

**Minutes of the VCSF Management Committee
Meeting held on 12th January 2010
at 10am
At CVSCE Ashton House**

Present:

John Taylor(JT)	Cheshire Neighbours
Tracey Langston (TL)	CVSCE
Andreas Weisner(AW)	Cheshire East
Tina Jones(TJ)	Cheshire East
Peter Speed(PS)	YMCA
John Hatfield (JH)	CNVA
Roy Cartlidge (RC)	Crewe West End Community Group
Jane Whetnall (JW)	Cheshire Academy
Wendy Gjerstad (WG)	CVSCE
Sam Wilkinson (SW)	CVSCE Volunteer Centre

Apologies:

Helen Aspden (HA)	NSPCC
Val Butler(VB)	DRE

	Minutes	Action
1.	Welcome: JT opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.	
2.	Minutes of the last meeting: Minutes accepted as a true record of the last meeting.	
3.	Matters Arising: Deadline for submissions for the Crewe Governance issues was 8 th Jan – this issue was raised as matters arising but will be dealt with under agenda item 4 below.	
4.	Crewe Governance Review – Crewe Town Council The governance review has closed but majority vote seems to be not to support a Town Council, however the questions used for the questionnaire did cause some confusion with members of the public. There has been a feeling from certain parts of the community that the questions were written in such a way that a predefined result was obtained. A discussion took place about whether a Town Council or other local government structure would be of benefit to the VCS in the district. RC stated that even though the governance review had closed there was a meeting on 19.01.10 that he was attending, he was willing to take a letter from the VCSF Management Committee if they wanted to submit their support or opposition for the proposals. After much discussion it was agreed by the committee that a local government structure, whether that be Town Council or	

	<p>other Parish, would be of benefit to the local VCS as it would present them with an opportunity to have their voice heard at a local level and to have an opportunity to engage in local decision making. JH suggested that the VCSF support the parishing of Crewe, RC stated that the meeting on 19.01.10 was an opportunity for the group, as a stakeholder, to make their views clear.</p> <p>The committee also felt that without a town council or other parish(s) the VCS in Crewe was at a disadvantage to groups in other parished areas within Cheshire East. TL to draft letter and send to group for their comments before submitting a final copy to RC.</p>	TL
5.	<p>Spring Forum: All reviewed the draft agenda – a comment was made that it was important to ensure that both Rob Wykes and the Safeguarding person needed to have enough time to effectively deliver their presentations. Agreed that it would be useful to have displays up at the event to dispel some of the myths around volunteering and CRB checks etc., SW will look at the displays with PN. TJ suggested that it might be useful to invite a few larger employees, she will supply address contact details. PS suggested TL add Crewe and Nantwich LAP to the Forum agenda.</p>	TL SW/PN TJ TL
6.	<p>Terms of reference: All agreed that the new draft was fit for purpose, TL pointed out that she needed to change CNVA to CVSCE. TJ suggested that perhaps it might be useful for CVSCE to do a presentation at the Crewe & Nantwich LAP on the new organisation once the structures are in place – WG agreed but said this was for the future when CVSCE had developed its structure.</p>	TL
7.	<p>Any other business: AW reported that he reads the O magazine and had found a useful flyer in there about volunteering. The Disney resort offers a free day to volunteers and AW suggested that the volunteer centres could approach Alton Towers. All agreed it was an excellent idea but could be quite resource intensive to organise this across Cheshire and Staffordshire. PS updated the group briefly on the Crewe LAP and agreed to submit a short written piece to TL for the next Forum news sheet. The Crewe LAP is still looking at the economic strategy for Crewe and consultants have already done several sessions with stakeholders. RC suggested that it would be useful to look at some of the evidence which</p>	PS

	already exists and to also consider the plans for redevelopment of the town centre that have already been drawn up. A discussion took place about the economic vision for Crewe.	
8.	Date of next meeting: Tuesday 2 ND March 2010 at 10am at CVSCE, Ashton House, Crewe	