

GREAT WARFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held

Wednesday 16th July, 2025 at 7:00p.m.

at Great Warford Baptist Chapel, Merrymans Lane, Great Warford.

Present Councillors B. Thompson (Chairman), N. Peacock, C. Rossington, J. Shasha.
Members of the public (0).
Dr. E. M. Maddock – Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer.

1. Apologies for absence

Councillor J. Macrae – Personal reason.

Councillor E. Wood – Personal reason.

Cheshire East Council Ward Member: Cllr. H. Moss.

116/25 RESOLVED (a) That the above apologies for absence be received and approved. (All in favour)

Councillor L. Wildig was absent from the meeting.

2. Declarations of interest:

(a) **Agenda items:** None.

117/25 RESOLVED (a) To note that no declarations of interest were made. (All in favour)

3. Public forum for questions: No questions were presented by members of the public.

118/25 RESOLVED (a) To note that no questions were presented. (All in favour)

4. Cheshire East Ward Member Cllr. H. Moss: Borough Councillor H. Moss had forwarded a report providing updates relating to planning enforcement matters.

119/25 RESOLVED (a) To receive and note the updates from Borough Councillor H. Moss. (All in favour)

5. Minutes

(a) The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 28th May, 2025 had been previously circulated to all Members.

120/25 RESOLVED (a) That the Minutes of the meeting held 28th May, 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. (All in favour)

(b) The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 28th May, 2025 had been previously circulated to all Members.

121/25 RESOLVED (a) That the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 28th May, 2025 be confirmed as a correct record. (All in favour)

6. Finance

(a) **Financial Statement 2025/26 as at 16th July, 2025:** Members considered the financial statement 2025/26 which was unanimously accepted. (Appendix A)

(b) **Receipts:** The Chairman noted the receipts listed at Appendix B.

(c) **Payments:** The Chairman outlined the basis of payments listed at Appendix C.

122/25 RESOLVED (a) That the financial statement as at 16th July, 2025 be received and the Chairman's observations duly noted. (Appendix A)

(b) To note the receipts at Appendix B.

(c) That the schedule of payments at Appendix C be approved and duly authorised. (All in favour)

(d) **Donation:** It was reported that the Great Warford Residents Group had requested an additional donation of £100 to support the Summer Fete event.

123/25 RESOLVED (a) That an additional donation of £100 be approved to support the

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Summer Fete. (All in favour)

7. Planning Applications

(a) **Recent planning decisions:** Members noted the new planning decisions that had been issued by Cheshire East Council in respect of development within the Parish. (Appendix D)

(b) **Planning applications**

i. **25/2450/PIP:** Great Warford Storage Park, Ancoats Lane, Great Warford. SK9 7TT

Permission in principle for a residential development for 9 dwellings.

124/25 RESOLVED (a) That the following comments be submitted to Cheshire East Council in respect of application 25/2450/PIP:
Great Warford Parish Council objects to the above application on the following grounds:

1. That the proposed development is an inappropriate form of development within the Green Belt which would cause permanent loss of openness within the rural landscape and encroach into the rural character of Great Warford. It is not considered that any special circumstances exist to justify the proposed development.
2. That the proposed development site does not meet the Cheshire East Council definition of 'limited infilling in villages' as Great Warford is not named as an infill village within the Site Allocations and Development Policies Document Policy PG10.
3. That no evidence has been provided to demonstrate that there is any need for further residential development within Great Warford.
4. That the proposed development site is not sustainable. When considering Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy policy SD2 and guidance table 9.1 the site fails to meet recommended distances in respect of most services and amenities. Of the 20 criteria listed in table 9.1, the site appears to only meet the recommended distances in respect of public rights of way and outdoor sports pitches.
5. The undulating landscape surrounding the proposed development, together with the narrow lanes, does not encourage cycling as a primary transport choice. Whilst, as stated in the application, Cheshire Cycleway – route 70 does pass the proposed development site, this is considered to be a recreational route rather than a realistic transport option for accessing services, education and employment.
6. The application refers to street lighting on Ancoats Lane. It should be noted that the street lights only extend approximately 600m to the west of the site and approximately 200m to the east of the site before entering narrow, unlit, rural lanes. It is also noted that there are no footways along Ancoats Lane and many of the surrounding rural lanes giving rise to safety concerns for pedestrians.
7. That the proposed development is likely to exacerbate existing flooding issues within the vicinity of the development site. Increased flooding (both in terms of severity and frequency) will detrimentally impact the sustainability of existing nearby properties and infrastructure.

