

## **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cabinet Member for Strategic Communities**  
held on Monday, 13th May, 2013 in Room F1/2 - Westfields, Middlewich  
Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

### **PRESENT**

Councillors D Brown.

#### Councillors in attendance:

Councillors C Andrew, A Harewood and L Smetham.

#### Officers in attendance:

Paul Bayley – Customer Services and Library Manager  
Cherry Foreman – Democratic Services

### **17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **19 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION**

The Chairman of the Hurdsfield Community Group spoke in respect of the offer that had been made to assist in the creation of a new community led library, and of the interest that had been shown in its possibilities by members of the local community.

### **20 PROPOSAL TO CLOSE HURDSFIELD AND WESTON LIBRARIES**

The Portfolio Holder for Strategic Communities considered the closure of the Hurdsfield and Weston libraries as part of the Council's major change project to develop a new model for sustainable library services and community hubs.

The report detailed the current use of the libraries, the results of a consultation exercise into how their closure would affect customers, and measures to be taken to mitigate the impact of the closures.

At the meeting it was reported that, since the agenda had been published, the Hurdsfield Community Group, in partnership with the Peaks and Plains Housing Trust, had stepped forward to offer its support for the development of a community led library; this offer was warmly welcomed and it was agreed that it be progressed further.

The decision to be made was, therefore, amended to reflect this offer in respect of Hurdsfield library; the decision for Weston Library remained unchanged.

**RESOLVED**

1. That delegated authority be given to the Customer Services and Libraries Manager to progress the proposal from the Hurdsfield Community Group, in partnership with the Peaks and Plains Housing Trust, to create a new community led library and community space for Hurdsfield; and that Hurdsfield library be withdrawn from the Council's statutory library provision.
2. That approval be given to the closure of Weston library.

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 10.25 am

Councillor (none)