

GREAT WARFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held

Wednesday 19th March, 2025 at 7:00p.m.

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

Present Councillors L. Wildig (Vice Chairman), C. Rossington, J. Shasha, E. Wood.

Members of the public (0).

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

Dr. E. M. Maddock – Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer.

1. Apologies for absence

Councillor J. Macrae – Personal reason.

Councillor N. Peacock – Personal reason.

Councillor B. Thompson – Personal reason.

028/25 RESOLVED (a) That the above apologies for absence be received and approved. (All in favour)

2. Declarations of interest: None.

029/25 RESOLVED (a) To note no declarations of interest were made. (All in favour)

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

030/25 RESOLVED (a) To note that no questions were presented. (All in favour)

4. Cheshire East Ward Member Cllr. H. Moss – (Item moved to after item 6) Borough Councillor H. Moss reported that the planned white lining work would likely take place at the end of April. Efforts are continuing to secure appropriate action from Cheshire East Council in respect of activities at CPASE and the fence at Noon Sun Corner. Gully jetting works have been undertaken at Merrymans Lane to resolve a flooding issue. Members asked for a request to be submitted for the white lines on Faulkners Lane to be re-newed.

031/25 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 15th January, 2025 had been previously circulated to all Members.

032/25 RESOLVED (a) That the Minutes of the meeting held 15th January, 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. (All in favour)

6. Finance

(a) **Financial Statement 2024/25 as at 19th March, 2025** – Members considered the financial statement 2024/25 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.

033/25 RESOLVED (a) That the Financial Statement as at 19th March, 2025 be received and the Chairman's observations be duly noted (Appendix A). (b) That the report on receipts received since the last meeting be received and duly noted. (Appendix B) (c) That the payments listed at Appendix C be approved and duly authorised. (All in favour)

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- (d) **Unauthorised transactions** – It was reported that a series of unauthorised transactions had taken place from the Parish Council bank account. The Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer had successfully taken action to recover the funds from the third party.

034/25 RESOLVED (a) **To receive and note the report.**
(b) **To approve the actions of the Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer in responding to the incident and recovering the funds.**
(c) **That approval be given for the Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer to report the matter to the Police.**
(All in favour)

- (e) **Maintenance of land at Lindow End** – It was reported that quotations had been invited for the maintenance of land at Lindow End.

035/25 RESOLVED (a) **That the quotation from Northwich Town Council, in the sum of £135 per visit, be approved.** (All in favour)

- (f) **Banking arrangements** – It was reported that, given the events outlined at item 6(d), it may be advantageous for the Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer to have online access to the Parish Council bank accounts to enable enhanced use of savings accounts and additional account monitoring.

036/25 RESOLVED (a) **That approval be given for the Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer to have online access to the Parish Council bank accounts held at NatWest Bank plc.**
(b) **That approval be given for the Clerk & Responsible Financial officer to have online access to the Parish Council bank accounts held at Barclays Bank.** (All in favour)

- (g) **Barclays Bank** – It was reported that a request to submit a motion to the ChALC Annual Meeting had been made, however, a response had been received indicating that it may be possible to undertake representations to relevant bodies prior to the Annual Meeting in October.

037/25 RESOLVED (a) **That the Clerk make representations to other relevant bodies to press for Parish Councils to be included within the remit of the Financial Ombudsman Service.** (All in favour)

- (h) **Earmarked reserves** – Members reviewed the earmarked reserves currently held:
- i. Democratic services fund: £4,000.00
 - ii. Telephone kiosk deposit: £200.00
 - iii. Village picnic fund (notice board): £750.00
 - iv. Transparency Code Grant (Clerk training): £200.00
 - v. Highway safety projects: £2,000.00
 - vi. Telephone kiosk refurbishment: £2,000.00
 - vii. Speed indicator devices project: £850.00
 - viii. Community Infrastructure Levy: £3,640.11

038/25 RESOLVED (a) **That the earmarked reserves be confirmed as listed.** (All in favour)

- (i) **Quarterly bank reconciliation verification** – It was reported that bank reconciliation verifications had been carried out and no issues identified.

