



Gawsworth Gazette

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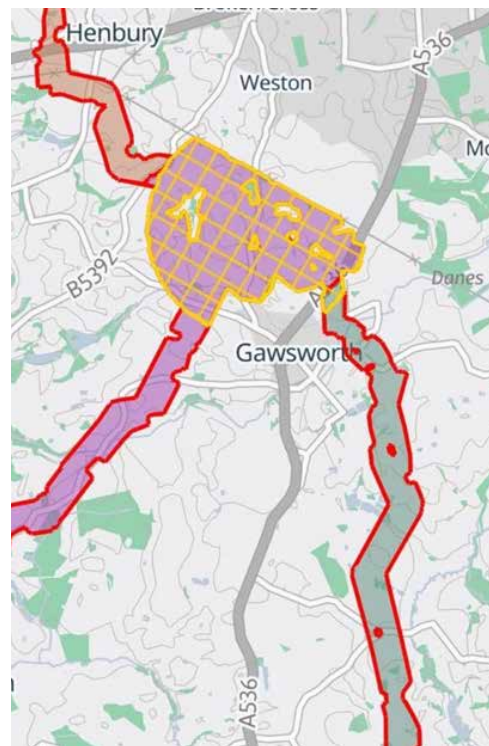
Peak Cluster Consultation

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A consultation on the plan to construct carbon dioxide (CO2) capture pipelines from the Peak District to Morecambe Bay is open until 27th February. Peak Cluster says, "This is an important opportunity for people

across the breadth of the project to help us shape our proposals as they develop".

Gawsworth is set to be impacted more than almost any other parish in Cheshire East as the pipeline is constructed from top to bottom through our countryside and an 'Above Ground Installation' (AGI) of maybe a couple of acres is proposed to be built on our Green Belt land.



Dark Lane Appeal Dismissed

The latest appeal to the national planning inspector against Cheshire East Council's refusal for 'permission in principle' to build up to three dwellings on land off Dark Lane has been dismissed.

The inspector considered whether the proposal would constitute inappropriate development in the Green Belt and a key factor was whether the site could be accepted as 'grey belt' under the new National Planning Policy Framework.

A large number of applications have been made nationwide to build on green belt land using the new 'grey belt' exemption and we

are still learning how this should be interpreted. In this case refusal was linked to the non-sustainability of the site, being some distance from the village amenities such as Gawsworth Hub and bus routes.

The information provided by the Parish Council on the risks and impracticality of pedestrian access from the village appears to have influenced the Inspector.

You can read the Inspector's decision on the Planning Inspectorate's website under reference 3372870. The original application is on Cheshire East's Planning portal reference 25/0771/PIP.



Orchard Pruned

Ten residents now have the knowledge of winter fruit tree pruning thanks to orchard expert Dan Hasler.

Dan ran a workshop in the community orchard for Gawsworth Parish Council on 31st January.

Panto Praise

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Typical comments were: "Congratulations!", "Brilliant", "a great show!", "A wonderful community occasion", "Absolutely bonkers - loved it", "A HUGE well done and thank you", "Good for the soul, great traditional fun, thank you to all the fabulous cast and back up crew." According to Rev Colin and Rachel, who lent Becky Vaudrey the necessary kit, Gawsworth has even gained a new stand-in Rev!



The script, specially written by Charley Oliver and brought to life by producer David Hyde with a cast from 8 to 80+, told the tale / tail of the next book that Lewis Carol might have written after the Alice stories - but as a pantomime with a fairy (or two), a horse, singing, dancing, custard pies and a Cheshire cat (or two).

The story was set in Cheshire with a visit to Gawsworth on the no. 38 bus included. Musical direction was by Joyce Venables who

assembled a merry band of local musicians with some excellent singing and dancing from the cast and audience.

A company of around 40 actors, musicians and support staff had a tremendous time entertaining over 400 people and as a bonus the Hub and Scouts will receive sizable donations. We all just can't wait for the next one in two year's time!

