

Gawsworth Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Adam Keppel-Green BSc BA FSLCC
Squirrel Brook, 68 Manor Park South, Knutsford, WA16 8AN
clerk@gawsworthpc.org.uk 07584 057 228
www.gawsworthpc.org.uk



To the Members of Gawsworth Parish Council

You are summoned to attend the meeting of Gawsworth Parish Council to be held at 19:30 on Tuesday 10th September 2024 in Gawsworth Village Hall.

The public can also join the meeting at: <https://bit.ly/gawsworthparishcouncil> or watch live on Facebook at www.facebook.com/gawsworthlife.

Adam Keppel-Green
Clerk and Proper Officer
3rd September 2024

AGENDA

- 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
To receive apologies for absence.
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
In the interests of openness and transparency, members are to declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in relation to the items under discussion.
- 3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
A period for members of the public to address the meeting.
- 4 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**
To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 13th August 2024.
Attachment – Minutes of the meeting held 13th August 2024
- 5 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT**
To receive a report from the councillors for Gawsworth and Macclesfield South wards.
- 6 PLANNING MATTERS**
To consider application [24/3038M – 19 Woodhouse Lane](#).
To note recent planning decisions.
Attachment – Planning Decisions Report September 2024

7 SUPPORT OF DEFIBRILLATOR MAINTENANCE

To consider a request from the Gawsworth Hub to fund the maintenance of its defibrillator.

8 PARISH MATTERS

An opportunity for members to raise matters which require attention or future discussion.

9 FINANCE

To note the council's financial position year to date.

Attachment – Receipts and Payments statement 4th September 2024

To approve the following payments

Payee	Detail	Amount
NPower	Streetlighting August	32.31
Northwich TC	August Contract	1,338.00
A Keppel-Green	September Salary and Reimbursements	483.95
M Herring	Ranger Contract July and August	1,046.67
	Total	2900.93

10 STRATEGIC PLAN, PARISH MAINTENANCE AND ACTIONS LOGS

To review the Strategic Plan, Parish Maintenance and Outstanding Actions logs.

Attachments – Strategic Plan, Maintenance and Outstanding Actions logs.

11 QUESTIONS TO THE CLERK

An opportunity to raise questions to the Clerk.

12 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A period for members of the public to address the meeting.

13 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

To consider approval of the October meeting being pushed back a week to Tuesday 15th October.

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Minutes

of the Council Meeting held

Tuesday 13th August 2024 in the Gawsworth Village Hall

24/053 PRESENT

Cllrs Shepherd (*presiding*), Clarke, Dempsey, Kinsey, Richards and Woods

A Keppel-Green (Clerk)

24/054 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Hardy and Wright.

Cllr Shepherd announced that Cllr Mitchell had tendered his resignation from the council and on behalf of the council expressed thanks to him for his work during the last four years.

24/055 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No member declared an interest in any item.

24/056 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public wished to speak.

24/0457 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Cllr Clarke joined the meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes subject to specifying in 24/043 that it is the village Christmas lights switch on for which a date has been set.

24/058 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT

The Clerk reported that all borough councillors had submitted apologies, but that Cllr

Puddicombe had reported that repairs to bus shelters should take place later in the year as part of investment in the 38 service.

24/059 PLANNING MATTERS

24/2613M – Gaskells Farm, Woodhouse End Road

It was **RESOLVED** to raise no objections.

24/1751M – Trevors Close Farm, Dark Lane

It was **RESOLVED** to support the application.

It was noted that an appeal had been submitted against the refusal of application of 23/3740M, Land at Dark Lane. The Clerk requested members provide any comment on the appeal submission to him and that he would submit a further response objecting to the development.

