

GREAT WARFORD PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held

Wednesday 20th May, 2026 at 7:00p.m.

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

Present Councillors B. Thompson (Chairman), C. Rossington, J. Shasha.

Members of the public (3).

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

1. **Apologies for absence** – Councillors J. Macrae, N. Peacock, L. Wildig, E. Wood.
Cheshire East Ward Member: Cllr. H. Moss. Mrs. M. Burrell.

DECISION (a) **To note the above apologies for absence. (All in favour)**

2. **Minutes** – The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 28th May, 2025 had been previously circulated.

DECISION (a) **That the Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held 28th May, 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. (All in favour)**

3. **Parish Council Chairman's Report for civic year 2025/26** – Councillor B. Thompson presented the following report:

Introduction

As we reflect on the past year, I want to express my sincere gratitude to the residents of Great Warford for your continued engagement and support. Whether you attended our meetings, responded to consultations, or raised local concerns, your involvement has been invaluable. As we look ahead, we invite you to share your ideas for projects and initiatives you would like the Council to consider in the coming year.

Infrastructure and Highways

Pressure on local infrastructure remains a primary challenge for our community. Increased traffic volume, road safety, and the overall condition of our highways stay at the top of our agenda. We continue to actively lobby Cheshire East Council for necessary improvements, pushing past the frustratingly slow pace of progress to advocate for safer roads.

Planning and Development

While some development is inevitable, the Parish Council remains fiercely committed to protecting the unique character of Great Warford. We rigorously review every planning application to ensure proposals include appropriate infrastructure and environmental safeguards. Wherever possible, we ensure the distinct voice and concerns of our residents are forcefully represented to planning authorities.

Environment and Green Spaces

Environmental protection and biodiversity are increasingly important to our community. We are actively exploring practical, localized steps to maintain our green spaces, tackle litter, and promote ecological health. We firmly believe that small, collective actions within our parish will make a meaningful long-term difference.

Community Wellbeing and Local Initiatives

We recognize that rising costs and economic pressures are impacting many households. While the Parish Council operates under limited statutory powers, we remain dedicated to supporting local wellbeing and community spirit. Over the past year, we have:

- Funded the vibrant floral displays at Warford Crescent and Noon Sun Corner.
- Approved grant funding to support the vital work of the Great Warford Residents

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Group.

- Maintained active support for grassroots initiatives, including the upcoming refurbishment of our local telephone box.

Communication

Keeping you informed remains a core priority. We are continuously upgrading our communication channels—including our newsletters, physical noticeboards, and official website updates—to ensure you receive timely, transparent information regarding the decisions that affect our parish.

Acknowledgements

In closing, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to my fellow councillors and especially to our Parish Clerk for their unwavering dedication. Their voluntary time and effort are the backbone of our operations. The Parish Council exists solely to serve you, and we remain committed to listening, representing, and acting in the very best interests of all parishioners.

DECISION (a) To receive the report. (All in favour)

4. **Public Forum** – A resident raised concerns about tractors travelling through the village at speed which were considered to be too fast. It was also noted that the tractors were driving over the verges and damaging flowers.

It was reported that a long standing flooding issue at Ancoats Lane appeared to have been resolved.

It was reported that a community gardening group was being formed and consideration was being given to possible activities. There was currently interest to keep bees within the area, however, further consideration was being given to the practical aspects of this idea.

7:15p.m. – One resident excused themselves from the meeting and left.

No further issues were raised by remaining residents.

DECISION (a) To note the information presented.
(b) That the Clerk follow up regarding the above reports.
(All in favour)

The meeting was declared closed by the Chairman at 7:17p.m.

Signed:..... Confirmation date: 15th July, 2026