039/25 RESOLVED (a) **To receive confirmation that bank reconciliation verifications had been completed.** (All in favour)

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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. **24/5129/CLPUD**: Carlisle House, Knutsford Road, Knolls Green, Mobberley, Knutsford. WA16 7BA
Lawful Development Certificate for proposed construction of a building incidental to the enjoyment of a dwelling house.

040/25 RESOLVED (a) **That no comments be submitted to Cheshire East Council in respect of application 24/5129/CLPUD. (All in favour)**

ii. **25/0580/HOUS**: The Gloucester, Highgrove, Ancoats Lane, Great Warford. SK9 7TT
Internal renovations and installation of rooflight.

041/25 RESOLVED (a) **That no comments be submitted to Cheshire East Council in respect of application 25/0580/HOUS. (All in favour)**

iii. **25/0581/LBC**: The Gloucester, Highgrove, Ancoats Lane, Great Warford. SK9 7TT
Listed building consent for internal renovations and installation of rooflight.

042/25 RESOLVED (a) **That no comments be submitted to Cheshire East Council in respect of application 25/0581/LBC. (All in favour)**

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

043/25 RESOLVED (a) **To note that no further application had been received. (All in favour)**

(c) **Planning Enforcement Updates** – It was noted that no updates had been received.

044/25 RESOLVED (a) **To receive and note the updates. (All in favour)**

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

045/25 RESOLVED (a) **To receive and note the update. (All in favour)**

8. Highway maintenance and enhancements

(a) **Update on previously reported highway matters** – Members noted the updates provided at item 4.

046/25 RESOLVED (a) **That the Clerk continue to pursue updates relating to remaining highway defect reports submitted to Cheshire East Council. (All in favour)**

(b) **Highway matters for attention** – It was reported that there were several potholes at Faulkners Lane.

047/25 RESOLVED (a) **That Councillor C. Rossington submit 'fix my street' reports in respect of the potholes at Faulkners Lane. (All in favour)**

(c) **Speed calming and road safety measures** – It was reported that training for community speed watch volunteers was due to take place next week. It is anticipated that a new battery may be required for the speed radar gun. It was also noted that alternative positions for speed indicator posts were currently being pursued.

048/25 RESOLVED (a) **To receive the updates.**
(b) **That the Clerk continue to pursue the alternative locations**

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for the speed indicator posts.

(c) That authorisation be given for the Clerk to purchase relevant parts and/or equipment to support community speed watch activities. (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. Cheshire East Council: Notice that the Cheshire and Warrington region has been confirmed as part of the Government's devolution priority programme. The region's plans to hold mayoral elections in May 2026 have been accepted by Government. A public consultation regarding the proposed devolution is currently open.

049/25 RESOLVED (a) To receive and note the information.
(b) That no response be submitted to the consultation. (All in favour)

- ii. Cheshire and Warrington Local Nature Recovery Strategy consultation.

050/25 RESOLVED (a) That no response be submitted to the consultation. (All in favour)

- iii. Cheshire East Council: Local Transport Plan consultation.

051/25 RESOLVED (a) That no response be submitted to the consultation. (All in favour)

10. Reports from external meetings

(a) Meeting with Police and Crime Commissioner (19/02/25) – Item deferred.

(b) Cheshire East Council: Town and Parish Council Network meeting (18/03/25) – The Clerk reported that four presentations provided information on the following items: Cheshire and Warrington Devolution; Local service delivery framework; Family Hubs and the Cheshire East Council Local Transport Plan consultation.

052/25 RESOLVED (a) That the report from the Police and Crime Commissioner meeting be deferred to the next meeting.
(b) To receive and note the report from the Cheshire East Council Town and Parish Council Network meeting. (All in favour)

11. Community matters

(a) Report from Mobberley Ward Policing Team – It was reported that no report had been received.

053/25 RESOLVED (a) To receive and note the update. (All in favour)

(b) Great Warford Residents Group – It was reported that preparations are continuing for the summer event.

