

Gawsworth Parish Council

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Minutes

of the council meeting held

Tuesday 14th July 2026 in the Gawsworth Village Hall

26/041 PRESENT

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

A Keppel-Green (Clerk)

26/042 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Clarke and Dempsey

26/043 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No member declared an interest in any item.

26/044 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public wished to address the council.

26/045 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held 9th June subject to a correction to 26/035 not to refer the narrowing of the pavement being reported by a wheelchair user and 26/031 to refer to the threat of legal action being relayed by a third party.

26/046 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Smetham reported that she had submitted a notice of motion to the borough council, seeking a debate on Peak Cluster and that was due to be considered on Wednesday. Cllr Smetham highlighted the borough council had established a local service delivery task and finish group which was looking at asset and service devolution. Cllr Smetham further reported that the Conservative group had voted against increases to councillor

remuneration and that the combined authority was looking for an independent member for its audit and governance committee.

Cllr Puddicombe noted that the Rising Sun pub had closed and that he was uncertain on the impact it would have to the hotel; that the household waste recycling centres had been discussed and that there would be no change to arrangements noting that Monday is now the busiest day and that this was being promoted to encourage use on other days.

Cllr Richards arrived.

Cllr Wilson reported she had had emails from Thornton Square residents concerning speeding and that she was seeking a review of speed management strategy.

26/047 PEAK CLUSTER PIPELINE

The clerk reported that potential dates for a meeting with Cheshire East Council officers had been received and circulated to councillors.

The Environmental Sensitivities Paper prepared by Cllr Woods was reviewed; the council thanked Cllr Woods for his work and **RESOLVED** that the Clerk finalise the paper taking into account feedback provided by members and issue it to appropriate bodies, inviting feedback.

26/048 COMMUNITY SURVEY

It was noted that 231 responses were received, corresponding to approximately 17% of the adult population or 31% of households. The data for three sections was reported on: Gawsworth Gazette, Churchyard and Peak Cluster.

With regard to the Gawsworth Gazette, it was agreed to invite the school to provide more content, to encourage contributions on history and nature photography and introduce a 'getting to know you' section. Content from councillors was encouraged and it was agreed to look at featuring information on special services at the churches.

The survey results in relation to the Churchyard were noted. Cllr Richards reported that there was little chance of an extension for a civil churchyard as the Archdeacon was not in favour of it.

The responses in respect of the Peak Cluster section confirmed that most residents were aware of the proposals and that there was strong opposition, along the grounds that had been raised by the council and residents group.

26/049 GAWSWORTH GARDENERS GROUP INSURANCE

It was **RESOLVED** to provide a grant for 2026/27 to fund the public liability insurance and to thank the group for its work. It was noted the council would consider grants in future years.

26/050 PARISH MATTERS

The following matters were raised:

- The planks on the bridge in Nancy's Wood continued to move creating large gaps
- A number of paths required re-edging in Nancy's Wood
- The fence at south-west end of Nancy's Wood had a large gap, allowing access to/from the field
- A fallen branch in Maggoty Wood had a sharp end
- The stream in Nancy's Wood would benefit from clearing the channel under the bridge to help flow
- The greengage in the community orchard had died
- The issues caused by traffic being diverted from the A536 through the village due to emergency tree works was noted

26/051 FINANCE

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

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

Payee	Detail	Amount
nPower	May Streetlighting Costs	24.72
nPower	June Streetlighting Costs	16.39
L and J Print	Gawsworth Gazette Printing	50.00
Gort and March	Q1 Payroll	52.20
A Keppel-Green	July Salary (inc June correction)	567.72
A Keppel-Green	Mileage and Reimbursement (1)	40.54
M Herring	April-June Ranger Contract	2,520.16
Northwich TC	May/June Contract	2,162.60
HMRC	Q1 PAYE	1,374.47
Cheshire Community Action	Annual Membership Subscription	50.00
Total		6,858.80

The receipts since the previous meeting were noted.

26/052 PARISH MAINTENANCE AND ACTIONS LOGS

The logs were noted.

26/053 QUESTIONS TO THE CLERK

No questions were raised.

26/054 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present.

26/055 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meetings would be held on Tuesday 11th August.

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