



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 23rd September 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs. Morgan (PM) - Chair, Rathbone (TR), Fagan (PF), Freeman (AF), Harvey (SH), Lisgo (SL) **PART**

In Attendance: E Bambrook, Clerk to the Council (EB), Cllr. Andrew Kolker (Ward Councillor, Cheshire East Council)

PART ONE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC PRESENT

There were two members of the public present.

09.25.1 Apologies for absence: Cllrs. Morris, Lynch, Beckham and O'Donoghue.

09.25.2 Declarations of interest: No declarations of interest were made.

09.25.3 Minutes of the meeting on 22nd July 2025:

***Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 22nd July 2025 as a true and accurate record of the meeting and all the decisions therein.*

09.25.4 Cheshire East Council (CEC) Matters: Cllrs. Kolker was present and reported the following:

- **Devolution:** An extraordinary meeting of full council was held last week concerning devolution. The funding available from central government for the devolution to the new local authority area will be £650 million over thirty years. This equates to approximately £21 million per year which, divided by the three local authorities, is approximately £7 million; in real terms this will be more like £4.5 million per year. For context, the proposed roundabout in Holmes Chapel will cost approximately £5 million. Cllr. Kolker voted against devolution, but the vote passed thirty-six to thirty-two. All three authorities are in favour of devolution, although the decision for Warrington Council is still to be approved by cabinet. Mayoral elections will take place in 2027.
- **Holmes Chapel Community Centre:** Construction of the padel courts has started.
- **Waste Collections:** From April waste collections will move to once every three weeks. At the same time weekly food collections will be introduced.

09.25.5 Committee Matters: To receive reports from the Parish Council Committees:

- a) **Amenities Committee Meeting 3rd September 2025:** In addition to the minutes Cllr. Rathbone provided an overview of the meeting and its decisions.

***Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 3rd September 2025 as a true and accurate record and all the decisions therein.*



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- b) Village Hall Management Committee Meeting 9th September 2025:** In addition to the minutes Cllr. Freeman provided a brief overview of the meeting and its decisions.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Village Hall Management Committee meeting held on 9th September 2025 as a true and accurate record and all the decisions therein.*

09.25.6 Planning Matters:

- a) To receive and agree a response to the following planning applications:**

25/3283/LBC Church Cottage, Station Road, Goostrey, Crewe, Cheshire East, CW4 8PJ. Listed building consent to repair and replacement of existing timber windows, repoint west elevation in lime mortar and treat with masonry crème and repaint front elevation.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to support planning application 25/3283/LBC and any comments made by the Conservation Officer.*

- a) To receive an update on the following planning matters:**

25/2178/FUL The council noted the thanks of St. Luke's Church representatives for the council's support of its application.

- 09.25.7 Financial Payments:** The council reviewed and approved the payments listed on schedule 08 & 09/25.

Resolved: *The Parish Council approved the payments listed on Schedule 08 & 09/25.*

- 09.25.8 Clerk's Report:** The contents of the Clerk's report were received and noted.

- 09.25.9 Highways & Speedwatch:** The contents of the Speedwatch report were noted. The session on 4th September 2025 recorded two vehicles travelling at 36 mph and above. The maximum speed monitored was 36mph. Cllr. Fagan reported that since the Road Safety meeting on 17th September the number of Speedwatch volunteers had increased to eleven. The new volunteers would still need to be signed on officially by the police.

- 09.25.10 Police Matters:** Cllr. Rathbone confirmed that he would be attending the Police and Crime Commissioner's Town and Parish Council Liaison meeting on 9th October.

- 09.25.11 Co-option of a Councillor:** The council reviewed the application prior to the meeting and Sarah introduced herself to members. The council voted to co-opt Sarah and the declaration of acceptance of office was signed and Cllr. Lisgo was able to take part in the rest of the meeting.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to co-opt Sarah Lisgo as a Parish Councillor.*

- 09.25.12 Conclusion of External Audit:** The council noted the receipt of the external auditor's report and certificate. The report concluded that, "The information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met." The notice was posted on 11th August. There is no statutory requirement for the length of time for which the notice must be published. In previous



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years, the notice had been posted for one month and it was agreed that this was sufficient.

09.25.13 Road Safety Meeting: Following the presentation of the Road Safety petition to the council in July, a meeting was arranged to discuss residents' concerns and an action plan. The invitation was extended to those who had signed the petition. The report from the meeting is attached to the minutes. **See Appendix 1.**

09.25.14 Village Maintenance Contract: The council's current village maintenance contractor has withdrawn due to cost considerations, and an interim contractor is now required to cover the period to 31st March 2026. Quotes had been sought with just one received. Given the need to urgently replace the contractor, the amount being below the threshold for formal quotes and the fact that this would be within budget it was agreed that the contract should be awarded. Quotes will be sought in the new year for the contract for 2026/27.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to appoint Northwich Town Council as the village maintenance contractor from 1st November 2025 – 31st March 2026.*

09.25.15 Grant Applications: The council reviewed the grant application from Goostrey Tots and approved a grant of £200 as requested. The Clerk was asked to ask whether the group would consider taking donations of good quality secondhand items and if the council could assist in publicizing this.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to approve a grant of £200 for Goostrey Tots.*

