

# **Wilmslow Community Governance Review Sub-Committee Agenda**

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**Date:** Tuesday, 23rd March, 2010  
**Time:** 3.30 pm  
**Venue:** Oakencrough Children's Centre, Colshaw Drive, Wilmslow,  
Cheshire SK9 2PZ

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The agenda is divided into two parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

## **PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT**

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests in any item on the agenda

3. **Public Speaking Time/Open Session**

In accordance with Procedure Rules Nos.11 and 35 a period of 10 minutes is allocated for members of the public to address the meeting on any matter relevant to the work of the meeting. Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes but the Chairman will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned where there are a number of speakers. Members of the public are not required to give notice to use this facility. However, as a matter of courtesy, a period of 24 hours' notice is encouraged.

Members of the public wishing to ask a question at the meeting should provide three clear working days' notice, in writing, in order for an informed answer to be given.

4. **Minutes of Previous meeting** (Pages 1 - 8)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

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**Contact:** Paul Mountford, Legal and Democratic Services  
**Tel:** 01270 686472  
**E-Mail:** paul.mountford@cheshireeast.gov.uk

5. **Existing Wilmslow Community Governance Review Arrangements**  
(Pages 9 - 12)

To receive the attached briefing paper prepared by the Chief Executive's Partnership Unit.

6. **Wilmslow Community Governance Review Project Plan** (Pages 13 - 16)

Based on feedback from Members at the last meeting, an updated project plan is attached.

7. **Wilmslow Community Governance Review - First Stage Consultation and Documentation** (Pages 17 - 26)

To agree the following:

- (1) List of consultees
- (2) Press release and public notices
- (3) Arrangements for 3 public meetings
- (4) Explanatory leaflet to consultees
- (5) Postal ballot paper to electors

8. **Next Meeting**

To agree the date of the next meeting.

**(There are no Part 2 items)**

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the  
**Wilmslow Community Governance Review Sub-Committee**  
held on Friday, 19th February, 2010 at Committee Suite 2/3 - Westfields,  
Middlewich Road, Sandbach, CW11 1HZ

**PRESENT**

Councillors G Barton, R Cartlidge, J Crockatt, S Jones, D Stockton and  
P Whiteley

**Officers**

Brian Reed – Democratic Services Manager  
Lindsey Parton – Elections and Registration Team Manager  
Paul Mountford – Legal and Democratic Services

**1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN****RESOLVED**

That Councillor J Crockatt be appointed Chairman of the Sub-Committee.

Councillor Crockatt in the chair.

**2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN****RESOLVED**

That Councillor P Whiteley be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Sub-Committee.

**3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No interests were declared.

**4 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION**

There were no questions from members of the public.

**5 BRIEFING PAPER – WILMSLOW COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

Members received a paper which set out the details of three petitions received in respect of community governance reviews for the Handforth, Wilmslow and Styal area. The paper also outlined the process for conducting a community governance review.

On 21<sup>st</sup> September 2009 the Council had received a petition which called for a Community Governance Review and identified the following recommendations arising from a Review:

- (1) That a new parish be constituted under Section 87 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
- (2) That the new parish should have a parish council to be known as Handforth Community Council.
- (3) That members of the Council will not be affiliated to any political party.
- (4) That the area to which the review is to relate be defined as being the electoral ward of Handforth as known in 2007.
- (5) That the Council will not precept the area, only use moneys granted, delegated, awarded or given for the benefit of the area.

Recommendations (3) and (5) were outside the scope of any recommendations which could be considered by the Council as part of the review. The petition had been validated as having been signed by at least 10% of the electorate. On the recommendation of the Committee, Council had agreed to extend the remit of the review to encompass the whole of the unparished area of Wilmslow.

A petition had also been received on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009, calling for a community governance review and identifying the following recommendations arising from a Review:

- (1) That a new parish be constituted under Section 87 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
- (2) That the new parish should have a parish council to be known as Wilmslow and Handforth Town Council.
- (3) That the area to which the review is to relate comprise the Electoral Wards of dean Row, Fulshaw, Handforth, Hough, Lacey Green and Morley & Styal.

The petition had since been validated and Council, on the recommendation of the Committee, had agreed to extend the Community Governance Review to cover the whole of the unparished area of Wilmslow (i.e. the former Electoral Wards of dean Row, Fulshaw, Handforth, Hough, Lacey Green, and Morley and Styal).

On 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010 the Council had received a petition which called for a Community Governance Review and identified the following recommendations arising from a Review:

- (1) That a new parish be constituted under Section 87 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007
- (2) That the new parish should have a parish council to be known as Styal Parish Council

- (3) That the area to which the review is to relate to be defined as shown on the attached map, being a part of the Electoral Wards of Morley and Styal.

The Governance and Constitution Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2010 agreed that the petition be dealt with as part of the Community Governance Review for the whole of the unparished area of Wilmslow. The petition had been validated as comprising the requisite number of signatures.

