



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 28th October 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs. Morgan (PM) - Chair, O'Donoghue (IOD) – Vice Chair, Rathbone (TR), Freeman (AF), Harvey (SH), Morris (KM), Lynch (JL), Beckham (NB)

In Attendance: E Bambrook, Clerk to the Council (EB), Cllrs. Andrew Kolker and Russell Chadwick (Ward Councillors, Cheshire East Council)

PART ONE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC PRESENT

There were 4 members of the public present. A representative from Goostrey Tots thanked the council for its recent grant of £200 which allowed new seating for young babies to be purchased.

10.25.1 Apologies for absence: Cllrs. Lisgo and Fagan.

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

10.25.3 Minutes of the meeting on 23rd September 2025:

***Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23rd September 2025 as a true and accurate record of the meeting and all the decisions therein.*

10.25.4 Cheshire East Council (CEC) Matters: Cllrs. Kolker and Chadwick were present and reported the following:

- **Padel Courts:** The courts are due to open at Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre before Christmas.
- **Garden Waste Scheme:** The scheme is now open for new and renewing subscriptions; the fee has increased to £69.
- **Transport Plan Consultation:** This public consultation is open to the public. CEC are seeking views to inform the development of the Local Transport Plan. This is an item on the agenda for the Parish Council to consider.
- **Help Shape the Budget Consultation:** CEC is asking residents to take part in its budget prioritisation survey.
- **New Town Proposal – Adlington:** Between 14,000 and 20,000 homes to be built in Adlington. There are complaints about a lack of consultation and questions over whether it is appropriate in terms of infrastructure. This originated with the New Towns Taskforce, a government quango, there has been no local involvement including CEC.
- **Devolution:** Devolution arrangements are proceeding. The Conservatives have selected a mayoral candidate, Ben Fletcher.
- **Children and Families Committee:** This committee has formally approved the new domestic abuse strategy for 2025 -28 with a £1.7million budget. The helpline number is 0300 123 5101.
- **Highways:** It has been confirmed that the bridge in Holmes Chapel by the station is structurally sound. CEC are going to fill in the two dips either side as a priority.



Goostrey Parish Council

- **Ward Councillor Budget:** Cllr. Chadwick has committed his ward budget to the improvement of the safety of Twemlow Green corner. There was another accident in this location at the weekend.
- **CEC Cabinet System:** CEC are now moving back to a cabinet, rather than a committee system. The government has written to all councils instructing them to move to a cabinet system and this will happen in the new year.
- **Planning Portal and TraCE:** Technical issues with both of these systems are now being resolved.
- **Homeless and Rough Sleeping Strategy Consultation:** Consultation closes 14th November.
- **Occupational Therapy Team:** The team has received a national award.
- **Heritage Signage:** Cllr. Chadwick has submitted a notice of motion to preserve the area's heritage signage (cast iron, black and white signs). Highways confirmed that these aren't being replaced once damaged and Cllr. Chadwick would like to see these repaired or replaced where possible. He asked that if anyone has any pictures of these signs to share them with him, as it may strengthen the case.
- **Whalley Bridge/Macclesfield Road:** Highways has received central government funding to repair the road from Whalley Bridge to Macclesfield.
- **Holiday Activities and Food Programme:** Children qualifying for free school meals will now be able to access a meal during the October half term holidays (in addition to during the summer holidays) as part of Cheshire East Council's Holiday Activities and Food Programme.

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

- a) **Village Hall Management Committee Budget Meeting 7th October 2025:** In addition to the minutes Cllr. Beckham provided an overview of the meeting and its decisions.

***Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Village Hall Management Committee Budget meeting held on 7th October 2025 as a true and accurate record and all the decisions therein.*

- b) **Finance Committee Meeting 14th October 2025:** In addition to the minutes Cllr. Morris provided an overview of the meeting and its decisions with the exception of items 9 and 11 which are dealt with as a separate items on the agenda.

***Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 14th October 2025 as a true and accurate record and all the decisions therein with the exception of items 9 and 11 which are dealt with as a separate items on the agenda.*

- c) **VHPFF Trustees Meeting 30th September:** The contents of the minutes were noted and Cllr. Beckham provided an overview of the meeting.

10.25.6 Planning Matters: All planning matters and applications were considered at a separate meeting of the Planning Committee immediately prior to the Council meeting. Cllr.