24/060 GREEN GAWSWORTH STRATEGY OBJECTIVES

The initial actions presented by the working group were supported as follows:

- 1) Convert the council owned street lighting to solar powered
- 2) Provide a soft-plastics recycling point at the Hub
- 3) Solar panels to be installed on the Village Hall
- 4) Utilise the Gawsorth Gazette to signpost measures households can take to be more sustainable
- 5) Purchase an IR camera to enable households to inspect their insulation/heat loss
- 6) Provide water butts on the village hall/scout hall for use at the community garden
- 7) Promote households having water butts, potentially funding X number per year for residents allocated through a draw
- 8) Encourage councillors to go paper-less for meetings
- 9) Work with farmers/landowners to reinstate hedgerows and wildflower areas where appropriate
- 10) Work with Cheshire East Council to plant trees/hedges on suitable highway verges
- 11) Make use of underused land for community recreation and ecology (e.g. Maggoty Lane depot site)
- 12) If opportunity presents itself, acquire land for woodland planting
- 13) Provide recycling bin at the park

It was agreed that a discussion should be held with the Gawsworth Hub on their objectives and to engage with Peter Clampett.

24/061 STREETNAME PLATE REPLACEMENTS

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the purchase of a replacement street name plate for Tidnock Lane at a maximum cost of £100.

24/062 WORKING GROUP REPORTS

It was reported that:

- a) The Park and Woodland working group had reviewed tenders and agreed preferred schemes to take forward to consultation and that these would be shared at the Produce Show in September.
- b) The Footpaths working group was continuing to undertake surveys.
- c) The Communications working group had met, agreed refreshing the Gawsworth Life website was a priority and invited people and organisations to submit content for the Gawsworth Gazette.

24/063 CAR PARK RELINING AND GATE REPLACEMENT

It was **RESOLVED** not to replace the broken gate and that it be removed.

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the relining of the car park at a maximum cost of £800 and that this relocate accessible spaces to near the Scout Hall and Village Hall accessible door.

24/064 PARISH MATTERS

Cllr Richards reported that water was continuing to flow down Lowes Lane and that overgrown hedges on Woodhouse End Road made it difficult for vehicles to pass. Cllr Richards further reported a large pothole near the new hall and that branches along Dark Lane from Gawsworth Road were hitting car screens.

Cllr Woods highlighted the complex booking system for securing a booking to visit the tip, enquired when the new path edging would be installed in Nancy's Wood and suggested a work party in Nancy's Wood. Cllr Woods further suggested enhancing the Gawsworth entrance signs on the A536 by installing planters.

24/065 FINANCE

The council's financial position year to date was noted.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments

Payee	Detail	Amount
NPower	July Street Lighting Costs	31.83
Northwich Town Council	July contract works	1,050.00
A Keppel-Green	August Salary and Reimbursements	844.77
	Total	1,926.60

24/066 STRATEGIC PLAN, PARISH MAINTENANCE AND ACTIONS LOGS

The logs were noted.

24/067 QUESTIONS TO THE CLERK

The Clerk responded to questions confirming the date of the Christmas Lights switch on as Saturday 30th November at 5:30pm and agreeing a regular ranger update in the Gawsorth Gazette was a good idea.

24/068 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present.

24/069 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 10th September.

RECENT PLANNING DECISIONS

SEPTEMBER 2024

Ref	Address	Proposal	P.C. Comment	Decision
22/0065M	High Lane Farm, Congleton Road	Certificate of lawful existing use for parcel of land used and only been used as a garden to the main dwelling. Plus placement of static caravan within garden	The Parish Council objects to this application on the grounds that the council believes the land in question is of agricultural use used as an orchard/grazing land rather than as a garden.	Negative certificate (refused) - failed to demonstrate on the balance of probabilities that the land was used as a garden for a continuous period of 10 years.
23/3994M	Middle Moss Farm, Loves Lane	Erection of replacement dwelling	The Parish Council raises no objections to this application.	Refused - inappropriate development in green belt due to being materially larger than the existing dwelling with no special circumstances outweighing the harm
23/4054C	Shellow Farm, Shellow Lane	To convert and extend an existing barn into two dwelling houses (use Class 3) and associated works.	The Parish Council raises no objections to this application.	Refused - inappropriate development in the green belt and extensions/alterations would remove the buildings of existing rural character and would not be proportionate elements to the original building. Design considered out of character with the area and there has been insufficient information on the impact to onsite/offsite trees and woodland.
23/4783M	Beech Cottage, Church Lane	Proposed single storey rear extension, proposed new front porch and proposed PV arrays	The Parish Council raises no objections to this application.	Approved
24/0702M	Brookside Bungalow, Loves Lane	Demolition of an existing vehicle maintenance building, removal of caravan storage and erection of one self-build dwelling	The Parish Council raises no objections to this application.	Approved
24/0940M	Maggoty Wood Cottage, Maggoty Lane	Proposed timber garage.	The Parish Council raises no objections to this application.	Approved
24/1751M	Trevors Close Farm, Dark Lane	Construction of an agricultural workers dwelling (permission in principle)	The Parish Council supports this application.	Approved