Members had before them a paper setting out the process for conducting the Community Governance Review, based on statutory guidance issued by the Department for Communities and Local Government and the Electoral Commission.

In broad terms the process would follow a number of phases:

1. Determine viable options for community governance in the area under review.
2. Draw up a Consultation Plan focused on consulting on those viable options.
3. Stage 1 Consultation on the options.
4. Evaluation and analysis of responses.
5. Draft recommendation for Governance & Constitution Committee to consider for recommendation to Council.
6. Draft Proposal advertised
7. Stage 2 Consultation on the Draft Proposal
8. Council to decide on the outcome of the review.

The Review had to be completed by 20<sup>th</sup> September 2010, i.e. within twelve months of receipt of the first petition from the residents of Handforth.

The key element of the Review would be the consultation process. The Sub-Committee needed to agree the list of consultees, the methods of consultation to be used, and the timing of the consultation process.

The consultation process was central to the Review and had to include:

- Local government electors in the area under review
- Local businesses, local public and voluntary organisations, schools, health bodies
- Residents and community groups
- Area working arrangements

The organisers of the three petitions would also be asked to participate in the consultation process.

The initial phase of consultation would be based largely on written representations received in response to public notices and specific invitations. Three public meetings were envisaged to give interested parties the opportunity to express their views in a public forum; these would be held in Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal. A postal ballot of the electorate was also proposed. The Sub-Committee would need to consider

the format of the ballot paper, and whether a single ballot paper or ballot papers comprising different questions would be required for different parts of the review area. The website would be a key facility, allowing people to obtain information and post their views online.

An initial list of consultees had been identified:

- Local political parties
- National Association of Parish Councils
- Cheshire Association of Parish Councils
- Neighbouring Town and Parish Councils
- Cheshire East Borough Councillors
- Petition organisers
- Central and Eastern Cheshire PCT
- Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Local Area Partnership
- Community Groups
- Community Forums
- Residents Groups
- Local Schools
- Voluntary organisations
- Faith Groups
- Wilmslow Trust

Members were asked to forward any proposed additions to the Elections and Registration Team Manager.

It was also proposed that an explanatory leaflet about the review and the options be prepared for distribution to consultees.

In considering the results of the consultation, and in formulating recommendations, Members would be required to ensure that community governance within the area under review reflected the identities and interests of the community in that area and was effective and convenient.

Key considerations in meeting the criteria included:

- The impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion.
- The size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish.
- That parishes reflected distinctive and recognisable communities of interest with their own sense of identity.
- The degree to which the proposals offered a sense of place and identity for all residents.
- The ability of the proposed authority's ability to deliver quality services economically and efficiently and to provide users with a democratic voice.
- The degree to which a parish council would be viable in terms of a unit of local government providing at least some local services

that were convenient, easy to reach and accessible to local people.

The guidance also required that recommendations be made with respect to the following:

- The need to ensure that community governance reflected the identities and interests of the community in the area and was effective and convenient.
- Any other arrangements that had already been made for the purposes of community representation or engagement.
- Any representation received should be supported by evidence which demonstrated that the community governance arrangements would meet the criteria.

The Review could make a recommendation which was different from that which the petitioners sought. The Review could conclude, for example, that the proposals were not in the interests of the wider local community or could impact negatively on community cohesion.

Finally, the Review had to give consideration to the electoral arrangements that should apply in the event that a parish council was established, in particular:

- The ordinary year of election – if a parish council were established, the first year of election would be 2011.
- Council size – the number of councillors.
- Parish warding – whether the parish should be divided into wards; the number and boundaries of such wards; number of councillors per ward and the names of wards.

An outline map showing the area under review was circulated.

## **RESOLVED**

That

(1) the list of consultees be agreed in principle subject to Members of the Sub-Committee forwarding to the Elections and Registration Team Manager the names of any further bodies which they feel should be added to the list;

(2) the form of Stage 1 consultation comprise:

- (a) Three public meetings to be held at the end of April, the meetings to be held at 7.00 pm at venues in Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal respectively.
- (b) An explanatory leaflet, inviting a written response. A draft leaflet should come before Members for approval and should be designed to be readable, engaging and informative, including appropriate contextual background information; it should also be

written in clear English and should avoid unnecessary use of specialist terminology, providing definitions where appropriate.

- (c) A postal ballot of all electors in the area of the Review.
- (3) public notifications be made in the local press, on the Council's website, on Council notice boards and in libraries;
- (4) the Government Guidance on Community Governance Reviews be noted;
- (5) additional funding of £15,000 be requested to cover the cost of conducting the Community Governance Review;
- (6) the Partnership Unit be asked to produce, for the next meeting, a briefing paper on options for Community Governance and Local Area Partnership arrangements.

