

# Engage with community as well as students

AT a recent CWaC meeting a motion has been passed 'to engage with the University of Chester's students in direct consultation by CWaC' which is all very well but not acceptable when Chester Community Voice UK has never been treated so favourably; as we were, indeed, largely ignored once more at the recent call in debate about CWaC's studentification policy where this motion was passed?

Interesting this, especially as three invitations from us as CCV UK have never been responded to by the Chester University Students Union.

CCV UK has gained significant understanding of this issue and have been making representations to CWaC over five years now, having been instrumental in promoting the need for the development of this studentification policy from the start.

This neglect of our participation is, to say the least, unfortunate given CCV UK, speaks for many of Chester's city residents, continues to have outstanding issues over which we have been kept at best arms-length and some of which have not been debated with us or openly at any public meeting at all regarding what is and is not now included.

Speaking for the community that supports us, we confirm we do not support the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) as it stands that CWaC has adopted due to the fact it is weak and indeed contradictory of the need to establish balanced communities.



● The views of the University of Chester's students are being welcomed by CWaC unlike those of the Chester Community Voice UK according to our correspondent

The decision of this call in debate made on the casting vote of the chairman not to have a so called student housing needs assessment included in this policy (a massive mistake itself) only represents one of this policy's shortcomings and contradictions and the decision to adopt this policy as it stands does not just betray Chester's city community but some 109 other university conurbations and 130 others working towards that status.

**REG BARRITT**  
General Secretary, Chester Community  
Voice UK