



**Hulme Walfield  
and Somerford Booths**  
Parish Council

**Final Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025 7.30pm at Eaton Community Hall**

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**Part 1: Public and press present**

**Present:**

- Councillor Mark Hill
- Councillor Mark Wakerly
- Councillor Vic Brown
- Councillor Adam Bamping
- Elizabeth Worrall – Clerk

**Absent:**

- Councillor Margaret Gartside
- Councillor John Spence
- Councillor John Wray – Cheshire East Council Ward Councillor

**53/25 To elect the Chairman for 2025 / 2026**

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr. Hill to the role of Chairman.

**54/25 To elect the Vice Chairman for 2025 / 2026**

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr. Wakerly to the role of Vice Chairman.

**Public Forum**

Two sets of questions were asked in advance of the meeting.

The first question related to a missing cut through on the Redrow Estate. Cllr. Hill has liaised with the individuals who asked the question and has confirmed that the cut through will be installed presently.

The second set of questions were answered together. The first question was related to Tree Protection Orders within the Parish – the individual has been signposted to Cheshire East's website, which contains all the relevant details. The land which abuts the fisheries does have a TPO, so any access will need to be authorised by planning. A follow up question was asked

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regarding turning this land into a conservation area – this could be explored with Cheshire Wildlife Trust, or designated as a permissive path or rights of way. Cllr. Brown, Cllr. Hill and the concerned member of the public will pick up the conversation after the meeting.  
The second question related to the squash club – pictures have been taken and have been sent to Planning Enforcement; the Parish Council is awaiting a reply.  
The final question related to Castle Green using Giantswood Lane for construction traffic. Cllr. Hill has received a response which acknowledges that the developer has now been made aware of the concerns, and they will brief all of their subcontractors to access the site via the Barn Road Entrance.

A question was asked regarding further disturbances caused by piling. Cllr. Hill is aware of the matter and will raise this with a senior manager at Redrow to try and mitigate this.  
Cllr. Brown raised his concerns regarding the soon to be installed street lights on the estate – Cllr. Hill is aware of this and will continue to liaise with Redrow on the development.

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**55/25 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr. Spence, Cllr. Gartside and Ward Councillor John Wray.

**56/25 To receive any declarations of interest** There were no declarations of interest.

**57/25 To receive and resolve to approve [the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 20th March 2025](#)**

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

**58/25 To receive a report from Cheshire East Ward Councillor if present.**

Cllr. Wray was not present.

**59/25 To receive the internal audit report for 2024 / 25 and, if applicable, to discuss any recommendations and improvements to be made**

The Parish Council noted the internal auditors report. The asset register was amended to the correct balance, prior to the AGAR submission. The asset register will be reviewed during tonight's meeting. Thanks were extended to the Clerk for her hard work during the audit. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Parish Council's response to the Internal Auditor's report.

**60/25 Section 1 Annual Governance Statement Section 2024 / 2025 of the AGAR**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve Section 1 of the AGAR and this was signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

**61/25 Section 2 Accounting Statements 2024 / 2025 of the AGAR**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve Section 2 of the AGAR and this was signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

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**62/25 Certificate of Exemption 2024 / 2025**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Certificate of Exemption and this was signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

**63/25 To confirm the Public Inspection Period (Notice of Public Rights)**

It was **RESOLVED** to commence the Public Rights Inspection Period on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025.

**64/25 To review and adopt [Standing Orders](#)**

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Standing Orders.

**65/25 To review and adopt [Financial Regulations](#)**

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Financial Regulations.

**66/25 To adopt the General Power of Competence for 2025 / 2026, providing the Council is still eligible**

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the General Power of Competence for 2025 / 2026, as the Parish Council are still eligible, having two thirds minimum elected Councillors and a suitably qualified Clerk.

**67/25 To review and consider any improvements to be made to the [Asset Register](#)**

It was **RESOLVED** to add the herb garden to the asset register at a value of £3,000 excluding VAT with an installation date of May 2025. Cllr. Brown will attend the installation of the herb garden on the 26<sup>th</sup> May. Cllr. Hill will seek to get proof of ownership sent to the Parish Council. It was **RESOLVED** to add the defibrillator to the asset register at £1,500 to the asset register with an installation date of May 2025.

Cllr. Hill will send the Clerk pictures and what3words locations for the assets that require this information (bench, grit bin, herb garden, defibrillator).

**68/25 To consider Councillor roles and responsibilities for 2025**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve Councillor roles and responsibilities as below.