### **6 BRIEFING PAPER – INITIAL OPTIONS EVALUATION**

In conducting the Review, the Council had to consider how to respond to the proposals contained in the three separate petitions. The petitions and the proposals they contained had to be assessed in terms of the criteria and the key considerations as set out in the Guidance.

The guidance also indicated that as part of the review, other viable options should be considered to determine if they represented a better way of addressing the criteria. The Sub-Committee would need to gather further information to make an initial evaluation of the following options:

- Area Committees
- Neighbourhood Management
- Tenant Management Organisations
- Area/Community Forums
- Residents' and Tenants' Associations
- Community Associations
- Multiple Parish Councils

The Review could decide that multiple parish councils would best meet the community cohesion criteria. The presence of geographic boundaries would need to be considered, for example whether they formed natural communities.

### **RESOLVED**

That the requirement to consider other viable options as part of the Community Governance Review be noted and discussed further at the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.



**7 WILMSLOW COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW PROJECT PLAN**

Members considered a Project Plan for conducting the Community Governance Review which set out the tasks involved, responsible officers, timetable and the decision-making process.

**RESOLVED**

That the Project Plan be approved subject to amendment to reflect changes to the consultation timetable agreed at the meeting.

**8 FUTURE MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED**

That the next meeting be held on Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at 10.00 am, if possible at the OakencloUGH Children's Centre, Wilmslow.

Note: Following consultation with Members of the Sub-Committee, the next meeting would now be held on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2010 at 3.30 pm at the OakencloUGH Children's Centre, Wilmslow. This was to allow further time for draft documents for the Stage 1 consultation to be prepared for consideration by the Sub-Committee.

The meeting commenced at 11.00 am and concluded at 12.20 pm

Councillor J Crockatt (Chairman)

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## EXISTING WILMSLOW COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

### Overview prepared by the Chief Executive's and Partnership Unit

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#### Introduction

Community engagement was at the heart of the business case for Local Government Re-organisation, seeking to ensure that services delivered by the new councils are tailored to reflect local circumstances and need.

In Cheshire East the new approach to community engagement is centred around 7 Local Areas which, between them, cover the whole Cheshire East area. As set out in the LGR business case, the new approach to community engagement includes town and parish councils as well as community and neighbourhood groups. Area partnership groups have been established in each of the 7 areas and their purpose is explained in the following section. Clearly these new arrangements are still evolving and will be developed further, reflecting local circumstances.

#### Wilmslow Local Area Partnership (LAP)

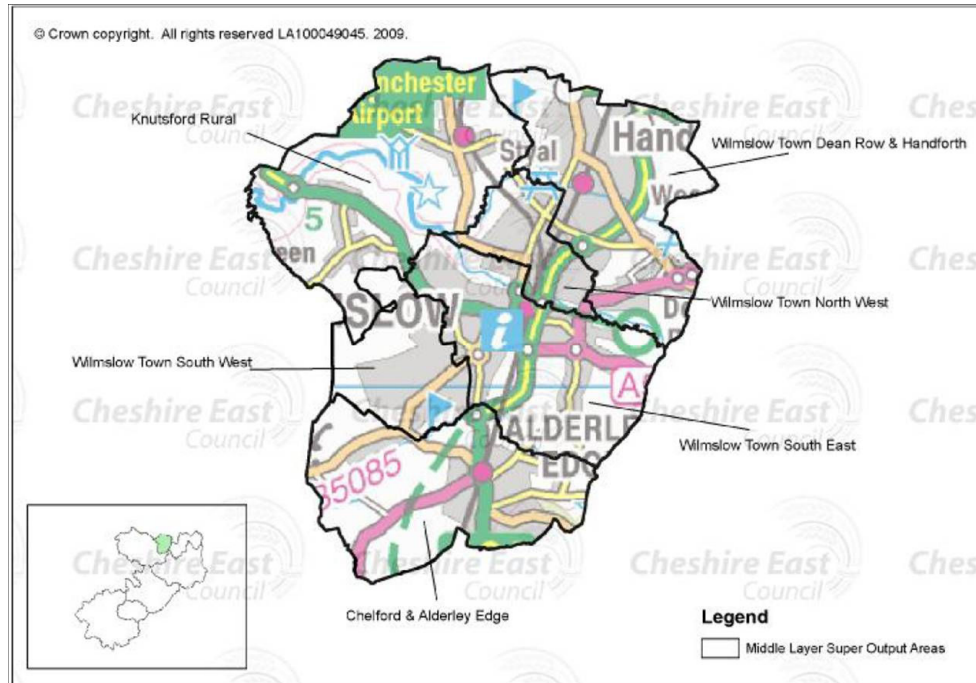
Local Area Partnerships (LAPs) have been established across Cheshire East, to achieve the following outcomes:

- A more effective, co-ordinated approach to tackling local needs and priorities.
- More responsive local management of services.
- Improved engagement with citizens.
- Actual empowerment of citizens.
- Greater citizen satisfaction.
- Enhanced community governance.
- Increased voter turnout.
- Enhanced community leadership role for elected councillors.
- Value for money.