054/25 RESOLVED (a) To receive and note the report. (All in favour)

(c) Parking arrangements at Mary Dendy Playing Field – It was reported that Cheshire East Council has confirmed that the football matches at the Mary Dendy Playing Field at weekends are to have staggered starting times to attempt to ease congestion in the vicinity of the site. The situation will continue to be monitored by Cheshire East Council, however, where obstruction or abusive behaviour is encountered residents are advised to contact the Police.

055/25 RESOLVED (a) To receive and note the report. (All in favour)

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- 12. **Matters for inclusion on next/future meeting agenda**
- 13. **Date of next meeting** – Wednesday 21st May, 2025 at 7:00p.m.
(Annual Parish Meeting immediately followed by Annual Parish Council meeting.)

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.

056/25 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)**

- 14. **Matters for consideration including those transferred from above items - None.**

The meeting was declared closed by the Chairman at 7:48p.m.

Signed:..... Approval date: 21st May, 2025

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APPENDIX A

Financial Statement – 2024/25 as at 19 th March, 2025					
Actual 2023/24 £	Details	2024/25 Budget £	Actual to Jan. 25 £	Agenda Mar. 25 £	Budget Balance £
	Receipts				
10,480.00	Precept	10,957.00	10,957.00		0.00
0.00	Balances	2,387.00	0.00		0.00
58.43	Investment interest	0.00	55.32	17.57	0.00
0.00	Sale of assets	0.00	0.00		0.00
150.00	Grants, donations & refunds	0.00	0.00	14,755.07	0.00
484.66	Community Infrastructure Levy	0.00	0.00	1,916.60	0.00
154.18	VAT refund	0.00	304.92		233.17
11,327.27	Total receipts	13,344.00	11,317.24	16,689.24	233.17
	Payments				
4,165.20	Salary (Clerk)	4,499.00	3,668.20	733.64	97.16
0.00	National Insurance (Employer)	0.00	0.00		0.00
275.00	Allowances (Clerk)	275.00	0.00	275.00	0.00
226.25	Administration	325.00	0.00	226.40	98.60
0.00	Chairman/Member allowances	0.00	0.00		0.00
200.00	Audit fees (internal & external)	215.00	220.00		-5.00
300.00	Insurance	350.00	300.00		50.00
47.88	Website	140.00	23.98	83.88	32.14
206.06	Street lighting electric	615.00	261.54		353.46
0.00	Training	210.00	0.00		210.00
283.29	Subscriptions/affiliation fees	410.00	341.48		68.52
140.00	Room hire	230.00	80.00	20.00	130.00
126.76	Christmas lighting	250.00	155.00		95.00
872.00	Parish Maintenance	600.00	240.00		360.00
68.29	Asset purchase	600.00	0.00	148.29	451.71
0.00	Asset maintenance	3,175.00	290.90		2,884.10
211.20	Newsletter	750.00	249.00		501.00
72.00	Grants / s.137 payments	200.00	300.00		-100.00
0.00	Contingency	500.00	0.00	14,755.07	-14,255.07
304.92	VAT		159.68	73.49	
7,498.85	Total payments	13,344.00	6,289.78	16,315.77	-9,028.38

Cash/Bank reconciliation	01/04/24	15/01/25	19/03/25	31/03/25
Balance B/Fwd	25,621.46	25,621.46	30,648.92	31,022.39
Add total receipts	13,344.00	11,317.24	16,689.24	233.17
Less total payments	13,344.00	6,289.78	16,315.77	-9,028.38
Balance C/Fwd	25,621.46	30,648.92	31,022.39	40,283.94
Cumulative balances	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance
	01/04/24	15/01/25	19/03/25	31/03/25
General funds	7,780.95	12,808.41	13,298.88	22,560.43
Earmarked reserves	17,840.51	17,840.51	17,723.51	17,723.51
	25,621.46	30,648.92	31,022.39	40,283.94

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Cash/Bank Reconciliation as at 19th March, 2025

Cash

Balance brought forward 01/04/24	
Current Account (NatWest)	450.07
Community Account (Barclays)	20,258.97
Business Premium Account (Barclays)	4,912.42
	25,621.46