Morris provided a brief overview of the meeting and the minutes will be available at the next council meeting.

- 10.25.7 Financial Payments:** The council reviewed and approved the payments listed on schedule 10/25.

Resolved: *The Parish Council approved the payments listed on Schedule 10/25.*

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

- 10.25.9 Highways & Speedwatch:**

a) Speedwatch Report: The contents of the Speedwatch report were noted. At the Session on 8th October 2025 seven vehicles were monitored travelling at 36 mph and above. The maximum speed recorded was 45mph. Following enquiries, it was established that the PCSO could not view the Speedwatch logs and therefore could not take action on the speeding motorists. This has now been resolved but it was disappointing to find out that there had been a problem but that the neither the group nor the Clerk had been made aware.

b) The contents of the report were received and noted.

- 10.25.10 Police Matters:** Cllr. Rathbone attended the Police and Crime Commissioner's Town and Parish Council Liaison meeting on 9th October. The contents of the presentation from the evening were received and noted. There were no questions.

- 10.25.11 Risk Assessment:** The council reviewed the Risk Assessment provided in the document pack and approved the recommendations from the Finance Committee.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to approve the updated Risk Assessment as part of its Risk Management Policy.*

- 10.25.12 Finance Committee Membership:** Cllr. Lynch agreed to fill the vacancy on the Finance Committee.

- 10.25.13 Internal Auditor Review:** The contents of the report were noted along with the recommendations from the Finance Committee.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to approve the appointment of JDH Business Services as the council's Internal Auditor for 2025/2026.*

- 10.25.14 Review and Update of Annual Plan:** The Annual Plan was reviewed and the updates approved.

- 10.25.15 Review and Update of Strategic Plan:** The Strategic Plan was reviewed and the updates approved.

- 10.25.16 Defibrillator Update:** The council noted the report and agreed that the Finance Committee would review how the defibrillators and their maintenance could be funded.

- 10.25.17 Christmas Lights Switch On Event:** The Clerk provided an update on the event. Plans are progressing for a larger, improved event this year. Safety checks have been carried out on the power supplies. It was noted that the risk assessment would necessitate the cancellation of the event in the case of extreme weather or other similar extreme issue. In this case it would not be possible to reschedule due to the cost of hiring equipment.



There is also an issue with one of the floodlights, this doesn't pose a danger but it may fail again this year, although it is working currently. Further investigation work will involve digging up the buried cable. A planning meeting is due to be held this week to firm up arrangements, this will then mean that a timetable and volunteer briefing can be assembled. Cllrs. Lynch and O'Donoghue volunteered to act as stewards, in addition to those who had already confirmed availability.

10.25.18 Consultations: As the CEC Transport Consultation is a high level, strategic document, without reference to specific bus services, it was agreed that members should respond to the consultation on an individual basis if they would like to do so.

10.25.19 Minor items and items for the next agenda:

Minor Items:

Remembrance Sunday Service: Cllr. Morris volunteered to do the reading and represent the council at the St. Luke's Remembrance Sunday Service, unless anyone else was able to volunteer. It was noted that an invitation to do so had not yet been received.

Booth Bed Lane Play Area: Cllr. Morgan provided an update on the Boothbed Lane Play Area project. Councillors Lisgo and Morgan met with another member of the working group (local resident) and Ed Yoxall (CEC Parks Development Officer) to discuss next steps for the Booth Bed Lane Play Area. The following actions were agreed:

- Based on feedback a further funding application bid is to be made to the FCC Community Action Fund - aiming for February 2026 submission.
- EY is to review the budget and costs associated with the previous application to see how/if it can be scaled back (with making up the scaled back amount as outlined below).
- An updated scheme will need to be obtained from contractors on the CEC framework.
- A community fundraising drive is to be undertaken to try to boost the budget.
- A request to the Parish Council is to be made for £10,000 towards the project (noting that the third party contribution that the council underwrote last time was only noted but scored to the detriment of the bid. CEC's Parks Development Fund will contribute the third party support.
- A report on this change to the funding request will appear on the next agenda for formal approval by council.

Items for the next agenda:

Manchester Airport Liaison Update: Cllr. Harvey has attended the meeting and will supply a report for circulation with the document pack for the November Council meeting.

10.25.20 Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 25th November 2025.

The meeting closed at 9pm