The LAPs are part of the Cheshire East Partnerships Framework and clearly link and work with the Thematic Groups and Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) Executive. The LAPs are working with neighbourhood and community groups in their area, to engage with local people and address very local issues.

Wilmslow LAP brings together people who have an interest and responsibility for delivering improvements in the area. It is an action group, working together to make a difference. It holds regular meetings which are a touchpoint, where LAP members discuss issues and progress on their work in public. The LAP tackles issues through 'task and finish' groups, and currently has a number of such groups in place. Wilmslow LAP has agreed its initial work programme based on evidence and issues identified by LAP members and the local community.

### Wilmslow LAP boundary



### Wilmslow LAP membership

Membership includes:

- Cheshire East local councillors (and officers representing the People, Places and Policy and Performance directorates of Cheshire East Council)
- Alderley Edge Town Council
- Chorley Parish Council
- Wilmslow Trust
- Wilmslow Business Group
- Citizens Advice Bureau (representing CE Third Sector Congress)
- Cheshire Police
- Cheshire Fire and Rescue
- Central and Eastern Cheshire Primary Care Trust

- Equity Housing Group
- Wilmslow Education Improvement Partnership
- Job Centre Plus

Other organisations represented at LAP meetings include:

- Cycle Wilmslow group
- Wilmslow 'Living Streets'
- Wilmslow community website

### Neighbourhood Features

- In 2007, the population of the Wilmslow Local Area Partnership (LAP) was 35,200<sup>1</sup>.
- This represented a tenth (10%) of the population of Cheshire East.
- Wilmslow LAP area contains 6 Middle Layer Super Output Areas (MSOAs), 2 of which it shares with Knutsford, and 22 Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs). These are based on population characteristics rather than administrative boundaries and form basic units for understanding local information.
- Wilmslow Town has a population of 30,070.

Within the LAP area, there are 3 pockets of disadvantage, the Colshaw and Lacey Green Estates in Wilmslow and the Spath Lane Estate in Handforth. There is some degree of neighbourhood management in these areas, facilitated by the relevant registered social landlords and supported by Cheshire East Council and local partners, acknowledging that these areas have complex needs and require an intensive approach to involve communities to improve outcomes for local people.

### The Colshaw Estate

The Colshaw Community Development Group is working to join up local services and develop agreements with service providers to jointly plan and deliver service differently in these areas.

The group includes officers from the Cheshire East Council, Riverside Housing Association, Police and Fire services, Groundwork Cheshire and Connexions.

A recent 'Not in My Neighbourhood' event, coordinated by the Police and Fire Services, in partnership with other agencies, targeted the community of the Colshaw Estate and set up a range of activities addressing issues of anti social behaviour and community safety and awareness. This project was identified as a catalyst for further

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<sup>1</sup> Cheshire County Council population estimates 2007.

targeted work in the area and was established as part of a wider remit addressing anti social area across the LAP area as an ongoing subgroup.

### Community Groups

There is a range of voluntary and community groups within the Wilmslow area. The purpose of community engagement work is to build the capacity of our communities to lead partnership working in their area. The Cheshire East LSP and the Wilmslow LAP are committed to supporting both existing and new community led partnerships. These neighbourhood partnerships will contribute to the Local Area Delivery Plan for the LAP.

### Community Activities

There is a wide range of community activities in Wilmslow, delivered through local partnerships and community groups. These include environmental and heritage preservation projects, business support programmes, sports initiatives, community events and a community website.

### LAP projects / working groups

Since the first meeting in May 2009, the Wilmslow LAP has identified and is progressing the following projects –

- The Carrs Country Park, Wilmslow – demolition of a derelict building to diffuse issues of anti-social behaviour (completed) and further investigation to explore the creation of a multi use accessible path to serve pedestrians and cyclists (ongoing)
- Meriton Road Park, Handforth – bringing back a disused pavilion into community use, including accommodating a model railway club (ongoing)
- Exploring the creation of an motor cross site to engage young people in a controlled environment using an area of waste land (ongoing)
- Identifying and addressing potential improvements to the forecourt and access of Wilmslow Railway station, with improved signage in the town (ongoing)
- ‘Not in My Neighbourhod’ event – a multi agency approach to promote safety on the Colshaw Farm Estate and to address anti social behaviour (ongoing working group)