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8. That the land and trees in and around the proposed development plot are key features to limiting the impact of flooding in this area. Any loss of these features will detrimentally affect the sustainability of the wider area.

9. In conclusion, it is considered that the proposed development site is unsustainable and will cause permanent harm to this green belt, rural location. (All in favour)

ii. Any applications received following issue of Agenda: None.

125/25 RESOLVED (a) To note that no further applications had been received. (All in favour)

(c) **Planning Enforcement Updates:** Members noted the following updates provided by Borough Councillor H. Moss:

Cases relating to Warford Hall; Merryford, Warford Hall Drive and The Little Moss, Chelford Road have been closed.

Cases relating to Warford Park; The Gloucester, Highgrove; Great Warford Storage Yard; Brook Cottage, Paddock Hill and Noon Sun Corner are all still under review.

126/25 RESOLVED (a) To receive and note the updates. (All in favour)

(d) **Planning Enforcement:** No new issues were identified.

127/25 RESOLVED (a) To receive and note the update. (All in favour)

8. Highway maintenance and enhancements

(a) **Update on previously reported highway matters:** It was noted that a pothole at Merrymans Lane had been filled. A hedge which was obscuring sight lines at Merrymans Lane had also been trimmed.

128/25 RESOLVED (a) To receive and note the updates. (All in favour)

(b) **Highway matters for attention:** No issues were reported.

129/25 RESOLVED (a) To note that no issues were reported. (All in favour)

(c) **Community Speed Watch:** It was reported that the community speed watch team had started activities and recorded several vehicles travelling in excess of the speed limit. It is planned to increase activities in the coming weeks.

130/25 RESOLVED (a) To receive and note the update. (All in favour)

(d) **Speed indicator devices:** It was reported that Cheshire East Council had raised further obstacles to the installation of the speed indicator device.

131/25 RESOLVED (a) That the Clerk continue to pursue permission for installation at the potential location adjacent to the notice board. (All in favour)

9. Correspondence

(a) To consider specific correspondence received by the Parish Council since the date of the last ordinary meeting and determine such actions as Members consider appropriate thereto:

i. Manchester Airport: Night noise (NAP23) consultation 2025.

132/25 RESOLVED (a) That no response be submitted to the consultation. (All in favour)

ii. ONH: Information relating to proposed changes to planning appeal processes.

133/25 RESOLVED (a) To receive and note the information. (All in favour)

10. Community matters

(a) **Report from Mobberley Ward Policing Team:** It was reported that the latest

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updates advised that surgeries continue to be advertised on the Knutsford Police Facebook page. Officers have undertaken Trucam activities across the Knutsford, High Legh, Mobberley, Chelford and Gawsforth areas and recorded 549 vehicles travelling in excess of relevant speed limits.

134/25 RESOLVED (a) To receive and note the update. (All in favour)

- (b) **Great Warford Residents Group:** It was reported that the Summer Fete had been a success. Plans are now being made for the Christmas event along with other activities to support local facilities.

135/25 RESOLVED (a) To receive and note the update. (All in favour)

- (c) **Defibrillator provision at Warford Park:** Item deferred.

11. Policy Updates

- (a) **Digital and data compliance relating to the Annual Governance and Accountability Return Assertion 10:**

i. Parish Council email accounts

136/25 RESOLVED (a) That approval be given for a Parish Council email account to be set up for the Clerk.