Plus receipts	28,006.48
Less payments	22,605.55
Balance carried forward 19/03/25:	31,022.39

Bank

Current Account (NatWest) 25,451.18 28/02/25

Add receipts/transfer since above statement	
	1,916.60
	1,916.60

Less unrepresented cheques	
Approved	-20.00
For approval	-16,315.77
Less payments already issued	14,755.07
	-1,580.70

25,787.08 19/03/25

Community Account (Barclays) 250.00 07/06/24

Add receipts/transfer since above statement	
	0.00
	0.00

Less unrepresented cheques	
	0.00
	0.00

250.00 19/03/25

Business Premium Account (Barclays) 4,985.31 03/03/25

Add receipts/transfer since above statement	
	0.00
	0.00

Less unrepresented cheques	
	0.00
	0.00

4,985.31 19/03/25

Total bank balances 19/03/25 31,022.39

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APPENDIX B

Receipts

Barclays Bank plc	£17.57	Gross interest – Dec. 2024 – Mar. 2025
Cheshire East Borough Council	£1,916.60	Community Infrastructure Levy
NatWest Bank plc	£7,164.12	Refund*
CNH Industrial CAP	£7,164.12	Refund*
CNH Industrial CAP	£426.83	Refund*

*See item 6(d)

APPENDIX C

Payments for approval

Cheque No 000045 E. M. Maddock	£1,224.66	Salary: Feb-Mar. 2025, expenses and allowances.
Cheque No 000046 H. M. Revenue & Customs	£201.40	PAYE payments
Cheque No 000047 Great Warford Baptist Chapel	£20.00	Room hire (19/03/25)
Direct Debit 123-reg	£100.66	Website fees 2025/26
Direct Debit CNH Industrial CAP	£150.00	Unauthorised payment*
Direct Debit CNH Industrial CAP	£5,306.80	Unauthorised payment*
Direct Debit CNH Industrial CAP	£1,707.32	Unauthorised payment*
Direct Debit CNH Industrial CAP	£426.83	Unauthorised payment*
Direct Debit NatWest Bank plc	£7,164.12	Return of refund*

*See item 6(d)

APPENDIX D

(a) Recent planning decisions

24/1104M	Ash Lea, Ancoats Lane, Mobberley. WA16 7AT Change of use from existing domestic garage to single storey residential dwelling. DECISION STATUS – Approved with conditions (06/03/25)
24/3149M	Merryford, Warford Hall Drive, Great Warford. SK9 7TR Front extension to garage to facilitate the parking of a vehicle. Resubmission of application no. 23/4806M withdrawn 16 th February 2024. DECISION STATUS – Withdrawn (28/02/25)
24/4501/HOUS	Merryford, Warford Hall Drive, Great Warford. SK9 7TR Extension to balcony at the rear of the property with supporting square timber columns at ground floor and toughened glass balustrade at the upper level. DECISION STATUS – Approved with conditions (31/01/25)
24/4694/CLPUD	2 Noonsun Cottages, Pedley House Lane, Great Warford. WA16 7AS Lawful Development Certificate for replacement of existing outbuilding. DECISION STATUS – Positive certificate (21/02/25)

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(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.
DECISION STATUS – Undecided
- 23/0389M Cheshire Health Club and Spa, Warford Park, Faulkners Lane, Great Warford. WA16 7RN
Widening of private access road and new padel court.
DECISION STATUS – Undecided
- 24/1380D Karibu, Chelford Road, Great Warford. SK9 7TL
Discharge of condition 4 on approval 21/2303M.
DECISION STATUS – Undecided
- 24/1405M Karibu, Chelford Road, Great Warford. SK9 7TL
Variation of condition 2 – plans on application 21/2303M.
DECISION STATUS – Undecided
- 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.
DECISION STATUS – Undecided
- 24/3608M The Place, Mill Lane, Alderley Edge. SK9 7TY
Extension of existing office/commercial building, including incorporation of vacant barn, and associated parking, access and landscaping.
DECISION STATUS – Undecided (Revised plans submitted)
- 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.
DECISION STATUS – Undecided