

Gawsworth Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Adam Keppel-Green BSc BA FSLCC

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Minutes

of the council meeting held

Tuesday 11th August 2026 in the Gawsworth Village Hall

26/056 PRESENT

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

A Keppel-Green (Clerk)

26/057 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Clarke and Woods

26/058 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No member declared an interest in any item.

26/059 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public wished to address the council.

26/050 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Cllr Richards joined the meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held 14th July.

26/051 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Smetham highlighted the recent death of Jane Palmer, who represented Gawsworth on Macclesfield Borough Council until 2009. Cllr Smetham reported that Peak Cluster would be referred to the Cabinet for a decision on the council's view and that Marton Lane had had bin collection issues.

Cllr Kinsey joined the meeting.

The Clerk read a report from Cllrs Puddicombe and Wilson which outlined that works at Moss Lane/Congleton Road junction would have created an additional right hand lane for drivers turning into Moss Lane, meaning drivers turning right out of Moss Lane would have had to cross two lanes of traffic. The works were developer funded but following residents raising concerns it was ascertained that highways drawing made in 2014 which actually showed the reverse, an additional right turn lane for vehicles exiting Moss Lane. After the councillors raised it with the interim Chief Executive the work was cancelled and the developer has agreed a contribution to the council in lieu of the works being undertaken and a review of potential improvements will now be undertaken. The report further noted that the first meeting of the Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered changes to the HWRCs booking system where they sent in a statement highlighting concerns regarding traffic congestion and highway safety at the Macclesfield HWRC and the need for urgent mitigation measures and engagement with local ward members and parish councils. The Director of Planning and Environment stated the situation at the Macclesfield site would be kept under review.

26/052 PLANNING

26/2617/VOC – Mill Field, Mill Lane

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

26/2604/HOUS – Mill Field, Mill Lane

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

26/2532/VOC – New Venture Farm, Marton Lane

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

26/2650/PRIOR-3R – New Venture Farm, Marton Lane

It was **RESOLVED** to comment that the council is uncertain as to whether the structure should be regarded as a building for the purposes of permitted development, given the nature of the structure.

26/2677/PRIOR-6 – Trevors Close Farm, Dark Lane

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

26/053 PEAK CLUSTER PIPELINE

It was noted that there was a perception that the council had not objected to the project. The Clerk confirmed the council had resolved its objections and published an article on the Gawsworth Life website “Parish Council Objects to peak Cluster Proposals”. It was agreed to include an article in the next Gawsworth Gazette clarifying this.

It was noted the council had met with officers from Cheshire East Council where the parish council encouraged the borough council to directly consult parishes on the issues they want to see CEC address in its discussions. Following the meeting, the report which covered CEC's comments to the first consultation was circulated and it was noted that it did not cover the section of the route through Gawsorth. This had been queried with them, and the answer was that the matters were covered in other sections. It was agreed to challenge this and query why so much detail was provided on the other sections and note that it should have stated matters explicitly.

26/054 CHESHIRE EAST LOCAL PLAN

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk prepare a response (circulated to members in advance of submission) focused on:

- The timing of consultations avoiding summer/Christmas breaks
- Encouraging public meetings
- Encouraging stronger engagement with town and parish councils
- Promoting active travel measures between Macclesfield and Congleton
- Ensuring parishes with development on the edge of towns have equal priority for affordable housing
- Expressing concern about grey belt definition
- Seeking the protection of peat land, mitigation of impacts on the climate and restoration of the Danes Moss North site
- Council Farms not being promoted for development
- Promoting sustainability measures on new housing
- Highlighting the importance of green belt separating settlements

It was agreed not to take a general view on development within the parish and to look at any proposals on a site-by-site basis should they come forward.

26/055 COMMUNITY SURVEY

The road safety section of the survey was discussed.

It was **RESOLVED** to support 20mph limits around the school, which is advisory, but not support 20mph limits around the rest of the village due to it being excessively urbanising under CEC's current policy.

It was **RESOLVED** to look at the 'crash map' and explore additional signage.

It was **RESOLVED** to:

- a) Explore accessibility of pavements
- b) Review speed limits across the parish

- c) Explore signage at Penningtons Lane advising against using the BOAT section
- d) Explore tackling areas of overgrowth on pavements

26/056 REPLACEMENT BENCHES

It was **RESOLVED** to replace two benches at St James' Green.

26/057 PARISH MATTERS

It was reported that a decision on the extension of the Churchyard was required imminently with a time-limited offer from a resident to part-fund the purchase of the land for an extension.

It was agreed to discuss the wildflower meadow on Woodhouse Lane at the next meeting.

Cllrs Dempsey and Kinsey left the meeting.

26/058 FINANCE

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

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

Payee	Detail	Amount
L and J Print	Gawsworth Gazette Printing	50.00
Northwich TC	July Contract Works	868.80
nPower	June Streetlighting	17.49
Harrod Sport	New Goalposts and Sockets	1,965.50
A Keppel-Green	August Salary	568.12
A Keppel-Green	Mileage and Reimbursement (1)	45.20
AST	Tree Felling – Park	720.00
Country Rustics	Picnic Tables	364.00
	Total	4,599.11

The receipts since the previous meeting were noted.

26/059 PARISH MAINTENANCE AND ACTIONS LOGS

The logs were noted.

26/060 QUESTIONS TO THE CLERK

The Clerk read a comment from a member of the public concerning the erosion of the road edge on Dark Lane.

26/061 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present.

26/062 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meetings would be held on Tuesday 8th September.

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