(b) That Members continue to use existing email accounts for communications. (All in favour)

ii. Accessibility statement

137/25 RESOLVED (a) That the Accessibility Statement be approved as presented (Appendix E). (All in favour)

iii. IT Policy

138/25 RESOLVED (a) That the IT Policy be approved as presented (Appendix F). (All in favour)

12. Matters for inclusion on next/future meeting agenda

- (a) Update relating to work to lobby for Parish Councils to be included within remit of the Financial Ombudsman Service.

13. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 17th September, 2025 at 7:00p.m.

14. Exclusion of public and press

- (a) To consider passing a resolution under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of exempt information.

139/25 RESOLVED (a) That a resolution to exclude the public and press from the following item of business on the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of exempt information is not required as there are no items to discuss. (All in favour)

- (b) Matters for consideration including those transferred from above items (as required): None.

The meeting was declared closed by the Chairman at 8:00p.m.

Signed:..... Approval date: 17th September, 2025

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APPENDIX A

Financial Statement – 2025/26 as at 16 th July, 2025					
Actual 2024/25 £	Details	2025/26 Budget £	Actual to May 25 £	Agenda Jul. 25 £	Budget Balance £
	Receipts				
10,957.00	Precept	11,242.00	0.00	5,621.00	5,621.00
0.00	Balances	2,466.00	0.00		0.00
72.89	Investment interest		0.00	40.03	0.00
0.00	Sale of assets		0.00		0.00
0.00	Grants and donations		0.00		0.00
14,755.07	Refunds		0.00		0.00
1,916.60	Community Infrastructure Levy		0.00		0.00
304.92	VAT refund		0.00	169.39	203.19
28,006.48	Total receipts	13,708.00	0.00	5,830.42	5,824.19
	Payments				
4,401.84	Salary (Clerk)	4,756.00	749.24	749.24	3,257.52
0.00	National Insurance (Employer)	0.00	0.00		0.00
275.00	Allowances (Clerk)	275.00	0.00		275.00
226.40	Administration	325.00	6.99		318.01
0.00	Chairman/Member allowances	0.00	0.00		0.00
220.00	Audit fees (internal & external)	230.00	232.00		-2.00
300.00	Insurance	350.00	300.00		50.00
107.86	Website	132.00	0.00		132.00
261.54	Street lighting electric	615.00	0.00		615.00
0.00	Training	210.00	0.00		210.00
341.48	Subscriptions/affiliation fees	410.00	279.44	20.00	110.56
100.00	Room hire	230.00	20.00	20.00	190.00
155.00	Christmas lighting	350.00	0.00		350.00
240.00	Parish Maintenance	600.00	0.00	668.00	-68.00
148.29	Asset purchase	600.00	105.77		494.23
290.90	Asset maintenance	3,175.00	150.18		3,024.82
249.00	Newsletter	750.00	0.00		750.00
300.00	Grants / s.137 payments	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00
0.00	Contingency	500.00	0.00		500.00
14,755.07	Unauthorised transactions	0.00	0.00		
219.19	VAT		69.59	133.60	
22,591.57	Total payments	13,708.00	1,913.21	1,790.84	10,207.14

Cash/Bank reconciliation	01/04/25	28/05/25	16/07/25	31/03/26
Balance B/Fwd	31,036.37	31,036.37	29,123.16	33,162.74
Add total receipts	13,708.00	0.00	5,830.42	5,824.19
Less total payments	13,708.00	1,913.21	1,790.84	10,207.14
Balance C/Fwd	31,036.37	29,123.16	33,162.74	28,779.79
Cumulative balances	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance
	01/04/25	28/05/25	16/07/25	31/03/26
General funds	17,396.26	6,998.39	11,037.97	6,655.02
Earmarked reserves	13,640.11	22,124.77	22,124.77	22,124.77
	31,036.37	29,123.16	33,162.74	28,779.79