09.25.16 Donation for New Defibrillator: The council noted the Clerk's report. The Clerk was asked to establish the following:

- Whether the VHPFF would be willing to contribute towards the cost of consumables associated with the defibrillator at the sports pavilion.
- Whether a new defibrillator could be mounted externally at the Trading Post and whether the owner would approve this work. What the costs of this work would be.
- Whether the defibrillator at the Village Hall could be mounted externally and whether CEC would give consent to this. What the costs of this work would be.
- To ensure that sufficient funds are earmarked to cover the cost of consumables for the defibrillators at the Village Hall, Main Road, The Trading Post and the Sports Pavilion.
- To ensure that funds are earmarked to cover the eventual replacement of the defibrillators at the Village Hall and Main Road.

09.25.17 Remembrance Wreath: The council approved a donation of £100 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to donate £100 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.*



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- 09.25.18 Seniors' Christmas Lunch Ticket Price:** The Parish Council accepted the Amenities Committee's recommendation that the ticket price should be set at £14. It was noted that the council would fully fund tickets for those in hardship.
- 09.25.19 National Joint Council for Local Government Services Pay Award:** The council noted the pay award applicable to the Clerk from 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026.
- 09.25.20 Parish Council Policies:** The following council policies were reviewed:
- a) Anonymous Communications Policy
***Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to approve the Anonymous Communications Policy.*
 - b) Councillor Vacancies and Co-option Policy
***Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to approve the Councillor Vacancies and Co-option Policy.*
 - c) Dignity at Work Policy
***Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to approve the Dignity at Work Policy.*
 - d) Grant Awarding Policy and Grant Application Form
***Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to approve the Grant Awarding Policy and Grant Application form.*
- 09.25.21 Council Newsletters:** The clerk confirmed that the next newsletter is almost complete and that once images from the VHPFF event and from Cllr. Lisgo were received the newsletter could go to the printers. The Clerk also confirmed that the newsletter for early 2026 is being compiled and that any requests for articles or submissions should be with the Clerk before the end of December. This issue will contain the village survey.
- 09.25.22 Calendar of Meetings 2026:** The council approved the calendar of meetings for 2026. The Annual Parish Meeting was moved from 23rd April to 30th April 2026.
- 09.25.23 Minor items and items for the next agenda:** None.
- 09.25.24 Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 28th October 2025.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm



GOOSTREY ROAD SAFETY MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17th September 2025

Present: Cllrs Rathbone (TR) - Fagan (PM), Harvey (SH), K Krupinski (KK)

In Attendance: E Bambrook, Clerk

1. **Welcome and introductions:** KK was welcomed and thanked for making time to attend the meeting and introductions were made.
2. **Background to the petition:** KK had been responsible for bringing the petition to the attention of the council and was present to represent the views of the community. The councillors confirmed that the Parish Council recognises that speeding vehicles are a high priority concern for Goostrey residents and has, over the years, taken every opportunity to raise road safety with the appropriate organisations. The council organises Speedwatch sessions to act as a deterrent to speeding motorists and has liaised with the Police and Crime Commissioner over the installation of average speed cameras in the village. The Parish Council has also asked Cheshire East Council Highways for to introduce additional speed management measures on Main Road. The response from Highways was that the location had been assessed against their Speed Management Strategy and was not considered a priority at the present time.

Data presented at the meeting demonstrated that most of the speeding which has been captured, either by Speed Indicator Devices or Speedwatch, has been by residents and that therefore any measures need to address this.

3. **Proposals:** It was agreed that speeding through along Main Road, particularly passed the school and the Booth Bed Lane/Heritage Lane junction was of most concern. The group agreed on the following proposals:
 - An increase in both the number of locations and frequency of Speedwatch sessions to help enforce the 30mph speed limit. It was noted that the police must approve all Speedwatch locations and all volunteers must trained and signed off by the PCSO before they take part in the sessions. PF initially asked for four Speedwatch locations but only two were approved and they are at Main Road, at The Bogbean and New Platt Lane. This will require additional volunteers. There are currently six volunteers with three are required at each session. KK volunteered for Speedwatch at the meeting.
 - Re-introduction of a school crossing patrol on the straight section of Main Road at the Crown car park access.
 - Information provided in school and council newsletters asking residents to keep to speed limits and also asking people to volunteer for Speedwatch sessions.
 - A letter from the Parish Council to be sent to CEC Highways and the police endorsing the petition's principle of speed reduction measures for Goostrey.
4. **Next Steps:** The group agreed the following actions:
 - PF to meet with the PCSO to press for the approval of more locations for Speedwatch sessions.
 - KK to try to encourage new Speedwatch volunteers.

- KK to contact the school to ask them to put a reminder to in the school newsletter about observing the speed limit and also asking for Speedwatch volunteers to come forward.
- The Clerk to check with the PCSO that letters are still being sent to speeding motorists who are identified by the Speedwatch logs.
- The Clerk to contact the school regarding school crossing patrols.
- The Clerk to send a letter to the police and CEC Highways endorsing the petition's principle of speed reduction measures for Goostrey.

The above information will be presented to the Parish Council for its approval at the council meeting on 23rd September.