## WILMSLOW COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - PROJECT PLAN

Task/activity		Decision making process	Date of Meeting
<b>Officer Project Team</b>	<b>Officer Responsible</b>	<b>Community Governance Review Sub Committee - 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> meetings</b>	19/02/2010 23/3/ 2010
Guidance summary	LP	Consider summary of guidance	
Project Plan	LP		
Map of Review Area – including former MBC boundaries, adjacent parishes	MG	Approve terms of reference	
electorate: current/future		Approve Review Process / project plan	
Options appraisal	MG	Agree consultation methods	
Prepare consultation leaflet	KH /JB	Agree a composite list of consultees	
Electoral arrangements - initial views size/warding	JR/ KH/ DN	Identify and evaluate options for the review	
Consultation – Full list of consultees and contact details	MF/ LP	Formulate Leaflet to consultees and electors	
Draft Public notice prepared	JB/ KH	Agree arrangements for public meetings	
Arrange public meetings	LP / DN	Agree and signoff format of ballot paper(s)	
Arrange printing for postal ballot			
Publish Public Notice giving details of public meetings	LP/DN		14/4/2010 (Two weeks before public meetings held)
Public Meetings		Mon 26/4/2010 – Wilmslow Leisure Centre – 7pm	Wk cmg 26/4/2010

# WILMSLOW COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - PROJECT PLAN

Task/activity		Decision making process	Date of Meeting
		Wed 28/4/2010 – Honford Hall – 7pm Thurs 29/4/2010 – Styal Primary School – 7pm	
Publish Public Notices for 1 <sup>st</sup> stage consultation			28/4/2010 (Two weeks before consultation starts)
Comments / submissions invited from interested parties on Options (4 week consultation period)  Count of ballot ballots returned		<b>Consultation Period (stage 1)</b>	10 /05/2010 – 4 /6/2010
Collate representations and prepare committee report		<b>Community Governance Review Sub Committee - 3rd meeting</b>	15/6/2010 tbc
All submissions / comments considered and evaluated.  Report / draft recommendation prepared for consideration by Gov and Constitution Committee (agenda dispatched on 16 June)			
		<b>Governance &amp; Constitution Committee</b>	24/6/2010
Preparation of report to Council on draft final recommendation (including any warding arrangements) (agenda dispatched on 12 July)	LP	Formulate draft final recommendation to Council	



# WILMSLOW COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - PROJECT PLAN

Task/activity		Decision making process	Date of Meeting
		<b>Council</b>	22/7/2010
		Approval of final draft recommendation for consultation Agree public notice for stage 2 consultation	
Publish Notice	LP/ DN		28/7/2010 <i>Two weeks before consultation starts</i>
Implement Consultation (3 weeks)	LP/ MF/CC	<b>Consultation Period (stage 2)</b>	11/8/2010 – 1/9/2010
		<b>Community Governance Review Member Group - 4<sup>th</sup> meeting</b>	13/9/2010 – AM tbc
Preparation of analysis/evaluation of consultation outcome  Develop final recommendations – to include Implementation Plan, interim arrangements and election arrangements	LP/JR/BR/MF	Analysis of consultation outcome Formulation of final recommendation and Implementation Plan for consideration by G & C	
Preparation of report to G & C detailing final recommendation for approval by Council	LP/BR/MF	Approval of final recommendation and Implementation Plan for consideration by Council	
		<b>SPECIAL MEETING Governance &amp; Constitution Committee</b>	13/9/2010 -PM tbc
Preparation of final recommendation and report to Council Implementation arrangements Draft Order and associated documents	LP/BR/MF		

# WILMSLOW COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - PROJECT PLAN

Task/activity		Decision making process	Date of Meeting
including maps Implementation Plan including interim arrangements			
		<b>Final Decision by SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING</b> Including Approval of reorganisation order and Implementation Plan	15/9/2010 tbc
Council Publishes Reorganisation Order			By 20/9/2010
Implementation of any changes in electoral arrangements			Thereafter

## Key to Officers:-

LP	-	Lindsey Parton	JB	-	Juliet Blackburn
MF	-	Mike Flynn	JR	-	James Rounce
KH	-	Kirstie Hercules	MG	-	Mike Garritty
DT	-	Diane Todd			