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Cash/Bank Reconciliation as at 16th July, 2025

Cash

Balance brought forward 01/04/25		
Current Account (NatWest)	25,801.06	
Community Account (Barclays)	250.00	
Business Premium Account (Barclays)	4,985.31	
	31,036.37	
Plus receipts		5,830.42
Less payments		3,704.05
Balance carried forward 16/07/25:		33,162.74

Bank

Current Account (NatWest)		9,718.24		01/07/25
Add receipts/transfer since above statement				
	0.00			
		0.00		
Less unpresented cheques				
Approved 2024/25	-20.00			
Approved	-20.00			
For approval	-1,790.84			
		-1,830.84	7,887.40	16/07/25
Business Reserve Account (NatWest)		10,007.23		30/05/25
Add receipts/transfer since above statement				
	0.00			
		0.00		
Less unpresented cheques				
For approval	0.00			
		0.00	10,007.23	16/07/25
Liquidity Manager Account (NatWest)		10,016.24		30/05/25
Add receipts/transfer since above statement				
	0.00			
		0.00		
Less unpresented cheques				
For approval	0.00			
		0.00	10,016.24	16/07/25
Community Account (Barclays)		250.00		31/03/25
Add receipts/transfer since above statement				
	0.00			
		0.00		
Less unpresented cheques				
	0.00			
		0.00	250.00	16/07/25
Business Premium Account (Barclays)		5,001.87		03/06/25
Add receipts/transfer since above statement				
	0.00			
		0.00		
Less unpresented cheques				
	0.00			
		0.00	5,001.87	16/07/25
Total bank balances 16/07/25			33,162.74	

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APPENDIX B

Receipts

Cheshire East Borough Council	£5,621.00	Precept 2025/26 (50%)
H.M. Revenue & Customs	£169.39	VAT reclaim 2024/25
Barclays Bank plc	£16.56	Gross interest – March-June 2025
NatWest Bank plc	£7.23	Gross interest – May 2025 (BR)
NatWest Bank plc	£16.24	Gross interest – May 2025 (LM)

APPENDIX C

Payments for approval

Cheque No 000055	Petrichor Bulb Specialists	£801.60	Floral displays 2024 and 2025 [A]
Cheque No 000056	E. M. Maddock	£599.64	Salary: Jun. – Jul. 2025 [B]
Cheque No 000057	H. M. Revenue & Customs	£149.60	PAYE payments [C]
Cheque No 000058	Great Warford Baptist Chapel	£20.00	Room hire (16/07/25) [D]
Cheque No 000059	Cheshire Community Action	£20.00	Membership fee 2025/26 [E]
Cheque No 000060	Great Warford Residents	£200.00	Donation to summer event [F] Group

[A] Local Government Act 1972 s.144

[B] Local Government Act 1972 s.112

[C] The Income Tax (Pay As You Earn) Regulations 2003 s.67G

[D] Local Government Act 1972 s.111 (Local Government Act 1972 Sch.12 para. 8)

[E] Local Government Act 1972 s.143(1)(a)

[F] Local Government Act 1972 s.137

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APPENDIX D

(a) Recent planning decisions

- 25/0580/HOUS The Gloucester, Highgrove, Ancoats Lane, Great Warford. SK9 7TT
Internal renovations and installation of rooflight.
DECISION: Refused (09/06/25)
- 25/0581/LBC The Gloucester, Highgrove, Ancoats Lane, Great Warford. SK9 7TT
Listed building consent for internal renovations and installation of rooflight.
DECISION: Refused (09/06/25)