There are currently 10 planning applications which have been commented on by the Parish Council which are yet to be determined.

Detailed Receipts & Payments by Budget Heading 04/09/2024

Cost Centre Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
101 Administration						
1001 Ground Rent	0	2	2			0.0%
1870 Interest Received	1,194	1,600	406			74.6%
1900 Precept	33,134	33,134	0			100.0%
Administration :- Receipts	34,328	34,736	408			98.8%
4031 Subscriptions	523	620	97		97	84.3%
4100 Postages	88	140	52		52	62.6%
4101 Stationery	0	100	100		100	0.0%
4102 Room Hire	0	50	50		50	0.0%
4103 Insurance	684	700	16		16	97.7%
4104 Audit Fee	308	600	292		292	51.3%
4106 Computer Software/Hardware	192	200	8		8	96.0%
4107 Grants & Donations	0	100	100		100	0.0%
4109 Payroll Services	115	189	74		74	61.0%
4115 Print	0	100	100		100	0.0%
4120 Banking Charges	18	72	54		54	25.0%
4999 Miscellaneous Costs/Purchases	0	250	250		250	0.0%
Administration :- Indirect Payments	1,928	3,121	1,193	0	1,193	61.8%
Net Receipts over Payments	32,400	31,615	(785)			
102 Employee Costs						
4000 Salaries	4,037	8,475	4,438		4,438	47.6%
4001 Home Working Allowance	156	312	156		156	50.0%
4005 PAYE/NI	1,055	2,195	1,140		1,140	48.1%
4010 Employee Mileage	267	375	108		108	71.2%
4020 Employee Training	0	390	390		390	0.0%
Employee Costs :- Indirect Payments	5,514	11,747	6,233	0	6,233	46.9%
Net Payments	(5,514)	(11,747)	(6,233)			
103 Members Costs						
4011 Member Mileage	0	50	50		50	0.0%
4021 Member Training	0	150	150		150	0.0%
Members Costs :- Indirect Payments	0	200	200	0	200	0.0%
Net Payments	0	(200)	(200)			
105 Communications						
1025 Donations Received	0	275	275			0.0%

Detailed Receipts & Payments by Budget Heading 04/09/2024

Cost Centre Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
1050 Advertising Income	90	660	570			13.6%
Communications :- Receipts	90	935	845			9.6%
4110 Website Costs	50	150	100		100	33.5%
4116 Gawsworth Gazette	361	900	539		539	40.1%
4117 Gawsworth Directory	0	500	500		500	0.0%
Communications :- Indirect Payments	411	1,550	1,139	0	1,139	26.5%
Net Receipts over Payments	(321)	(615)	(294)			
<u>110 Parks & Woodland</u>						
4180 External Contractors	100	2,500	2,400		2,400	4.0%
4200 Park Maintenance	5,203	10,575	5,372		5,372	49.2%
4205 Woodland Maintenance	800	1,085	285		285	73.7%
4207 Park Improvements	656	0	(656)		(656)	0.0%
4208 Woodland Improvements	339	600	261		261	56.5%
4215 Tree Works	0	500	500		500	0.0%
4999 Miscellaneous Costs/Purchases	159	150	(9)		(9)	106.2%
Parks & Woodland :- Indirect Payments	7,258	15,410	8,152	0	8,152	47.1%
Net Payments	(7,258)	(15,410)	(8,152)			
<u>120 Operational Costs</u>						
1999 Miscellaneous Income	437	0	(437)			0.0%
Operational Costs :- Receipts	437	0	(437)			
4206 Parish Maintenance	1,955	3,535	1,580		1,580	55.3%
4210 Ranger Works	390	3,900	3,510		3,510	10.0%
4250 Parish Improvements	164	2,000	1,836		1,836	8.2%
4255 Reinstatements	1,894	1,682	(213)		(213)	112.6%
4305 Streetlighting	201	420	219		219	47.8%
4310 Christmas Lights	80	1,500	1,420		1,420	5.3%
4999 Miscellaneous Costs/Purchases	0	300	300		300	0.0%
Operational Costs :- Indirect Payments	4,683	13,337	8,653	0	8,653	35.1%
Net Receipts over Payments	(4,246)	(13,337)	(9,091)			
<u>130 Special Projects</u>						
4108 Professional Fees	375	0	(375)		(375)	0.0%
Special Projects :- Indirect Payments	375	0	(375)	0	(375)	
Net Payments	(375)	0	375			

