

## **Minutes of the Meeting Held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

Present

Councillors Jackson, Painter, Binyon, Dutton and Wilson.

In attendance:

G Parker (Parish Clerk)  
Councillor Mark Stocks (CWAC)

### **25.001 To elect a Chair and Vice-Chair.**

**Resolved that:** -

- Councillor Ben Jackson be elected as Chair.
- Councillor Alison Painter be elected as Vice-Chair

### **25.002 Apologies for absence**

None

### **25.003 To note declarations of members' interests**

Councillor Dutton in relation to item 14.b

### **25.004 Public Participation: -**

None

### **25.005 To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025 were confirmed as a correct record and signed.

### **25.006 To approve the co-option of a Parish Councillor.**

**Resolved that** Mr Peter Sherry be co-opted to the Parish Council.

### **25.007 To consider the process to appointing a Trustee to the Richard Comberbach Trust.**

**Resolved that:** -

- the position be publicised as widely as possible within the Parish and interested parties be requested to provide a one-page expression of interest.
- A panel comprising Councillors Jackson and Dutton interview the

Signed

individuals who submit an expression of interest.

- Councillors Jackson and Dutton report to the next meeting with a recommendation on whom to appoint.

**25.008 To receive the police reports.**

**Resolved** that the police reports be received and noted.

**25.009 To receive news from the Unitary Authority Councillors.**

**Resolved that** the update from Councillor Stocks be noted, including.

- the progress of devolution proposals for Cheshire and Warrington
- the review of the CWAC local plan to reflect the increased housing target from national government and the resultant issue arising of CWAC no longer having a 5-year housing supply.
- the increase in funding for highway repairs
- the current status of highway issues relating to the Swan Green development.

**25.010 Consideration matters required by the Standing Order 5j.**

**Resolved** that: -

- i. The standing orders and financial regulations be approved and adopted;
- ii. The inventory of land and other assets including buildings and office equipment be approved;
- iii. The arrangements for insurance cover in respect of all insurable risks be confirmed and approved and that the invoice for £300 be paid;
- iv. the schedule of the Council's and/or staff subscriptions to other bodies be approved;
- v. the time and place of ordinary meetings of the Council up to and including the next annual meeting of the Council be approved.

**25.011 To receive updates regarding progress with the Parish Plan.**

**Resolved** that: -

Workstream 1

- The update provided by Councillor Binyon be noted.

Workstream 2

- Progress made on the restoration of Barrows Brow pond be noted.

- Payment of the invoice for the excavation works of £1476.60 be approved.
- Payment of up to £600 for associated works be approved
- The footpath clearance works this weekend be noted.

#### Workstream 3

- A definitive proposal to convert the phone box be presented at the next meeting.
- A definitive proposal to remediate the village sign at Smithy Green be presented to the next meeting.

#### Workstream 4

- it be noted that there is no update.

### **25.012 Finance**

#### **Resolved that: -**

- the Receipts and Payments to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 be noted.
- The payments due of £407.51 be approved.
- the budget and expenditure to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 be noted.
- the schedule of regular payments for 2025/26 be approved.
- the year end bank reconciliation be approved.
- the Internal Audit Report for 2024/25 be received and noted.
- Section 1 Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 be noted.
- Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 be approved and signed.
- Section 2 Accounting Statements 2024/25 be noted.
- Section 2 Accounting Statements 2024/25 be approved and signed.
- the criteria for exemption from external auditor review be noted.
- the authority meets the criteria for exemption from limited assurance review and wishes to be certified exempt for the year 2024/25.
- the exemption certificate be approved and signed.
- the proposed dates for the exercise of public rights of Tuesday 3 June 2025 to Monday 14 July 2025 be noted.

### **25.013 To approve the Risk Register for 2025/26.**

**Resolved** that the Risk Register for 2025/26 be approved.

### **25.014 Planning.**

- To consider the latest planning applications (attached).**

Site Address: **25 Hulme Lane Nether Peover Northwich WA16 9QE**

Proposal: **Erection of two storey side extension, addition of**

**side window**

Reference Number: **25/01054/FUL**.

**Resolved that** comments be submitted that the proposed development is too large for the plot and would result in overdevelopment of the site. It would also restrict light and air for the adjacent property.

Site Address: **2 Birchwood Drive Nether Peover Northwich WA16 9QJ.**

Proposal: **Two storey side extension and porch to front**

Reference Number: **25/01135/FUL**

**Resolved** that no comments be submitted.

**b. Notification of a Planning Appeal - Written Representations (attached)**

To consider whether the Parish Council wishes to make comments, or modify/withdraw its previous representation regarding

**Site Address:** Land At Crown Lane Nether Peover Northwich

**Description of development:** Outline planning application for 12 self-build/custom build dwellings with associated access and supporting infrastructure.

**Appellant's name:** Mr Paul Duffy

**Planning or Enforcement ref:** 24/00386/OUT

**Planning Inspector ref:** APP/A0665/W/25/3364367

**Planning Inspector:**

**Appeal reference:** 25/00051/REF

**Appeal start date:** 29 April 2025

**Comment before:** 3 June 2025

Councillor Dutton left the room for the consideration of this item.

**Resolved** that the comments previously submitted still apply.

**c. EN0310001 Keuper Underground Gas Storage Material Change 1 - Scoping consultation and Reg 11 notification.**

Councillor Dutton rejoined the meeting

**Resolved** that no comments be submitted.

**25.015 Update on provision of an additional defibrillator.**

**Resolved** that: -

- the proposal to relocate the school's existing adult AED to an external location at the school be approved.
- Donations to cover the costs of installing a cabinet and connecting the power supply be sought from the Richard Comberbach Trust and St

Oswald's church.

- An agreement be made between the relevant parties for the ongoing management and maintenance of the defibrillator and housing.
- The Parish Council would cover the costs of replacement pads and batteries as required.

**25.016 Update on replacement of bench at Smithy Green.**

**Resolved** that the position be noted.

**25.017 Personnel Committee feedback on Clerks' annual review.**

**Resolved** that the feedback be noted.

**25.018 To consider the establishment of a Parish wide messaging group.**

**Resolved** that consideration of this matter be deferred to a future meeting.

**25.019 Matters for the next agenda.**

Resolved that: -

- Co-option of a Parish Councillor
- Purchase of a new laptop
- The phone box work programme
- The restoration of the village sign at Smithy Green
- VE Day event feedback
- Christmas 2025 arrangements
- Parish wide messaging system

be considered at the next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council.

**25.020 Future Meetings.**

Resolved that the date for the next meeting of the Parish Council on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2025 be noted.