(b) Outstanding planning applications

- 20/1503M Cheshire Health Club and Spa, Warford Park, Faulkners Lane, Great Warford.
Construction of single storey extension with 2 roof lanterns, new entrance, replacement timber wall cladding, proposed new replacement windows, proposed new window openings and windows, construction of ventilation / air conditioning systems to flat roof with screening, insertion of roof skylights, insertion of new door for maintenance and cleaning access on existing flat roof.
- 24/1380D Karibu, Chelford Road, Great Warford. SK9 7TL
Discharge of condition 4 on approval 21/2303M.
- 24/1405M Karibu, Chelford Road, Great Warford. SK9 7TL
Variation of condition 2 – plans on application 21/2303M.
- 24/1450M Karibu, Chelford Road, Great Warford. SK9 7TL
Moving the site entrance and the replacement of the existing wall and hedge boundary treatment with a new hedge, entrance gates and fence.
- 24/5005/VOC Copper Beeches, Chelford Road, Great Warford. SK9 7TL
Variation of conditions 2, 8 and 9 on approval 22/4810M: Demolition of dwelling, construction of a replacement dwelling, and change in use of land.
- 25/1012/HOUS Warford Hall, Warford Hall Drive, Great Warford. SK9 7TP
Part demolition of the rear of existing hall and construction of a replacement extension; construction of a barn extension and garage; creation of a new access driveway; and site wide landscaping works including construction of padel court, tennis court and garden pavilion.
- 25/1578/PIP Land off Warford Hall Drive, Great Warford. SK9 7TR
Application for permission in principle for development comprising a development of up to 3 dwellings.

(c) Outstanding appeals

- 24/2477M Carlisle House, Knutsford Road, Knolls Green, Mobberley. WA16 7BA
Construction of a single storey dwelling with access, landscaping and associated work.

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APPENDIX E

Accessibility Statement

Great Warford Parish Council is committed to making its website accessible, in accordance with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018.

This accessibility statement applies to <https://greatwarfordpc.org.uk/>

Compliance status

This website is partially compliant with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.2 AA standard, due to the non-compliances and exemptions listed below.

Some content is partially compliant, due to the non-compliances listed below.

Non-compliance with the accessibility regulations

Some pages may contain content and / or attachments which are not currently compliant, where this is the case we will endeavour, on request, to obtain an accessible copy from the original source or to convey the information contained in the document in an accessible way:

- Content produced by third parties - not all documents on this website are created by us.
- Content using third party software for example maps.
- Some pdf documents contain elements (e.g. tables) which are not currently fully compliant.
- Some elements contain adjacent links which point to the same destination.

Disproportionate burden

We have not identified any areas that we believe constitute a disproportionate burden.

Content that is not within the scope of the accessibility regulations

Many of our older PDFs and Word documents do not meet accessibility standards – for example, they may not be structured so they're accessible to a screen reader. This does not meet WCAG 2.1 success criterion 4.1.2 (name, role value).

The accessibility regulations do not require us to fix PDFs or other documents published before 23 September 2018 if they're not essential to providing our services.

Documents, including PDFs, relating to the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) are provided by an external source and are outside the control of the Council. These documents are not covered by the regulations (Part 1 – Section 4(2)(e)). These items may contain interactive forms and scanned images and may not work with screen readers.

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Preparation of this accessibility statement

This statement was prepared on 10th July, 2025.

The statement was last reviewed on 10th July, 2025.

The website's pages were reviewed by the Clerk using WebAIM and Silktide reporting tools. The website was last reviewed on 10th July, 2025.

Feedback and contact information

We're always looking to improve the accessibility of this website. If you find any problems not listed on this page or think we're not meeting accessibility requirements, contact the Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer by email at clerk.greatwarfordpc@gmail.com or by telephone on 01477 571444.

Enforcement procedure

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) is responsible for enforcing the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018 (the 'accessibility regulations').

If you're not happy with how we respond to your complaint, [contact the Equality Advisory and Support Service \(EASS\)](#).

APPENDIX F

IT and Email Policy

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Great Warford Parish Council recognises the importance of effective and secure information technology (IT) and email usage in supporting its business, operations and communications.
- 1.2 This policy outlines the guidelines and responsibilities for the appropriate use of IT resources and email by council members, employees, volunteers and contractors.