Detailed Receipts & Payments by Budget Heading 04/09/2024

Cost Centre Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
<u>999 VAT Data</u>						
115 VAT Refunds	1,710	0	(1,710)			0.0%
	<u>1,710</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(1,710)</u>			
VAT Data :- Receipts						
515 VAT on Payments	1,793	0	(1,793)		(1,793)	0.0%
	<u>1,793</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(1,793)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(1,793)</u>	
VAT Data :- Indirect Payments						
Net Receipts over Payments	<u>(82)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>82</u>			
Grand Totals:- Receipts	36,565	35,671	(894)			102.5%
Payments	21,961	45,365	23,403	0	23,403	48.4%
Net Receipts over Payments	<u>14,604</u>	<u>(9,694)</u>	<u>(24,298)</u>			
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>14,604</u>					

MAINTENANCE LOG

AUGUST 2024 2024

Penningtons Lane Area

Issue	Location
Overgrown Verge	Moss View Road (on Ranger Job List)
Missing Panels on bus shelter	Penningtons Lane
Missing repeater sign	Penningtons Lane

A536

Issue	Location
Path disappearing or impassable along A536 between two entrances to Church Lane and Church Lane at Harrington Arms	A536/Church Lane
Peeled Sign	A536
Footpath and road edge degraded badly	Church Lane between Harrington Arms and Gandysbrook
Overgrown footpath	A536 Forge Close to Lowes Lane
Road sign fallen into hedgerow	Nr 137 Congleton Road
Sign for HWRC degraded	Opp entrance to HWRC

Warren end of village

Issue	Location	Notes
Uneven surface	Longbutts Lane	
Farfields Close Sign support broken	Fairfields Close	On Ranger Job List
Warren Drive sign supports wonky	Warren Drive	On Ranger Job List
Rotting Stump	Woodhouse Lane	
Poor Road surface	Longbutts Lane	Work to be arranged "as soon as possible"
Road signs to be cleaned	Various	On Ranger Job List
Car park lining faded	Car park	Awaiting final quote

Church end of village

Issue	Location	Notes
Damaged kerbs/verge slippage	Church Lane (opp Church)	Not currently on any programme for repair. Monitored by Highways Officer for deterioration. The highway boundary is the kerb line. Owner written to requesting fence repairs.
Blocked gully	Church Lane. By car park.	
Pavement uneven due to roots	opp. New Hall	A small area has been marked for repair where it has broken up, this is the only part that meets intervention criteria. It will be put forward for works in the future.
Overgrown pavement	Nancy's Wood to Halls	On Ranger Job List
Pothole	Outside New Hall	CEC Highways has "arranged to carry out work as soon as possible"

Elsewhere

Issue	Location	Notes
Numerous Potholes	Cowbrook Lane	
Uneven surface	Church Lane nr Harrington Arms	
Recurring Pothole and Standing Water	Gawsworth Road	
Flowing water	Lowes Lane	Awaiting action.
Flooding on road	Lowes Lane	Further works required.
Standing water	Woodhouse End Road	Awaiting action.
Road sign faded	Tidnock Lane	Replacement sign ordered.

