

## 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



### Minutes

*of the Council Meeting held*

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026 in the Gawsworth Village Hall**

#### **25/117 PRESENT**

Cllrs Shepherd (*presiding*), Hardy, Dempsey, Hollinshead, Richards, Webb, and Woods.

A Keppel-Green (Clerk)

#### **25/118 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Clarke and Kinsey.

#### **25/119 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No member declared an interest in any item.

#### **25/120 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were present.

A statement submitted by a resident was read out, requesting the council replant trees within the park which were felled following the recent storm.

#### **25/121 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

#### **25/123 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT**

No Cheshire East Councillors were present.

The Clerk read a report submitted by Cllrs Puddicombe and Wilson which stated the council was working towards setting the budget in late February, highlighted the Peak Cluster pipeline project and upcoming webinars for councillors and residents. It was reported that

the council had unanimously voted to oppose a new town at Adlington and that a letter had been submitted to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government setting out the same; a decision on which new towns will be progressed is expected in spring. The report emphasised that the proposal for the new town was put forward by a developer and not Cheshire East Council.

#### **25/124 PLANNING**

##### 25/4720/HOUS – Railway Cottage, Cowbrook Lane

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

##### 25/4676/HOUS – 41 Woodhouse Lane

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

#### **25/125 CHRISTMAS LIGHTING**

Cllr Webb highlighted the success of the church Christmas tree festival.

The success of the Christmas lights switch on was noted, and thanks were expressed to all those involved.

The issues of the village arch lights were discussed. It was noted they had been tested in advance and were working but that they failed repeatedly through the festive period; advice had been sought from Lightech on options moving forward.

#### **25/126 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY**

A report on Cheshire East Council's misallocation of CIL to the parish council which should have been paid to Sutton Parish Council was noted. It was noted that the clerk has responded to Cheshire East Council's confirmation of the issue that the council had already spent £20,000 on the play area refurbishment and that it would argue this should not be returned and the cost absorbed by Cheshire East Council which will retain a greater share of CIL when making the payment to Sutton PC due to it not having a neighbourhood plan.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the refund of £184,364.12 to Cheshire East Council.

#### **25/127 STAFFING MATTERS**

The Chair reported on completing the Clerk's appraisal and recommended that the council approve progression from SCP 26 to SCP 27 with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendation.

#### **25/128 BUDGET AND PRECEPT**

Cllr Richards arrived during this item.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget as submitted.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the reserve allocations as set out.

It was **RESOLVED** to set a precept of £44,777, a 2% increase for households.

## **25/129      PARISH MATTERS**

The following issues were raised / noted:

- A grit bin should be requested at Woodhouse Road to Warren Close as it was very slippery during the icy weather
- A pothole on Dark Lane, between the car park and South View Road was recurring
- The PCC was concerned that no action has been taken to repair the fencing by the pools
- The recently repaired tarmac at the entrance to the car park appeared to be deteriorating
- The goal posts at the park should be looked at for improvement
- The picnic table at the top of Nancy's Wood required replacement
- There were regular queues at the tip, primarily on weekdays from people avoiding the weekend booking system
- The gate at the upper entrance to the park required repair
- The ownership of fields off Lowes Lane should be identified to investigate replacement of stiles with the landowner

There was a discussion on the Peak Cluster project, with concern expressed about the proposed pipeline and above ground infrastructure proposed north of the village. It was agreed to include it as an item on the next agenda for discussion.

It was noted the Village Hall was now a registered charity, having completed a change to a CIO.

## **25/130      FINANCE**

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

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

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Lally Tree Management*	Tree Surveys	240.00
Shawfield Marking*	Car Park Relining	939.60
B Allen Tree Services*	Post Storm Tree Works	1500.00

CCL Surfacing*	Car Park Surfacing Works	1800.00
M Herring*	Sept/Oct Ranger Contract	1,036.32
Libby's Christmas Trees*	Christmas Trees Supply and Install	444.00
A Keppel-Green	January Salary	553.98
A Keppel-Green	Reimbursement (Mileage and PL Tree Decs)	280.71
Jolt	Website Hosting 2026	180.00
GM Accountancy	Payroll Q3	50.00
Tunncliffe Signs	Park Funder Signs	152.64
HMRC	Q3 PAYE	1,336.37
Northwich TC	November / December Contract Works	420.00
Cheshire East Council	Install of Penningtons Lane feeder pillar	4,280.41
Glasdon	Bin for Pleasance	525.52
R Tandy	Reimburse Christmas Light Switch On Costs	72.95
	<b>Total</b>	<b>13,812.50</b>

The receipts since the previous meeting were noted.

**25/131 STRATEGIC PLAN, PARISH MAINTENANCE AND ACTIONS LOGS**

The logs were noted.

**25/132 QUESTIONS TO THE CLERK**

No questions were raised.

**25/133 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were present.

**25/134 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 10th February 2026 at 7:30pm.

A date for the Annual Parish Meeting was set for 22<sup>nd</sup> April.