

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting at 7:30pm
Monday 19th January 2026.**

Councillors in attendance: Victoria Coward (VC), Jo Butler (JB), Charlie Blood (CB), Ian Pulley (IP), Alex Baker (AB).

Parish Clerk: Michelle Andrew (MA)

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| 1. | Apologies for Absence. |
| Noted | Derek Heiron (DH), Rachel Blood (RB). |
| 2. | Declarations of Interest. |
| | None. |
| 3. | Public Forum. |
| | No members of the public present. |
| 4. | Feedback and information sharing from Cheshire East Councillors. |
| All Noted | Cheshire East Councillors not present. a. School Speed Mitigation. RB not present - no update. b. School Swimming Lessons. RB not present – no update. c. Playground Improvements. See Point 14 – Grant Applications. d. B5470 Closure. Work continuing on schedule. Work stopped over the Christmas period. e. Other Matters. No other matters discussed. |
| 5. | PCSO comments. |
| | No comments. |
| 6. | To agree as a true record, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 17th November 2025. |
| Approved | Approved – 4 FOR. |

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| 7. | Finance. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Approved | <p>a. Payments to be authorised by the Council. BACS</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Clerk Salary December 2025</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 233.32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC PAYE M9 2025</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 58.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk Salary January 2026</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 233.32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC PAYE M10 2026</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 58.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>L Smallwood – Cleaning</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 182.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R Blood Expenses – Hamper – PAID 25/11/25 (Spend approved at meeting 17/11/25)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 20.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Autela Payroll Services – Aug-Dec & Pension Declaration – PAID 12/12/25 (FR 6.9.i & 6.9.iii)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 102.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>J Butler Expenses – Christmas Tree Lights – PAID 25/11/25 (FR 5.15)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 50.97</td> </tr> <tr> <td>J Butler Expenses – Christmas Fair – PAID 25/11/25 (Spend approved at meeting 17/11/25)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 21.97</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 960.38</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">4 FOR</p> <p>b. Bank statement reconciliation.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Bank accounts at the end of November 2025</p> <table> <tr> <td>Current Acc -</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 6,507.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reserve Acc -</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 36,541.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL =</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 43,048.08</td> </tr> </table> <p>Noted</p> <p>Bank accounts at the end of December 2025</p> <table> <tr> <td>Current Acc -</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 6,849.36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reserve Acc -</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 36,572.42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL =</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 43,421.78</td> </tr> </table> <p>Noted</p> <p>Direct debits paid in November 2025.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Sky Broadband</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 35.94</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Positive Energy - Gas</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 26.52</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Positive Energy - Gas</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 83.92</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EDF Energy – Electricity – Final Bill</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 97.29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Octopus Energy - Electricity</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 54.74</td> </tr> </table> | Clerk Salary December 2025 | £ 233.32 | HMRC PAYE M9 2025 | £ 58.40 | Clerk Salary January 2026 | £ 233.32 | HMRC PAYE M10 2026 | £ 58.40 | L Smallwood – Cleaning | £ 182.00 | R Blood Expenses – Hamper – PAID 25/11/25 (Spend approved at meeting 17/11/25) | £ 20.00 | Autela Payroll Services – Aug-Dec & Pension Declaration – PAID 12/12/25 (FR 6.9.i & 6.9.iii) | £ 102.00 | J Butler Expenses – Christmas Tree Lights – PAID 25/11/25 (FR 5.15) | £ 50.97 | J Butler Expenses – Christmas Fair – PAID 25/11/25 (Spend approved at meeting 17/11/25) | £ 21.97 | TOTAL | £ 960.38 | Current Acc - | £ 6,507.05 | Reserve Acc - | £ 36,541.03 | TOTAL = | £ 43,048.08 | Current Acc - | £ 6,849.36 | Reserve Acc - | £ 36,572.42 | TOTAL = | £ 43,421.78 | Sky Broadband | £ 35.94 | Positive Energy - Gas | £ 26.52 | Positive Energy - Gas | £ 83.92 | EDF Energy – Electricity – Final Bill | £ 97.29 | Octopus Energy - Electricity | £ 54.74 |
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| <p>Noted</p> <p>Approved Noted</p> | <p>Debit card payments in December 2025.</p> <p>None.</p> <p>c. Q3 Budget Review.</p> <p>Clerk provided Councillors with a budget review for quarter 3 of 25/26 which showed that water, broadband and cleaning had little variance remaining between budgeted funds and actual spending to date. The gas spend however, was well within budget so Councillors approved to move £450 from the gas budget to cover these. Approved 4 FOR.</p> <p>Total payments to the end of December were £11,499 and total receipts were £29,436 which included a £10,000 grant received for the play park renovation.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>8.</p> <p>Noted</p> | <p>To update Council on the new website & emails.</p> <p>The new website & Councillor emails are now set up. VC has also set up a redirect from the old website address to the new one.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>9.</p> <p>Noted</p> | <p>To update Council on amendments to the village hall Insurance Policy.</p> <p>Clerk has made the necessary amendments to the Policy to include the new equipment and removed any items where the excess cost was higher than the cost of replacing the item. Zurich waived the small about of premium that this created.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>10.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Action</p> | <p>To note any correspondence received.</p> <p>Clerk received details of the Peak Cluster Consultation that is inviting comments on the produced scoping opinion. The Peak Cluster is a collaborative pipeline to capture and transport Co2 from cement producers to an offshore storage facility. The fence at Paddock Close is falling into the field again and the gate is broken. Clerk will email the housing association to inform them and request repair.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| 11. | <p>To consider planning applications / decisions received.</p> <p>None.</p> |
| <p>12.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> | <p>Reports from Community Events working party.</p> <p>a. Christmas Fair Feedback – Saturday 29th November. Event was well attended.</p> <p>b. Senior’s Christmas Party Feedback – Saturday 6th December. Event was a success and enjoyed by residents.</p> <p>c. Spring Clean of the hall – Saturday 21st March. This will include a larger scale declutter of cupboards and leftover items at the hall. AB will arrange to have the rubbish removed.</p> <p>d. Summer Fete 2026 – Saturday 4th July. No update.</p> <p>e. Other upcoming Events. No further events currently planned.</p> |
| <p>13.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Action</p> <p>Action</p> | <p>To discuss maintenance of the hall and garden.</p> <p>a. PSU box shelf. No update.</p> <p>b. Banister rail. No update.</p> <p>c. Possible mice. No update.</p> <p>d. Collapsed wall outside. No update.</p> <p>e. Window Cleaning. The windows have been cleaned by and clerk is awaiting an invoice.</p> <p>f. Fascia boards progress. Work to be completed by the end of the week. Also noted that a couple of tiles had slipped on the roof and the downpipe had a hole in it.</p> <p>g. Refurb of main hall space. A builder has assessed the work needed and is now preparing a quote. Additional quotes will be sought.</p> <p>The fire extinguishers are due their annual service however the previous supplier has now retired. VC & IP will look to contact a new local supplier to carry this out.</p> |
| <p>14.</p> <p>Noted</p> | <p>Reports from Grants Applications.</p> <p>a. Rural England Prosperity Fund.</p> <p>- Digital Connectivity Project Update. Clerk has purchased the laptop and printer security locks as well as a desk chair and external hard drive, as discussed at the previous meeting.</p> |