*Wilmslow Community Governance Review*  
*List of Consultees*

- ⑩ Local political parties
- ⑩ National Association of Parish Councils
- ⑩ Cheshire Association of Parish Councils
- ⑩ Chorley Parish Council
- ⑩ Alderley Edge Parish Council
- ⑩ Cheshire East Borough Councillors
- ⑩ Petition organisers
- ⑩ Central and Eastern Cheshire PCT
- ⑩ Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- ⑩ Members of the Cheshire East LSP Co-ordination Group and thematic groups
- ⑩ Wilmslow Police
- ⑩ Wilmslow Fire and Rescue Service
- ⑩ Wilmslow Sports Partnership Living - [geoff.beadle@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:geoff.beadle@cheshireeast.gov.uk)
- ⑩ Wilmslow LAP (chaired by Councillor Carolyn Andrew – [carolyn.andrew@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:carolyn.andrew@cheshireeast.gov.uk))
- ⑩ Community Groups (via Community and Voluntary Services Cheshire East)  
Contact – Liz Hudson – 01625 428301 - [liz.hudson@cvsce.org](mailto:liz.hudson@cvsce.org)
- ⑩ Neighbourhood Action Groups – Colshaw Community Development Group, Colshaw Estate Tenants and Residents Association (via Cheshire East Community Development Team. Contact - [dawn.clark@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:dawn.clark@cheshireeast.gov.uk))
- ⑩ Open Arms Youth Project, Howty Close, Colshaw Farm, SK9 2SH. Contact Ann Sheedy Tel: 01625 252262
- ⑩ Local Schools – Primary, Secondary, Nursery (via internal email contact list)
- ⑩ Wilmslow Education Improvement Partnership - contact Susan Garrod, headteacher, Gorsey Bank Primary School – [head@gorseybank.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:head@gorseybank.cheshire.sch.uk)
- ⑩ Wilmslow Guild (Adult Education) [www.wilmslowguild.wikidot.com](http://www.wilmslowguild.wikidot.com)
- ⑩ Manchester Airport – contact Jon Bottomley – [jon.bottomley@manairport.co.uk](mailto:jon.bottomley@manairport.co.uk)
- ⑩ Wilmslow Business Group - contact Dave Bolton – [dave.bolton@virgin.net](mailto:dave.bolton@virgin.net)
- ⑩ Wilmslow Trust [www.wilmslowtrust.org.uk](http://www.wilmslowtrust.org.uk) – contact Brian McGavin - [brian.mcgavin@virgin.net](mailto:brian.mcgavin@virgin.net)
- ⑩ St John's Church, Wilmslow (discussion forum) [www.saint-johns.org.uk](http://www.saint-johns.org.uk)
- ⑩ Wilmslow United Reformed Church (discussion forum) [www.wilmslowurc.org.uk](http://www.wilmslowurc.org.uk)
- ⑩ Cycle Wilmslow - [www.cyclewilmslow.org.uk](http://www.cyclewilmslow.org.uk) – contact Rob Sawyer – [Robert.sawyer1@virgin.net](mailto:Robert.sawyer1@virgin.net)
- ⑩ Wilmslow 'Living Streets' – contact Dale Langham – [dale.langham@lineone.net](mailto:dale.langham@lineone.net)
- ⑩ Friends of the Carrs – [www.friendsofthecarrs.org.uk](http://www.friendsofthecarrs.org.uk) - contact Peter Stubbs – [pc.stubbs@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:pc.stubbs@tiscali.co.uk)
- ⑩ **Registered Social Landlords –**
- ⑩ Equity Housing Group –Armitt House, Monmouth Road, Cheadle Hulme Stockport Cheshire SK8 7EF. Telephone: (0161) 4869911 - contact Peter Glover – [peterg@equityhousing.co.uk](mailto:peterg@equityhousing.co.uk)
- ⑩ Riverside Housing – Riverside Penine, Colshaw Farm Estate Office, Appleton Walk Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 2HN - contact Jeff Allen – [jeff.allen@riverside.org.uk](mailto:jeff.allen@riverside.org.uk)
- ⑩ Contour Housing - 26-27 The Paddock, Handforth, Cheshire, SK9 3HQ Tel: 0345 602 1120 Email: [handforth@contourhousing.co.uk](mailto:handforth@contourhousing.co.uk)
- ⑩ Great Places Housing Group – Southern Gate, 729 Princess Road, Manchester M20 2LT - Contact - [Alexandra.millward@greatplaces.org.uk](mailto:Alexandra.millward@greatplaces.org.uk)
- ⑩ Cheshire Peaks and Plains Housing Trust -Ropewalks, Newton Street, Macclesfield SK11 6QJ email: [trust@cpphht.com](mailto:trust@cpphht.com) Tel: 01625 553 553

*Wilmslow Community Governance Review*  
*List of Consultees*

⑩ Anchor Trust - Anchor Court, Lacey Green, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 4DD Phone:  
01625 532473 <http://www.anchor.org.uk>

⑩ **Local attractions –**

Quarry Bank Mill – contact Quarry Bank Mill and Estate, Styal, Wilmslow, Cheshire  
SK9 4LA

Telephone: 01625 445896 - [quarrybankmill@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:quarrybankmill@nationaltrust.org.uk)

**Local website**

[www.wilmslow.co.uk](http://www.wilmslow.co.uk) – contact Lisa Reeves – [lisa@wilmslow.co.uk](mailto:lisa@wilmslow.co.uk)

## **PRESS / PUBLIC NOTICEBOARD TEXT (1): PUBLIC MEETINGS**

### **Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal Community Governance Review - Have your say**

Following receipt of three petitions from local residents in Wilmslow, Styal and Handforth asking for local councils (also known as town, parish or community councils) to be created in these areas, Cheshire East Council is conducting a Community Governance Review. This review will consider how these areas should be governed in the future, including whether a single local council, or multiple local councils, should be created for these areas which are currently unparished.