2 Scope

- 2.1 This policy applies to all individuals who use Great Warford Parish Council's IT resources, including computers, networks, software, devices, data and email accounts.

3 Acceptable use of IT resources and email

- 3.1 Great Warford Parish Council IT resources and email accounts are to be used for official council-related activities and tasks. Limited personal use is permitted, provided it does not interfere with work responsibilities or violate any part of this

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policy. All users must adhere to ethical standards, respect copyright and intellectual property rights, and avoid accessing inappropriate or offensive content.

4 Device and software usage

- 4.1 Where possible, authorised devices, software and applications will be provided by Great Warford Parish Council to employees for the purposes of undertaking work-related tasks.
- 4.2 Great Warford Parish Council does not provide computer equipment to councillors but will consider requests by councillors for assistance in training to acquire the necessary skills to execute tasks requiring technology.

5 Data management and security

- 5.1 All sensitive and confidential Great Warford Parish Council data should be stored and transmitted securely using approved methods. Regular data backups should be performed to prevent data loss, and secure data destruction methods should be used when necessary.
- 5.2 Employees and councillors should be mindful of the provisions contained within the Council's policies relating to privacy; subject access; freedom of information; information and data retention and disposal and social media.

6 Email communication

- 6.1 All employees [and councillors] will be provided with a council email address and must use this for all council business. ([] subject to item 11(a)(i))
- 6.2 Councillors are reminded that any email sent or received in their capacity as a Parish Councillors is Council data and any emails may have to be disclosed following requests under the Data Protection Act or Freedom of Information Act.
- 6.3 Councillors must ensure that any personal devices used to access council systems (including email and data) are password protected and access is restricted solely to the member.
- 6.4 Emails should be professional and respectful in tone. Confidential or sensitive information must not be sent via email unless it is encrypted.

7 Password and account security

- 7.1 Great Warford Parish Council email account users are responsible for maintaining the security of their accounts and passwords. Passwords should be strong and not shared with others. Regular password changes are encouraged to enhance security.
- 7.2 Be cautious with attachments and links to avoid phishing and malware. Verify the source before opening any attachments or clicking on links.

8 Portable devices

- 8.1 All portable devices which have access to Great Warford Parish Council email accounts and data must be protected to prevent unauthorised access. This can be by use of passwords, passcodes or other biometric measures as applicable.
- 8.2 Particular care must be taken when using removable media to transmit data as such media are easily lost or intercepted. Any sensitive information (including personal data, confidential documents or data which could impact on the rights or reputation of any person or organisation including the Council) placed on removable media must be suitably password protected or encrypted.

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9 Email monitoring

- 9.1 Great Warford Parish Council reserves the right to monitor email communications to ensure compliance with this policy and relevant laws. Monitoring will be conducted in accordance with the Data Protection Act and GDPR.

10 Retention and archiving

- 10.1 Emails should be retained and archived in accordance with legal and regulatory requirements. Regularly review and delete unnecessary emails to maintain and organised inbox.
- 10.2 Employees and councillors should refer to the Information and data retention and disposal policy when undertaking reviews of stored data.

11 Reporting security incidents

- 11.1 All councillors, employees or volunteers must report any incidents which could pose a risk to the council's systems or data security to the Clerk without delay. This includes but is not limited to:
- lost devices
 - potential risk arising from phishing emails/websites
 - passwords having been shared
 - unauthorised access to systems.

12 Compliance and consequences

- 12.1 Breach of this IT and Email Policy may result in the suspension of IT privileges and further consequences as deemed appropriate.
- 12.2 Unauthorised access, use, destruction, modification and/or distribution of council information, systems or data is prohibited.

13 Policy review

- 13.1 This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its relevant and effectiveness. Updates may be made to address emerging technology trends and security measures.

