

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting at 7:30pm
Monday 14th April 2025.**

Councillors in attendance: Jo Butler (JB), Derek Heiron (DH), Charlie Blood (CB), Victoria Coward (VC), Rachel Blood (RB), Alex Baker (AB), Ian Pulley (IP), Jos Saunders (JS-CE)

Parish Clerk: Michelle Andrew (MA).

<p>1. Noted</p>	<p>Apologies for Absence. Hayley Whitaker (HW-CE)</p>													
<p>2.</p>	<p>Declarations of interest. None.</p>													
<p>3.</p>	<p>Public Forum. No members of the public present.</p>													
<p>4. All Noted</p>	<p>Feedback and information sharing with Cheshire East Councillors. JS-CE has contacted Andy Simpson at CE highways again regarding the speeding mitigation measures outside the school but has not gotten any further with this yet. Potholes are still an issue on Bakestonedale road and are getting worse. Clerk asked JS-CE if she knew who to contact regarding the playpark now the contract between ANSA and CE had come to an end. She believed it was still Matt Smith but would go away and find out.</p>													
<p>5. Noted</p>	<p>PCSO comments. PCSO was not in attendance at the meeting. Next surgery date scheduled for April 17th 5.30-6.30pm.</p>													
<p>6. Approved</p>	<p>To agree as a true record, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 17th March 2025. Approved 4 FOR.</p>													
<p>7. Approved</p>	<p>Finance. a. Payments to be authorised by the council. BACS</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="288 1906 1254 2058"> <tr> <td>L Smallwood – Cleaning</td> <td>£</td> <td>72.71</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC PAYE – Month 1</td> <td>£</td> <td>56.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk Salary April</td> <td>£</td> <td>226.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ChALC – Affiliation Fee 2025/26</td> <td>£</td> <td>146.64</td> </tr> </table>	L Smallwood – Cleaning	£	72.71	HMRC PAYE – Month 1	£	56.40	Clerk Salary April	£	226.30	ChALC – Affiliation Fee 2025/26	£	146.64	
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	Approved 7 FOR													
	b. Bank Statement Reconciliation.													
Noted	Bank accounts at the end of March 2025													
	Current Acc	£ 4,109.57												
	Reserve Acc	£ 21,375.04												
	TOTAL =	£ 25,484.61												
Noted	Direct debits paid in March 2025													
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>BT Broadband</td> <td>£</td> <td>40.88</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EDF Energy - Electricity</td> <td>£</td> <td>147.28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EDF Energy - Gas</td> <td>£</td> <td>1,103.42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Water Plus</td> <td>£</td> <td>31.18</td> </tr> </table>	BT Broadband	£	40.88	EDF Energy - Electricity	£	147.28	EDF Energy - Gas	£	1,103.42	Water Plus	£	31.18	
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	c. Final Budget Report for 2024/25 including Reserves.													
Noted	<p>Clerk informed Councillors that the budget vs expenditure variance for the 2024/25 year (excluding the laptop / projector expenses for which a grant was received) was -£981.49. This was due to a large, unexpected gas expense in April 2024 when the radiator valve broke.</p> <p>Reserves as of 01/04/25 are £25,450. Councillors decided to move the reserved funds for upstairs storage to main hall repairs, and reserves were agreed as follows ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General Reserves £5,000 - Remaining Grant £400 - Front Door Replacement £3,000 - Side Door Replacement £3,000 - Main Hall Repair £11,800 - Hall Floor Repair £2,250 													
Approved	Approved 7 FOR.													
8.	Renewal of the energy contracts for the village hall.													
Noted	Clerk informed Council that she had looked at prices from EDF and Octopus Energy, as well as receiving further options from Clear Utility Solutions broker of Tomato for electricity and Pozitiv for gas. Clerk agreed a 2-year deal with the latter two as these provided a significant saving from the current pricing. Contracts begin September 2025.													
9.	To discuss updates on improvements to the playground on the village field.													
Noted	No Update. See Point 4.													