Peak Cluster Consultation [cont]

The AGI site will be chosen in the hatched area on the map roughly bordered by the A536, Dark Lane, Pexhill Road and the power lines in the north. Gawsworth Road bisects the search area for the 2-acre permanent construction.

The exact routes of the pipelines haven't been finalised, and the sketch map provided by Peak Cluster is not easy to read. However, it seems the pipeline from Cauldon in Staffordshire enters Gawsworth at Shellow Lane / Pexall Road, heads north, east of Gawsworth Hall, crosses Woodhouse Lane and Lowes Lane, and meets the A536 just to the south of its junction with Lowes Lane. It then enters the area where the AGI will be built. It's there that it meets the pipeline from the Peak District coming from north of Macclesfield.

The exit pipeline from the 'AGI' heads south-west along the line of Pexhill Road on its way to Morecambe Bay where the CO2 will be pumped to undersea caverns. Looking at the map, it appears that a shorter, more obvious, route for the Cauldon pipeline could take it well south of Gawsworth village to meet the northern pipeline where the 'AGI' could be built outside green belt land.

The Parish Council is seeking an explanation for why that route is not being currently being considered as an option. The pipelines will eventually be buried underground and no building will be permitted above and for a short distance either side. The construction period is likely to be 2029 -2032.

Visit www.peakcluster-consultation.co.uk for details of the plans, an interactive map and how you can feed back your thoughts to the company.



Fencing Fixed

It was good to see that the landowner has repaired the broken pieces of fencing around the Church Pond. Thank You!

Gawsworth Parish Council

Mobile Library

The mobile library will be on Church Lane from 3:45 to 4:10 on 5th and 26th Feb.

It was only 347 days to Christmas but the Parish Council had festivity arrangements on their January agenda.

Residents were disappointed that the much-loved light arch failed for the lighting up ceremony and continued to fail every time it rained. They were only installed just over a year ago but an untraceable fault developed - maybe a hairline crack in the wire; maybe squirrel nibbling; maybe a problem with one of the

wire joints... Extremely frustrating and the council will decide what to do at a future meeting. As the Fairy said in our pantomime "If something can be discussed it will be, probably several times ... and in a subcommittee"!

On a 'brighter' note thanks were offered to local supplier Libby's Patch Farm for sourcing and erecting lovely trees for the Pleasance and Penningtons Lane Green. The Penningtons Lane Tree was nicely decorated and caught the eye of many passing

travellers. The Council heard that the power supply they funded has now been installed so next year that can also be lit. Also discussed was the need for lost trees to be replaced. The Council undertook to replace the trees in the park that had fallen during recent storms. The council also noted a wish to work with landowners, including Cheshire East Council, to replace lost trees on Church Lane as the impact of the avenues is a key reason why the conservation area boundary extends as it does.

Funding sent to wrong parish council

Over £200,000 of community funding was mistakenly sent to the wrong parish council by Cheshire East Council.

In January, Gawsworth Parish Council received a report on mismanagement of a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payment by Cheshire East Council, whereby they mistakenly allocated funds to Gawsworth rather than Sutton Parish Council.

The mistakes only came to light after Gawsworth investigated and, receiving no response to queries for most of 2025, raised the matter with the CEC Chief Financial Officer and notified Sutton PC.

£20,000 of CIL had been received and already been spent on the playground renovation. The Parish Council has returned the unspent funds, but was unanimous that the

CEC proposed resolution was unacceptable and that neither Sutton or Gawsworth should be out of pocket because of their error. Councillors also commented on other instances where over payments of grants by CEC had been identified by us and repaid.

You can read the report attached to the Parish Council agenda for January.

Parish Precept increases £1.04

Gawsworth Parish Council has set its budget for 2026/27, with a 2% increase to the share of council tax levied by the parish council, bringing the annual amount paid by a Band D property to £53.04.

The total council budget from 1st April is £51,672, with a precept (council tax) of £44,777.

