



**Hulme Walfield
and Somerford Booths**
Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th February 2026 at 7.30pm at Eaton Community Hall

Part 1: Public and press present

Present:

- Councillor Mark Hill
- Councillor Mark Wakerly
- Councillor Adam Bamping
- Councillor Vic Brown
- Councillor John Spence
- Councillor John Wray – Cheshire East Council Ward Councillor.
- Elizabeth Worrall – Clerk

Absent:

- Councillor Margaret Gartside

Public Forum

There were no members of the public present.

23/26 To receive and approve apologies for absence

Cllr. Gartside had sent her apologies for absence in advance of the meeting.

24/26 To receive any declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

25/26 To receive and resolve to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 2026

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes.

26/26 To receive a report from Cheshire East Ward Councillor if present.

Cllr. Wray shared that the whole Council are meeting during the following week (w/c 23rd February). Cllr. Bamping asked questions about how the Council's finances were managed – Cllr. Wray confirmed that some of the items are funded by government grants, but there are some issues with overspending within some departments. The budget will be presented shortly,

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Signed

Dated

with an increase in Council tax of 4.9%.

Cllr. Spence asked a question regarding Councillor allowances and expenses. Cllr. Wray said that the figures are publicly available and will be published in both the Chronicle and on Cheshire East's website.

There is currently a 'Call for Sites' across Cheshire East, and these can be monitored by Hulme Walfield and Somerford Booths Parish Council, although the Parish Council cannot object at this stage.

27/26 To consider planning applications and any others since the publication of the agenda

26/0260/HOUS – Magnus Drive, Congleton, Cheshire East CW12 1TG – Extension of existing garage as per drawings, no alterations to access of existing house or change to streets

The Parish Council has no objections to this application.

28/26 To ratify and approve any comments made on planning applications between meetings

25/4798/VOC – Land between Manchester Road and Giantswood Lane, Congleton – Variation of Conditions

Initial comment submitted by Clerk - [link](#)

Second comment submitted by Cllr. Brown - [link](#)

26/0174/HOUS – Giantswood Lane, Somerford Booths, Congleton, Cheshire East, CW12 2JN – Replace the existing tarmac drive and increase the size to allow turning space by tarmacking some front lawn

The Parish Council has no objections to this application.

It was **RESOLVED** to ratify the above comments. Cllr. Hill has spoken to the developer regarding 25/4798/VOC and an update will be provided at the next meeting; there is a possibility of a public meeting, should the developer feel this is valuable. Cllr. Brown said that he would strongly support holding a public meeting

29/26 To receive and resolve to approve the accounts for payment:

BALANCE OF ACCOUNT= £33,173.84, as of 1st February 2026

Payments in italics were made after the last bank reconciliation.

PAYMENTS MADE

HMRC	£774.04
Zurich (Insurance)	£294.33
TCS Management (Payroll)	£64.80
Clerk Salary (January)	£330.34
Clerk's Homeworking Allowance	£26.00

PAYMENTS RECEIVED

None

PAYMENTS APPROVED

Clerk Salary (February)	£330.34
Clerk Homeworking Allowance (February)	£26.00
Crewe Colour Printers	£90.00
First Aid Kit Replacement	£15.00 budget

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Bleed Kit Stickers

£25.00 budget

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the above payments and sign the Bank Reconciliation.
The Parish Council noted the budget report and it was **RESOLVED** to make no amendments.

30/26 To review and resolve to approve the Parish Council's risk assessment

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the risk assessment with no amendments.

31/26 To review and resolve to approve the Parish Council's asset register

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the asset register with no amendments.

32/26 To receive an update on the Fitness Trail

The Fitness Trail with Redrow is now in progress. CAD drawings have now been published. The contact at KOMPAN is away until the start of March 2026; Cllr. Hill will follow this up early next month.

33/26 To discuss the installation of a further defibrillator within the Parish

The Parish Council has taken delivery of the defibrillator. Cllr. Wakerly will liaise with the site where this is to be installed to arrange for an installation date. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

34/26 To receive an update on the proposed boundary signs within the Parish

Cllrs. Hill and Wakerly had a visit with a representative of Highways. They visited five locations in Somerford Booths and the six locations in Hulme Walfield for the boundary signs, and these have all been approved. They have also agreed to the installation of two speedwatch signs on Giantswood Lane.

Installation will be arranged for later this spring – an update will be provided at the May meeting. Other Highways issues within the Parish were discussed, one being the white lines on Lomas Way. Highways undertook to rectify this later in the Spring and an update will be provided at the May meeting.

35/26 To discuss arranging regular litter picks within the Parish and how best to promote these

A litter pick will take place this week. Cllr. Brown's press release was published on the website, as well as in the local press. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

36/26 To note issues with fly-tipping, and discuss how one particular matter might be resolved in conjunction with developers and Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service

The Parish Council are aware of who the landowner is. Cllr. Hill will reach out to the landowner. The Clerk will confirm to Cheshire East Highways and Cheshire East Fire and Rescue Service that the Parish Council do not own the land, but are liaising with the landowner and will ask him to provide an update to Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service.

37/26 To confirm if the Parish Council are aware of any "no mow" locations within the Parish, in response to a request received from Highways

The Parish Council are not aware of any "no mow" locations; the Clerk will pass this information on to Highways.

38/26 To receive and note the contents of the Chair's Report

The Chair had checked the defib and noted that the first aid packet enclosed within the box was expired. It was **RESOLVED** to replace this, with a budget figure of £15.00.

39/26 To receive and note reports from members

Cllr. Bamping – nothing to report

Cllr. Brown – Cllr. Brown has replanted two trees within the Parish and wished to note this.

Cllr. Gartside – nothing to report

Cllr. Spence – The land identified by a resident has been identified as being owned by Hulme Walfield Old Hall.

A meeting of the Parish Council Liaison Group was held on 9th February. Only three Parish Councils and one Ward Councillor were in attendance. The next meeting will take place in June, and Cllr. Spence hopes that attendance will be better.

The Police and Crime Commissioner is hosting a meeting on the 26th February, where he will hold the Chief Constable to account. Cllr. Spence cannot attend so Cllr. Wakerly will attend instead.

Cllr. Wakerly – Cllr. Wakerly proposed that the Council purchase stickers (to go on the outside of the defibrillator storage boxes) to show the presence of bleed kits. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase eight of these at a budget figure of £25.00.

40/26 Any other correspondence including what to include in the Parish Magazine

The Clerk will submit an article mentioning the boundary signs and defib installation later on this spring, as well as a Save the Date for the Parish Meeting.

41/26 To note the date of the next Parish Council meeting to be held on 19th March 2026