Hulme Walfield
and Somerford Booths
Parish Council

**Final Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 21st May 2026 7.30pm, held at Eaton Community Hall**

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**Part 1: Public and press present**

**Present:**

- Councillor Mark Hill
- Councillor Vic Brown
- Councillor John Spence
- Elizabeth Worrall – Clerk

**Absent:**

- Councillor Adam Bamping
- Councillor Margaret Gartside
- Councillor Mark Wakerly
- Councillor John Wray – Cheshire East Council Ward Councillor.

**Public Forum**
There were no members of the public present.

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**59/26 To elect the Chairman for 2026 / 2027** There was no majority vote reached for Chairman.

**60/26 To elect the Vice Chairman for 2026 / 2027** It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr. Wakerly as Vice Chair.
In the absence of the Vice Chair, it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Hill, the retiring chair, would chair the meeting and sign off the relevant statutory documents.

**61/26 To receive and approve apologies for absence**
Cllr. Gartside and Bamping had sent their apologies for absence in advance of the meeting. Cllr. Wakerly was not present.

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**62/26 To receive any declarations of interest**
There were no declarations of interest.

**63/26 To receive and resolve to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 2026**
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes.

**64/26 To receive a report from Cheshire East Ward Councillor if present.**
Cllr. Wray was not present.

**65/26 To receive the internal audit report for 2025 / 26 and, if applicable, to discuss any recommendations and improvements to be made**
The Parish Council received the internal auditor's report. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Parish Council's response to the audit, which had been drafted by the Clerk.

**66/26 Section 1 Annual Governance Statement 2025 / 26 of the AGAR**
It was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign Section 1 of the AGAR.

**67/26 Section 2 Accounting Statements 2025 / 2026 of the AGAR**
It was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign Section 2 of the AGAR.

**68/26 Certificate of Exemption 2025/26**
It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council would declare themselves exempt from an external audit and for the Certificate of Exemption to be signed.

**69/26 To confirm the Public Inspection Period (Notice of Public Rights)**
It was **RESOLVED** to commence the Public Inspection Period on 3rd June 2026.

**70/26 To review and adopt the Standing Orders**
It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Standing Orders, with no amendments

**71/26 To review and adopt the Financial Regulations**
It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Standing Orders, with no amendments

**72/26 To adopt the General Power of Competence for 2026 / 27, providing the Council is still eligible**
It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the General Power of Competence for 2026 / 27, as the Council is still eligible

**73/26 To discuss Councillor roles and responsibilities for 2026 / 2027**
This item was deferred to the next meeting in June 2026.

**74/26 To consider the following planning applications and any others since the publication of the agenda:**
26/0893/HOUS - SOMERFORD GRANGE Trap Road, Somerford Booths, Congleton, Cheshire East, CW12 2LT- Alterations to existing out building, increase roof pitch, add doors and

windows and first floor balcony to West Elevation
It was **RESOLVED** to submit a comment of no objections.

26/1597/ADV - Carphone Warehouse, Unit J, CONGLETON RETAIL PARK Barn Road, Congleton, Cheshire East, CW12 1LJ - Advertisement consent for 1 new fascia sign
It was **RESOLVED** to submit a comment of no objections.

**75/26 To ratify and approve any comments made on planning applications between meetings**
26/1191/PRIOR-6 - Prior Approval: Agricultural and Forestry Development - Harefields Farm Giantswood Lane, Somerford Booths, Congleton, Cheshire East, CW12 2JN - Agricultural determination for an extension to a steel framed agricultural machinery shed with workshop, farm office and storage
*The Parish Council has no objections to this application.*

It was **RESOLVED** to ratify the above comments.

**76/26 To discuss reports of waste tipping on Giantswood Lane**
This item was deferred to the next meeting in June 2026.

**77/26 To consider donating to the Eaton and Hulme Walfield Garden Party, for the hire of the Silver Band**
It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council would make a donation of £250.00.

**78/26 To discuss the planting of mature silver birch trees within the Parish, following the offer of a donation from a resident**
This item was deferred to the next meeting in June 2026.

**79/26 To receive and resolve to approve the accounts for payment:**
BALANCE OF ACCOUNT = £31,464.02 (as of 1st Apr 2026)

| PAYMENTS MADE | |
|---|---|
| HMRC | £718.62 |
| Eaton Hall (room hire) | £160.00 |
| Clerk Salary (March) | £330.34 |
| Clerk Homeworking Allowance (March) | £26.00 |
| Clerk Salary (April) | £330.34 |
| Clerk Homeworking Allowance (April) | £26.00 |
| ICO | £52.00 |

PAYMENTS RECEIVED
None as of end March, when year opening bank reconciliation completed

| PAYMENTS TO BE APPROVED | |
|---|---|
| Clerk Salary (May) | £330.34 |
| Clerk Homeworking Allowance (May) | £26.00 |
| CHALC | £210.00 |

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| Mark Wakerly Expenses (Branded Hi Viz Jackets) | £249.36 |
| John Henry (internal audit) | £307.20 |
| TCS Management | £64.80 |
| Eaton / Hulme Walfield Garden Party | £250.00 |
| Clerk Expenses (APM) | £14.60 |

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the above payments and sign the Bank Reconciliation.

**80/26 To receive and note the contents of the Chair's Report**
This item was deferred to the next meeting in June 2026.

**81/26 To receive and note reports from members**
This item was deferred to the next meeting in June 2026.

**82/26 Any other correspondence including what to include in the Parish Magazine**
There was nothing to be included in the Parish Magazine. The Clerk submitted pictures of the boundary sign installation at the start of the month.

**83/26 To note the date of the next Parish Council meeting to be held on 18th June 2026**