The following **Public meetings** are being held to give local residents, organisations and groups the opportunity to find out what the Review means, and inform people how to have their say on this important issue:

- Monday 26 April, 7pm, Wilmslow Leisure Centre, Wilmslow
- Wednesday 28 April, 7pm, Honford Hall, Handforth
- Thursday 29 April, 7pm, Styal Primary School, Handforth

In May, when the consultation takes place, a postal voting paper and leaflet will be posted out to every household in the area explaining the Review and the various options being considered.

You can submit your views to: The Elections and Registration Team Manager, Cheshire East Council, Westfields, Sandbach, CW11 9DZ, or by email to [communitygovernance@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:communitygovernance@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

More information can be found on the Cheshire East website at [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk).

## **PRESS RELEASE 1 – PUBLIC MEETINGS**

### **RESIDENTS INVITED TO HAVE THEIR SAY ON GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS IN WILMSLOW, HANDFORTH AND STYAL**

Cheshire East Council has received three petitions from local residents each calling for a local council in the unparished parts of these areas. The Council is now conducting a review of Community Governance arrangements to decide whether this would currently be the best option for these areas.

As part of the review, residents in Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal are being invited to have their say on whether a single local Council, or multiple local Councils, should be created.

The following **Public meetings** will be held to give people the opportunity to find out more about the proposals and have their say:

- Monday 26 April, 7pm, Wilmslow Leisure Centre, Wilmslow
- Wednesday 28 April, 7pm, Honford Hall, Handforth
- Thursday 29 April, 7pm, Styal Primary School, Handforth

Following the meetings, local residents and organisations will be given a further opportunity to put forward their views on what form future local government administration should take, during a public consultation between 10 May – 4 June 2010.

Householders should also look out in their letterboxes for a postal voting paper and explanatory leaflet, which will be delivered during this period.

Councillor Jim Crockatt, Chairman of the Review Sub-Committee, said: "We strongly encourage people living in these areas, and anyone else with an interest, to make their views known on this important topic.

"All feedback received will be taken into consideration to ensure the decision taken reflects the wishes of the people of these areas."

Following initial consultation, a draft recommendation will be created, which will form the basis of a second round of consultation in later in the year.

Any new arrangements would take effect from the date of the next local elections in May 2011.

You can submit your views to: The Elections and Registration Team Manager, Cheshire East Council, Westfields, Sandbach, CW11 9DZ, or by email to [communitygovernance@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:communitygovernance@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

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**PRESS / PUBLIC NOTICEBOARD TEXT (2):– STAGE ONE  
CONSULTATION**

**COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW: WILMSLOW, HANDFORTH AND  
STYAL – STAGE ONE CONSULTATION**

The Review of Community Governance arrangements in Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal is now entering its first stage of consultation.

Following public meetings in April 2010 in these areas, residents are being encouraged to submit their views on whether a single local Council, or multiple local Councils, should be created for their areas, if they haven't done so already.

Householders should have by now have received a postal voting paper and explanatory leaflet, which explains the proposals and asks them for their views.

Following the consultation, the Council will review all of the responses received, and make its draft recommendation later in the year.

You can submit your views to: The Elections and Registration Team Manager, Cheshire East Council, Westfields, Sandbach, CW11 9DZ, or by email to [communitygovernance@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:communitygovernance@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

More information can be found on the Cheshire East website at [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk)

## **MEDIA RELEASE (2) – STAGE ONE**

### **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL ASKS “WHETHER WILMSLOW, HANDFORTH AND STYAL SHOULD HAVE LOCAL COUNCIL”**

Cheshire East Council’s Review of Community Governance arrangements in Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal is now entering its first stage of consultation.

Following public meetings in April 2010 in these areas, residents are being encouraged to submit their views on whether a single local Council or multiple local Councils should be created for their areas, if they haven’t already done so.

Householders should have by now have received a questionnaire and explanatory leaflet explaining the proposals, and giving them the opportunity to have their say.

Following the consultation, the Council will review all of the responses received, and make its draft recommendation later in the year. They are urging people to let them know what they think so their views can be considered:

Councillor Jim Crockatt, Chairman of the Review Sub-Committee said: “It’s important people come forward now and give us their feedback, as this will ensure that the decision we take reflects the wishes of the people in these areas.”

Following the consultation, a draft recommendation will be created which will form the basis of a second round of consultation in later in the year.

You can submit your views to: The Elections and Registration Team Manager, Cheshire East Council, Westfields, Sandbach, CW11 9DZ, or by email to [communitygovernance@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:communitygovernance@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

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## Community Governance Review - Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal

### Why are we writing to you?

Cheshire East Council has received three petitions each signed by over 10% of electorates (or local residents) in the Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal areas, asking for a local Council (also known as a Town, Parish or Community Council) to be set up in these areas.

