

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Crewe Town Board**
held on Friday, 1st November, 2024 at Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT

Tony Davison (Chair)
Simon Yates (Vice Chair)

Andy Butler, Paul Colman, Jasbir Dhesi, Guy Kilminster, Councillor Nick Mannion, Connor Naismith MP, Rick Carter and Graham McKnight

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Pete Turner, Lindsay Lewis, Helen Paton, Damon Taylor Chief Executive of the OPCC, Dan Price Police and Crime Commissioner

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Peter Skates, Acting Executive Director of Place
Charles Jarvis, Head of Economic Development
Jez Goodman, Development and Regeneration Manager
Frances Handley, Democratic Services Officer

47 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (1 MINUTE)

Apologies for absence were received from Doug Kinsman, Councillor Jill Rhodes, Sally Hepton, Kate Blakemore.

Councillor Nick Mannion was present from 09.45.

48 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (3 MINUTES)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 04.10.2024 be approved as a correct record.

49 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (1 MINUTE)

There were no new or updated Declarations of Interest, other than those already on file.

50 POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER (30 MINUTES)

The Board welcomed Dan Price, Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire.

The Commissioner provided an overview on the work he had undertaken since becoming the Commissioner, which included: -

- Visiting the nine local policing unit
- Appointing two Deputy Commissioners to enable work to be undertaken at pace
- Visiting the Operation Hummingbird team
- Launching a Citizens' Assembly in the Crewe Local Policing Unit jurisdiction area
- Launching a new community fund - The SWAP Fund - Safety, Working Together, Action and Prevention, which was funded from the proceeds of crime

The relocation of the Crewe Policing Unit was discussed, and the Board emphasised the importance of maintaining a police hub in Crewe Town Centre

51 VALLEY BROOK PROJECT (15 MINUTES)

The Board received an update on the Valley Brook Project, from Chris Greenhalgh, on the options and next steps following the consultation.

A presentation was shared and it was agreed for the officers to explore various further options.

52 CUMBERLAND ARENA (15 MINUTES)

The Board received an update on the Cumberland Arena Project, from Dominic Crisp. A presentation was shared and it was noted that key deadline dates need to be met to ensure the progression of the project.

The Police and Crime Commissioner suggested joining up from a crime prevention perspective and to engage in conversations with the project team.

53 CREWE STEP CHANGE: MAKERFEST & CREATIVE HUB (10 MINUTES)

The Board received presentation on the Crewe Step Change: Makerfest & Creative Hub, from Helen Paton.

It was agreed that the presentation would be shared with the board.

The board agreed to join the Crewe Step Change consortium and would share the relevant information on the website.

54 TOWNS FUND PERFORMANCE UPDATE (15 MINUTES)

It was agreed that the presentation slides would be circulated to Board Members.

It was reported that delays to work on the Youth Zone were due to BT OpenReach not allowing the contractors to start on site. The matter had been raised with BT and a response was awaited from them.

55 STRATEGIC UPDATE FROM CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL (15 MINUTES)

The Board received an update from Peter Skates, Acting Executive Director of Place, on:

- Government's proposals for Devolution
- HS2 and the recent press surrounding this. This would be discussed at the December board meeting
- Cheshire East Council's financial position
- The opening of the Gypsy and Traveller transit site in Middlewich

56 AOB (5 MINUTES)

The following were raised under AOB:

- A new book, the first in a series, had been published called 'A Crewe Book of Days Part 1 Spring' by Mike Christelow on Crewe heritage with stories on events and people
- Crewe Town Council had been approached by a lecturer from Birmingham University, who was undertaking research on the impact of the cancellation of HS2 (phase 2). If there was anyone interested in speaking with them then to contact Simon Yates
- The Crewe Christmas Lights switch on would take place on 30th November

57 DATE OF NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING

That the next meeting be confirmed as 13.11.2024 commencing at 12.00pm.

The meeting commenced at 9.30 am and concluded at 11.30 am

Tony Davison (Chair)