Around 40% of the council's budget is the management and maintenance of Gawsworth Park and Nancy's Wood. This

covers the grass cutting, keep trees safe and bin emptying. The budget also includes funds for improvements to both sites as part of the management plans for each.

Just over 20% of the budget funds the Christmas lights, street lighting and odd maintenance around the parish, such as clearing footpaths, the hedges at the village hall and the duties of the ranger tackling jobs that no longer get done by Cheshire East Council, such as fixing road

signs. The budget also includes a small sum for minor projects that improve the parish.

The remainder of the budget covers the corporate and administration costs of the council. This includes audit, insurance, stationery, accounting, the website and the clerk. This also funds the production of the Gawsworth Gazette and provides training to the clerk and councillors.

The full budget is available on the Gawsworth Life website.

New Year, New You Volunteer at Gawsworth Hub

A new year is the perfect time to try something new, and volunteering at Gawsworth Hub could be just the opportunity you're looking for.

Volunteering with us isn't only about giving something back to the community (although that's incredibly important), it's also a wonderful way to make new friends and feel part of a supportive, friendly team. We really are a big Hub family, and we pride ourselves on being welcoming, caring and good fun. There are lots of different roles to suit all interests and abilities. You might prefer working behind the scenes, helping with admin, pricing, stock taking or general

organisation. Or you might enjoy being front of house, serving customers in the café, working behind the counter or helping at the till. There's something for everyone.

Socially, volunteering at the Hub is about much more than just shifts. We love spending time together and organise plenty of social activities throughout the year. These have included fabulous Christmas celebrations, a Christmas meal out, a summer barbecue at the local pub, cinema and theatre trips, monthly walking group outings, and potluck lunches where everyone brings a dish to share at someone's home. We also enjoy

Shop Opening Hours

Monday	08:00 - 13:30
Tuesday	08:00 - 13:30
Wednesday	08:00 - 13:30
Thursday	08:00 - 16:00
Friday	08:00 - 16:00
Saturday	08:00 - 13:00
Sunday	08:00 - 10:30

group outings to garden centres, historic houses and gardens, and many other days out.

If this sounds like something you'd enjoy, we'd love to hear from you.

Please contact Sara on 01625 425 428 or email shop@gawsworthhub.co.uk. Better still, pop into the Hub, have a chat with some of our current volunteers and see what we're all about. Go on - new year, new opportunities!

Valentines and more at Gawsworth Hub

Valentine's Day is just around the corner, and they've got some lovely ideas to help you treat someone special.

This year the Hub offering a charming "Love in a Box" - a beautifully presented selection of little treats, perfect for gifting on Valentine's Day. They also have a great range of Valentine's cards and some smaller chocolate hampers that make thoughtful and affordable gifts.

The Hub is also excited to share that it will soon be welcoming

a brand-new gift range called Casa Verde, which will beautifully complement the much-loved East of India collection. Casa verde features a selection of very pretty plant pots and planters. These will offer a lovely opportunity to buy a plant locally and pair it with a stylish pot, creating a thoughtful and slightly different gift. It's perfect for anyone who loves plants and enjoys something a little special for their home.

Looking ahead, hub managers and volunteers, are planning something special to celebrate 15 years of the Hub as a community asset. There will be plenty going on, and we can't wait to share it with you. Watch this space and keep your eyes peeled in the next edition of the Gawsworth Gazette for more details. It's going to be a fantastic celebration!

Recent Planning Applications

Here are the latest applications in Gawsworth:

25/4889/PRIOR-1A
20 Woodhouse Lane
Prior approval for a single storey rear extension

25/4800/CLPUD
Mill Field, Mill Lane
Certificate of proposed lawful development for the construction of outbuilding

25/4799/PRIOR-1A
Mill Field, Mill Lane
Prior Approval for a Rear infill extension to create open kitchen, living, and dining room

25/4720/HOUS
Railway Cottage Cowbrook Lane
Erection of single storey side extension

You can view plans via the Cheshire East Council website.