By law, Cheshire East Council must now carry out what is known as a Community Governance Review. This review will look at the most suitable options for local administration in the unparished parts of Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal, and decide whether a local council or multiple local councils would be the best option for:

- representing the interests and identities of local people, and
- providing local government services

The below map explains which areas this Review affects. These areas have a population of around **50,000** [?] people.

*[INSERT MAP SHOWING REVIEW BOUNDARIES]*

### What does a Local Council do?

Local Councils are democratically-elected bodies that have statutory powers. These can include the provision of allotments, bus shelters, support for local crime-prevention initiatives, local highway matters such as street lighting and maintenance of roadside verges. They are also often involved in providing and maintaining community transport schemes, sport and recreation facilities and tourism. They also provide a focus for representing local issues and identity.

### How are Local Council's paid for?

Local Councils are funded through a charge (known as a precept) which is included in your council tax bill. The amount of this charge is something that each Council has to decide for itself, and depends on what services and facilities it wants and needs to provide to the local community. The following table gives some examples of precepts (the charge shown is for Band D properties per annum) for some Councils for towns with which you may be familiar. These figures are for illustration only as there are no means of estimating the services which any future council will choose to provide.

Town	Population (approx)	Precept
Congleton	25750	£57.72
Middlewich	13390	£54.69
Nantwich	13880	£20.78
Northwich	20900	£72.22
Shrewsbury	70000	£32.81
Whitchurch	8900	£111.91
Winsford	30700	£34.17
Wistaston	8250	£14.13
Great Boughton	8500	£14.98
Frodsham	9250	£31.92
Matlock	9500	£68.57
Barnoldswick	10900	£26.80
Bridgnorth	11750	£128.63
Alsager	12500	£42.39
Wootton Bassett	12500	£190.73

Stroud	12700	£86.66
Knutsford	12750	£12.05

*(The population for the area of Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal that is being considered is about 50,000?).*

### **Why have a Local Council?**

Local Councils have the ability to respond to particular local needs and deliver solutions in response to these. A Local Council can be seen to represent the immediate community that it serves and can give more local control over the quality of the local environment, based on a closer familiarity with local priorities and needs. They also give a voice to represent local issues and interests.

### **How many councillors would there be?**

One of the issues the Review will consider is how many Councillors should be elected if a Local Council, or multiple Local Councils are set up. Councillors can be elected to represent the whole area under review or it can be sub-divided into wards, where they have particular responsibility for a smaller area and its residents. For example, a Councillor could represent the whole area of Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal, or the area could be sub-divided into six wards – e.g. Dean Row, Fulshaw, Handforth, Hough, Lacey Green, Morley & Styal, and the people who live in each of these wards would then be represented by specific Councillors for their area. If a local Council was set up for a smaller area, such as Handforth or Styal for example, then it could be more appropriate for the Councillors to represent the whole of that area. In deciding the number of Councillors to be elected, consideration will be given to the size of the electorate and the needs of each area.

### **What are the Options?**

There are options to consider which may be seen as viable alternatives to represent the identity and interests of local people:

#### *A single Local Council for the whole area, or more than one Local Council*

There is no set population size for a Local Council as you can see from the Table mentioned above. The area of under review has a population of about 50,000 people. It may be considered desirable to have a single local council for the whole area; or it may be considered that more than one local council would better reflect the diversity of communities and interests within each area. Each of the Councils would have a power to raise money through precept charges.

The map shows how the various options could be created for the Wilmslow, Handforth and Styal areas.

#### *Area committees*

Cheshire East Council could set up groups of Councillors to oversee the management of services and address local issues in a number of smaller geographic areas. There would be no power to raise funds by precept, however this would most likely be funded using Council Tax payments.

#### *Tenant Management/Residents & Tenants Associations*

These tend to focus mainly largely on issues affecting particular housing estates. Particular emphasis is usually on housing-related issues and there is no power to raise funds.

*Area/community/neighbourhood forums*

These can give communities a say on local authority matters and local issues. The focus is on influencing decision-making and membership, and they are made up of people living or working in the area. Forums have no power to raise funds.

*Community Associations*

These are usually set up locally by members of the community, and provide a democratically-elected approach for local residents and community organisations to work together for the benefit of the neighbourhood. They sometimes include local authority representatives on the management committee as a means of influencing the delivery of services and decision making that affects the area. They have no power to raise funds.

**Further information**

You can submit your views to: The Elections and Registration Team Manager, Cheshire East Council, Westfields, Sandbach, CW11 9DZ, or by email to [communitygovernance@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:communitygovernance@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

More information can be found on the Cheshire East website at [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk)

Local electors are also invited to complete and return a postal voting paper to express their views.

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