<p>10.</p> <p>All Noted</p> <p>Action</p>	<p>To note any correspondence received.</p> <p>Remittance Advice has been received for the Precept 1st instalment, and this has been received into the bank account in April.</p> <p>A resident has emailed about a lack of waste collections on occasion due to claims that the road is too dangerous for the lorries. A suggestion of a smaller lorry has been suggested but not yet happened, despite a smaller lorry servicing another small road in the village on the same day. The resident also pointed out the poor state of the road and lack of roadside barriers due, mostly, to damage caused by HGVs following sat navs. Councillors were concerned that the state of the road could be an issue should emergency services need to access the road, given that the waste lorries deem it dangerous.</p> <p>Gardener has contacted Clerk to ask what can be done with the cuttings after his visits as he generally does not take these away. Clerk will look at options for the next meeting as the hall does not have a green bin collection.</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p>To consider Planning applications / decisions received.</p> <p>None.</p>	
<p>12.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Action</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>Reports from Community Events working party.</p> <p>a. CRTA – Gus Glyn ‘Routes to Classics’ – Feedback. Gus Glyn enjoyed the event, and he was well received by those in attendance. Councillors would be keen to have Gus back in a few years. 31 tickets were sold.</p> <p>b. VE Day 80 Celebrations – Friday 9th May Quiz Night. Councillors decided that pie and mash would be a good option for food. Tickets will be £10 per head. Doors will open at 6.30pm. Food will be served at 7pm and the quiz will begin at 7.30pm. Clerk will obtain a TENS license for the event.</p> <p>c. Band Event. The date for the bierkeller has been confirmed as September 27th.</p> <p>d. Other Upcoming Events. None currently.</p>	
<p>13.</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>Reports from Grants Applications working party.</p> <p>a. Rural England Prosperity Fund. - Digital Connectivity Projects Update. £400 remains from the grant funds so bracket and wiring options for fitting will now be looked at.</p>	
<p>14.</p> <p>Approved</p>	<p>To discuss maintenance of the hall and garden.</p> <p>a. Noticeboard repair. Defer.</p> <p>b. Hall flag The current flag will be cut down and a new one purchased. Approved 7 FOR.</p> <p>c. Fibre broadband box batteries & back-up. Defer.</p>	

Noted	d. Fascia board progress. Ongoing.	
Action	e. Progress with EPC Certificate. Clerk has taken a photo of the floor plan and will email this information.	
Noted	f. Creating storage upstairs Councillors have decided to halt this project for the time being and instead focus on the main all repairs.	
Noted	g. Repairs & decorating of main hall space. The door on the back of the stage looks to have been forced away from the wall by someone attempting to open the door. A builder will come and look at the damage this week to make an initial assessment.	
	h. Replacement doors. Defer.	
15.	To discuss hall lettings.	
Noted	The hall hire pricelist from April 2025 is now on the website.	
16.	Update on ownership paperwork for the village hall.	
Noted	Clerk will contact ChALC regarding the setting up of a new Trust.	
17.	Updates on Road Maintenance & Drainage in the village.	
Noted	a. B5470 Closure Updates. No further updates have been received. Clerk noticed that the webpage set up by Cheshire East for updates had been taken down / crashed so will contact Highways again about this.	
Action	Clerk will also contact Tim Roca MP for updates as Highways are not responding to emails.	
18.	Items for future meetings.	
	None.	
19.	Items for information.	
Noted	Clerk will submit the documents required for Internal Audit this week. Clerk and VC submitted a response to the Cheshire East devolution consultation on the behalf of Kettleshulme & Lyme Handley Parish Council.	
20.	Date and time of the next meeting.	
Noted	Annual General Meeting - Monday 19 th May 2025 – 7.30pm.	

The meeting concluded at 8.35 pm.