Nancy's Wood / Gawsworth Park

Issue	Location	Notes
Collapsed retaining wall	North of Park	Wall deteriorating. CEC has fenced a section off. Repairs are not in the current (2024/25) financial year programme due to lack of funds.
Missing Stepping Stones	Nancy's Wood	Ranger to obtain stones and install.
Missing path edging	Nancy's Wood	Contractor instructed. Awaiting delivery of the recycled plastic boards.

STRATEGIC PLAN ACTION PLAN: 2024/25

SEPTEMBER 2024

REF	ACTION	LEAD	STATUS	NOTES
2401	Submit proposals for additional buildings on CEC Local List of heritage assets	Council	Complete	Assets identified in the Gawsworth Neighbourhood Plan have been submitted to the CEC Built Heritage Team.
2402	Finalise update of Park Management Plan	Park and Woodland WG	In Progress	
2403	Consult on an improvement scheme for the play area upgrade	Park and Woodland WG	In Progress	A consultation will take place as part of the Produce Show and via social media.
2404	Establishing the Green Gawsworth Strategy working group commence work on the strategy	Green Gawsworth WG	In Progress	Initial list of projects to explore have been agreed.
2405	Developing the business case for acquiring the land at Maggoty Lane for a new open space	Park and Woodland WG		To follow park improvement scheme being finalised.
2406	Hold a meeting with representatives of community organisations to understand what/how they need support	Communications WG		
2407	Develop a directory listing of community groups on the Gawsworth Life website	Communications WG	In Progress	
2408	Identifying areas for councillors to further their understanding on issues that may benefit the parish council	Council		
2409	Submit response to CEC Local Plan issues consultation	Council	Complete	
2410	Conclude the survey of public rights of way	Footpaths WG	In Progress	
2411	Develop PROW improvement plan	Footpaths WG		
2412	Identify desirable permissive path routes	Footpaths WG		
2413	Develop an options paper to inform decisions on an extension to burial provision	Council	In Progress	Final information from PCC was received in early September and the options paper will now be developed.
2414	Develop a communications strategy	Communications WG		
2415	Revamp the Gawsworth Life website	Communications WG	In Progress	Work has started on a refreshed version of the website.
2416	Undertake an accessibility audit of the parish	Council		

OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

SEPTEMBER 2024

Action Ref	Creation Date	Source	Subject	Description	Responsible	Minute Ref	Priority	Status	Activity Log / Notes
2003	10/07/19	Decision	Installation of Interpretation Board	Clerk to liaise with supplier	Clerk / Cllr Woods		Medium	In Progress	Clerk and Cllr Woods to refine proposal.
2011		Discussion	Parish Paths / Walk Leaflet	Development of reworked Parish Paths Booklet	Cllr Woods / Gawsworth Hub		Low	In Progress	
2104	09/03/21	Discussion	Installation of Rail at footpath	Council to consider installation of handrail at the steps down from Benbrook Way on Woodhouse Lane.	Council	20/151	Medium	In Progress	Accessibility audit of paths to be undertaken
2302	11/01/23	Discussion	Protection of Sunken Lanes	Council to discuss protection of sunken lanes	Council	22/128	Low	Not Started	
2306	08/08/23	Decision	20 mph Speed Limits	Council to consult residents	Clerk	23/076	Medium	In progress	To be programmed.
2308	12/02/24	Discussion	Christmas Lights at Penningtons Lane	Council to agree scheme	Clerk / Council	23/157	High	In progress	Awaiting cost from CEC Highways for electricity supply.
2309	12/02/24	Discussion	Tree planting at Nancy's Wood	Clearance and planting day to be coordinated	Clerk	23/157	Medium		To be programmed for Autumn.

2314	09/04/24	Discussion	Community Storage	Groups to be consulted	Clerk	23/189	Low	Pending
2401	14/05/24	Decision	Dog Poo Dispensers	Councillors to advise locations. To be installed with notices	Councillors	24/012	Medium	Pending