- Cllr Hill – Chair, Human Resources, Developer / Business Relationships, Parish Council Engagement, Community Defibrillator Project
- Cllr Wakerly – Vice Chair, Human Resources, Rural Matters, Neighbourhood Plan
- Cllr Bamping – Community Engagement
- Cllr Brown – Planning, Neighbourhood Plan
- Cllr Gartside – Education, Rural Matters, Nature
- Cllr Spence – Police / Community Liaison, Cross Parish Liaison

**69/25 To discuss changes made to the Local Plan and how these may impact the Parish Council**

It is expected that regulations around the new Local Plan will be adopted in late 2025. The Parish Council have 18 months to commence and adopt their neighbourhood plan. Cllr. Wakerly will begin the process of re-drafting this. Cllr. Brown recommended that the Parish Council

review Congleton and Cranage's local plans, which are both excellent examples. This will be updated in September.

**70/25 To consider the following planning applications and any other since the publication of the agenda**

[25/1257/HOUS](#) – Construction of detached garage.

It was **RESOLVED** to submit a comment of no objections.

**71/25 If applicable, to ratify and approve any comments made on planning applications between meetings.**

There were no comments to ratify.

**72/25 To consider the proposed rate increase from TCS Management (payroll) It was RESOLVED to approve the rate increase.**

**73/25 To receive and resolve to approve the accounts for payment**

BALANCE OF ACCOUNT = £39,436.66

PAYMENTS MADE

Payment to Dane Valley (First Aid Evening Donation)	£150.00
Bank Charges	£8.00
Clerk Salary (April)	£419.41
Clerk Homeworking Allowance (April)	£26.00

PAYMENTS RECEIVED

Precept First Instalment	£7,650.00
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PAYMENTS TO BE APPROVED

Clerk's Salary (May)	£419.41
Clerk's Homeworking Allowance (May)	£26.00
Vic Brown Expenses (Poo Spray)	£11.93
Clerk Expenses (APM Refreshments)	£16.74
CHALC Membership	£204.75
Crewe Colour Printers	£362.40
TCS Management	£61.92
ICO	£52.00
John Henry (Audit)	£292.80
Donation to Trees for Congleton	£50.00
Donation to Clonter Opera	£50.00
John Spence Expenses (First Aid Evening)	£16.64

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the above payments and sign the bank reconciliations ([year opening](#) and [end April](#)).

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**74/25 To discuss the installation of defibrillators within the Parish**

Redrow are in the process of installing the defibrillator. Utilities are due on site to wire the defibrillator into the mains – this can then be fully commissioned. Thanks were extended to Redrow for their work in completing this.

**75/25 To discuss the installation of dog waste bins near to Newsbank**

Cllr. Wakerly is in the process of assessing sites and informing residents. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

**76/25 To discuss the Good Design award and the relevance to the Parish Council** The Council discussed the paper presented by Cllr. Brown. It was **RESOLVED** to commence with this. Cllr. Brown will begin the process of publicising this.

**77/25 To discuss any amendments to be made to the Parish Council’s social media strategy, following on from the WhatsApp trial**

It was **RESOLVED** to not proceed with the WhatsApp group due to GDPR concerns raised by members. The Clerk will create a QR code for the X page and will include this on agendas, the website and the dates list for the noticeboards.

**78/25 To receive and note reports from the members:**

Cllr. Bamping – the dog fouling is now under control, with fewer instances noted. Signage near to the roundabouts has been a problem but this has been dealt with by Cllrs. Hill and Bamping. Further indications of fouling have been noted – Councillors discussed whether these should be reported to Planning Enforcement but decided to monitor this for now. Cllr. Bamping is creating a men’s walking / talking group – this is currently being trialled.

Cllr. Brown – [report](#)

Cllr. Hill – the new Starbucks and KFC site is receiving complaints, Cllr. Hill is speaking to the relevant managers. Congratulations were extended to the Clerk who has passed the PIALC qualification.

Cllr. Spence – [report](#)

Cllr. Wakerly – nothing to report

**79/25 Any other correspondence**

The Clerk noted that she was on annual leave from the 21<sup>st</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> May. Cllr. Hill is on annual leave from 22<sup>nd</sup> May – 18<sup>th</sup> June. Due to this, Cllr. Wakerly will chair the next meeting.

The Parish Council noted the following road closures in the Parish.

- **Giantswod Lane: 16th May - 11th July**  
*2-way lights with road closures for Walfield Avenue and Daisybank Road*
- **Daisy Bank/Hampshire Close/Somerset Close: 20th May - 11th July 3-way lights**

- **Daisy Bank/Rutland Close: 12th - 27th June**  
*3-way lights*
- **Berkshire Road to Rood Hill: CLOSURE**  
*3-way lights on Berkshire Drive and Kent Drive*

**80/25 To note the date of the Parish Council Meeting to be held on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

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