

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting at 7:30pm
Monday 16th February 2026.**

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

Parish Clerk: Michelle Andrew (MA)

1.	<p>Apologies for Absence.</p> <p>None.</p>
2. Noted	<p>Declarations of Interest.</p> <p>AB has submitted an invoice for minor slate repair on the hall roof.</p>
3.	<p>Public Forum.</p> <p>No members of the public present.</p>
4. All Noted	<p>Feedback and information sharing from Cheshire East Councillors.</p> <p>a. School Speed Mitigation. An agreement has now been reached for this, and CEC-JS is hopeful that the work can be carried out soon.</p> <p>b. School Swimming Lessons. Cheshire East Council have now agreed to fund the excess for the swimming lesson costs due to the B5470 closure. This will continue for the academic year until July but is not expected to be extended beyond this date.</p> <p>c. B5470 Closure. Road closure has been extended to the end of May due to an additional problem incurred requiring further work.</p> <p>d. Other Matters. Cheshire East Council have applied for exceptional financial support from the Government to cover a budget shortfall for 2025/26. Cheshire East Council's Conservatives have submitted a 'vote of no confidence' in the Councils leader and deputy leader, largely relating to the proposals over Adlington new town.</p>
5.	<p>PCSO comments.</p> <p>No comments.</p>
6. Approved	<p>To agree as a true record, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 19th January 2026.</p> <p>Approved – 5 FOR.</p>

<p>7.</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>Finance.</p> <p>a. Payments to be authorised by the Council. BACS</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="352 398 1437 667"> <tr> <td>Clerk Salary February 2026</td> <td>£</td> <td>233.52</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC PAYE M11 2026</td> <td>£</td> <td>58.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>L Smallwood – Cleaning</td> <td>£</td> <td>60.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ChALC – Data Protection Course 1 & 2</td> <td>£</td> <td>60.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ARC Baker Roofing – Slate Repair</td> <td>£</td> <td>127.58</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Francis Fire – Extinguisher Service (FR 6.9.iii)</td> <td>£</td> <td>444.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>£</td> <td>983.92</td> </tr> </table> <p>6 FOR</p> <p>b. Bank statement reconciliation.</p> <p>Bank accounts at the end of January 2026</p> <p>Current Acc - £ 6,227.95</p> <p>Reserve Acc - £ 36,600.98</p> <p>TOTAL = £ 42,828.93</p> <p>Direct debits paid in January 2026.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="311 1144 1246 1346"> <tr> <td>Sky Broadband</td> <td>£</td> <td>35.94</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Water Plus</td> <td>£</td> <td>38.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pozitive Energy - Gas</td> <td>£</td> <td>143.93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pozitive Energy - Gas</td> <td>£</td> <td>231.44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Octopus Energy - Electricity</td> <td>£</td> <td>82.44</td> </tr> </table> <p>Debit card payments in January 2025.</p> <p>None.</p>	Clerk Salary February 2026	£	233.52	HMRC PAYE M11 2026	£	58.20	L Smallwood – Cleaning	£	60.00	ChALC – Data Protection Course 1 & 2	£	60.00	ARC Baker Roofing – Slate Repair	£	127.58	Francis Fire – Extinguisher Service (FR 6.9.iii)	£	444.60	TOTAL	£	983.92	Sky Broadband	£	35.94	Water Plus	£	38.30	Pozitive Energy - Gas	£	143.93	Pozitive Energy - Gas	£	231.44	Octopus Energy - Electricity	£	82.44
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<p>8.</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>All Noted</p> <p>Action</p>	<p>To note any correspondence received.</p> <p>Norton Antivirus is due for renewal priced at £29.99 - 7 FOR.</p> <p>Clerk suggested signing up for the Data Protection 3 Course as had completed 1 & 2 - 7 FOR.</p> <p>Insurance renewal has been received for the village hall for £1,222.68 - 7 FOR.</p> <p>A brochure has been received detailing the planned Peak Cluster project.</p> <p>New Mills Dairy have emailed to inform Council that they are now able to deliver milk to residents in the village.</p> <p>JB submitted a letter of resignation from the Parish Council. IP thanked Jo for all her years of hard work and service (over 20 years) on the Parish Council, many of them as Chair. A notice of casual vacancy will now be prepared and released.</p>																																				

<p>9.</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>To consider planning applications / decisions received.</p> <p>Appeal Decision - APP/M9496/C/25/3364823.</p>
<p>10.</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>Reports from Community Events working party.</p> <p>a. Spring Clean of the hall – Saturday 21st March. The cost of a truck to remove the rubbish will be £60 + the cost of disposal which will be dependant on the amount that there is – 7 FOR.</p> <p>b. Summer Fete 2026 – Saturday 4th July. Plans are ongoing by the school PTFA and the band have expressed an interest in being a part of the day.</p> <p>c. Other upcoming Events. None.</p>
<p>11.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Action</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>To discuss maintenance of the hall and garden.</p> <p>a. – c. No update.</p> <p>d. Collapsed wall outside. JB and RB have tried to contact the lady whose car hit the wall outside the hall, but she has stopped responding to messages or answering the phone. JB suggested contacting the motor insurance bureau. Clerk will contact.</p> <p>e. Fascia boards progress. Work completed.</p> <p>f. Refurb of main hall space. The builder who assessed the work required has not provided a quote and so AB will seek other quotes.</p> <p>The new defib cabinet has now arrived ready to be fitted.</p>
<p>12.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>Reports from Grants Projects.</p> <p>a. Digital Connectivity Project. All equipment has now been purchased and Council are waiting on the hall refurbishments to be carried out before the projector can be fitted and training sessions for residents can be held.</p> <p>b. Enabling Prosperity & Wellbeing Fund – playground project. A proposal from Cheshire East Parks has been received as follows ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remove the equipment from the top of the park and replace with picnic tables. Reason – safety surfacing at end of life and too expensive to replace. - Remove the perimeter fence and install 2 x new items of equipment on the open space opposite the swing. Reason – allow for future development. - Refurbish the swing set, replacing 2 seats for toddler swings. <p>With the reasoning behind the proposal in mind, Councillors believed this was likely the best option for the funds available, and Clerk will respond enquiring about next steps.</p>

13.	Defibrillator training and computer sessions for residents. No update.
14. All Noted Action	Hall lettings. Bookings continue to be taken and a closure period for refurbishment will be looked at again once quotes have been received. Tablecloth laundry will be added to the booking forms and price list at £30 should this be required. Hire prices will remain the same until refurbishment works have been completed. Clerk will email gardener about restarting work in time for the fell race booking in April.
15.	Update on hall ownership paperwork and setting up a new Trust. No Update.
16.	Items for future meetings. None.
17.	Items for information. None.
18. Noted	Date & Time of Next Meeting. Monday 16 th March 2026 at 7.30pm.

The meeting concluded at 8.34 pm.