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| Noted | <p align="center">- Enabling Prosperity & Wellbeing Fund Application</p> <p>The funds have now been received and the Cheshire East Parks & Projects Officer working on the project has emailed Clerk that they should have some further information to share at the beginning of February.</p> |
| 15. | <p>To further discuss putting on a session for defibrillator training.</p> <p>No update.</p> |
| 16. | <p>Hall lettings.</p> <p>Noted Due to the delay in receiving quotes for the hall refurbishment, bookings will now be taken until the end of February and this will be reassessed upon further booking enquiries being made.</p> |
| 17. | <p>Update on hall ownership paperwork and setting up a new Trust.</p> <p>Noted Action Clerk received an email response requesting further details on the type of trust required. Clerk will respond.</p> |
| 18. | <p>Items for future meetings.</p> <p>None.</p> |
| 19. | <p>Items for information.</p> <p>Noted IP noted that the metal front of the defibrillator cabinet outside of the hall has begun to come away from the case leaving a sharp edge which would be dangerous for anyone needing to access the defib inside.</p> <p>Approved Councillors approved for a new locked defib cabinet should be purchased to replace the existing cabinet priced at £450 + VAT. Approved 5 FOR.</p> |
| 20. | <p>Date & Time of Next Meeting.</p> <p>Noted Monday 16th February 2026 at 7.30pm.</p> |

The meeting concluded at 8.53 pm.