrangements in early course.

11.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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