14 Contacts

- 14.1 For IT related enquiries or assistance users can contact the Clerk.
- 14.2 All staff and councillors are responsible for the safety and security of Great Warford Parish Council's IT and email systems. By adhering to this IT and Email Policy, Great Warford Parish Council aims to create a secure and efficient IT environment that supports its mission and goals.

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APPENDIX G

Biodiversity Policy

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Under the Environment Act 2021, public authorities (including Parish Councils) operating in England must consider what they can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity.
- 1.2 Government guidance clarifies that Parish Councils must:
 - consider what they can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity
 - agree policies and specific objectives based on their consideration
 - act to deliver their policies and achieve their objectives
- 1.3 A review of this policy and objectives must be undertaken at least every five years.

2 Definition

- 2.1 According to Defra (Biodiversity 2020), biodiversity is the variety of all life on Earth. It includes all species of animals and plants – everything that is alive on our planet.
- 2.2 Biodiversity is important for its own sake and has its own intrinsic value. A number of studies have shown this value also goes further. Biodiversity is the building block of our ecosystems that in turn provide us with a wide range of goods and services that support our economic and social wellbeing. These include essentials such as food, fresh water and clean air, but also less obvious services such as protection from natural disasters, regulation of our climate, and purification of our water or pollination of our crops. Biodiversity also provides important cultural services, enriching our lives.

3 Aims and objectives

- 3.1 The object of this policy is to work towards conserving and enhancing the biodiversity of the Council's area.
- 3.2 Great Warford Parish Council will consider sustainability, environmental impact and biodiversity when making decisions and will develop and implement policies and strategies as required.
- 3.3 In particular the Council will aim to improve the biodiversity of the area in the following ways:
 - consider the potential impact on biodiversity represented by planning applications
 - encourage and support other organisations within the parish to manage their areas of responsibility with biodiversity in mind
 - support residents and local organisation activities to enhance and promote biodiversity.

4 Actions

- 4.1 Planning applications
 - The Council will:
 - when commenting on planning applications, support site and building design that benefits biodiversity through the conservation and integration of existing habitats or provision of new habitats

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- support protection of sensitive habitats from development and will consider whether the development would mean the loss of important habitats for wildlife in respect of all applications
- consider what each proposed development might make in terms of biodiversity net gain
- include policies in support of biodiversity within the neighbourhood plan.

4.2 Local community

- The Council will:
 - where appropriate, raise local awareness of biodiversity issues
 - where appropriate, engage with local businesses and residents regarding biodiversity in the community and how members of the community can assist and make a difference.

5 Monitoring

5.1 This policy was adopted on 16th July, 2025 and will be reviewed each year at the Annual Meeting of the Council.

5.2 The action plan associated with this policy will also be reviewed on an annual basis.

Action Plan

Site / Objective	Action	Outcome	Target	Reporting/publicity
Whole council area	Raise local awareness of biodiversity	Gain local support for action	Ongoing	Website, newsletter
Public spaces	Encourage residents to remove litter and pick up after their dogs	Protecting habitats	Ongoing	Website, newsletter
The built landscape	Ensure that planning consultations are considered against biodiversity considerations	Protecting and enhancing habitats	Ongoing	Website and Cheshire East Council planning portal

Other example actions for consideration at a future date (this list is not exhaustive):

- Encourage suitable planting to support biodiversity to connect and diversify habitats to meet the needs of a variety of wildlife species
- Identify opportunities to leave leaf litter and dead vegetation as a habitat for invertebrates
- Identify opportunities to leave areas unmown to encourage insects
- Consider opportunities to encourage minimising verge management (other than in areas which may need cutting for highway safety) to protect/enhance habitats
- Encourage hedgehog/small animal highways with permeable boundaries
- Survey residents to identify biodiversity conservation priorities within the parish
- Discourage the use of floodlights to protect nocturnal animals
- Consider opportunities for seed bombs / bulbs etc to extend habitats
- Raise awareness of the importance of gardens as habitats for wildlife
- Consider raising local awareness of volunteering opportunities which support biodiversity.