

Gawsworth Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Adam Keppel-Green BSc BA FSLCC

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Minutes

of the Council Meeting held

Tuesday 14th April 2026 in the Gawsworth Village Hall

25/166 PRESENT

Cllrs Shepherd (*presiding*), Clarke, Dempsey, Hollinshead, Kinsey, Richards, Webb and Wood

A Keppel-Green (Clerk)

25/167 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Hardy.

25/168 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No member declared an interest in any item.

25/169 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public wished to address the meeting.

25/170 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held 10th March subject to a typographical correction to 25/159.

25/171 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Smetham reported that the council would soon be reverting to a Leader and Cabinet model with a cabinet of up to 10 members, that there had been a 90% increase in bus service satisfaction.

Cllrs Richards and Clarke arrived during this item.

The Clerk read an email from Cllr Puddicombe highlighting that Greene King was reviewing its pub estate and it was likely that the Rising Sun may close, though the Premier Inn will remain open. It was further reported that Cllrs Puddicombe and Wilson share the concern regarding the proposed AGI as part of the Peak Cluster project and that the council's Corporate Policy Committee would be considering the Peak Cluster proposals.

25/172 PLANNING

26/1006/FUL – Libby's Patch, Shellow Lane

It was **RESOLVED** to raise no objections but request a condition that the building remain tied to an agricultural occupancy.

26/1141/HOUS – Fodens Farm, Woodhouse End Road

It was **RESOLVED** to raise no objections but comment that it is nonsensical to have to demolish and rebuild the property and would prefer a solution which sees the original building retained, as had been proposed by the applicant under 23/1250M which the Parish Council supported.

26/0962/HOUS – Mill Field, Mill Lane

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

26/1177/PRIOR-6 – Swindells Farm, Shellow Lane

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

26/1011/CLPUD - Railway Cottage, Cowbrook Lane

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

Appeal against non-determination of 25/3492/PIP

It was **RESOLVED** to reiterate the council's comments to the original application.

25/173 PEAK CLUSTER PIPELINE

It was noted that the output of the freedom of information request to Cheshire East Council had been received but that an internal review had been requested as it indicated the council had had no prior engagement with the Peak Cluster project in spite of statements inferring it had.

It was noted the Gawsorth Residents Group had issued the letter previously submitted to the council to submit and had declined the council's offer of a meeting. It was noted no

response had been received to the letter to the Leader and Deputy Leader of Cheshire East Council and that the ChALC meeting of parishes was arranged for 30th April.

Cllr Woods reported he was working on a paper for Cheshire Wildlife Trust.

25/174 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

It was agreed to get quotes for the replacement of the lighting arch.

It was **RESOLVED** that a rooted tree be preferred for the Penningtons Lane Christmas Tree and that the Clerk obtain costs for the next meeting.

25/175 PARISH MATTERS

It was noted that the quality of repairs to potholes on Woodhouse Lane and Church Lane was poor, though noted that it may have been a lower quality winter repair.

It was noted that trenches had been dug on land at Woodhouse End Road and it was advised that this was water pipes connected with the farming operations; it was reported that a Danes Moss Trust trustee raised concerns with respect to nitrites and the proximity to the SSSI.

It was noted the offer to repair the village sign had not been undertaken by the volunteer and that a company would be instructed.

It was noted that two of the stepping stones at Nancy's Wood had sunken again.

25/176 PEAK AND NORTHERN FOOTPATH SOCIETY

It was **RESOLVED** to join the society at a cost of £30 per year.

25/177 FINANCE

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

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

Payee	Detail	Amount
RBS Software	Annual Finance System Licence	252.00
Gort and March	Q4 and Year End Payroll Services	100.00
L and J Print	Gazette Printing March	50.00
ChALC	Annual Membership	550.40
M Herring	Ranger Jan/Feb	1970.27
Npower	March Streetlighting	27.88
A Keppel-Green	April Salary	568.15
A Keppel-Green	April Reimbursement (mileage x 3)	35.10
Peak and Northern Footpath Society	Annual Membership	30.00

Total	3,583.80

The receipts since the previous meeting were noted.

25/178 STRATEGIC PLAN, PARISH MAINTENANCE AND ACTIONS LOGS

The logs were noted. It was agreed the strategic plan actions should have target dates.

25/179 QUESTIONS TO THE CLERK

The Clerk responded to a question advising that the new bin on the pleasance had been positioned where it is in line with the decision of the council.

25/180 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Clerk summarised the comments on the Facebook stream, which expressed support for retaining the arch Christmas lights and a traditional Christmas tree but noting the excessive time allocated to the discussion.

25/181 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meetings would be held on Wednesday 22nd April at 7:30pm (annual parish meeting) and Tuesday 12th May 2026 at 7:30pm (annual council meeting)