Gawsworth Parish Council

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Minutes

of the council meeting held

Tuesday 10th November 2026 in Gawsworth Village Hall

26/106 PRESENT

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

A Keppel-Green (Clerk)

26/107 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Clarke and Hollinshead

26/108 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In the interests of openness and transparency, Cllr Kinsey declared that her children were executor's of an estate which included land adjacent to the development site off Longbutts Lane.

26/109 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Eight members of the public spoke in opposition to the proposed development off Longbutts Lane, raising the following matters:

- the lack of need for additional housing in Gawsworth
- questioning how the long the Parish Council has been aware of the proposal
- challenging the suggestion the land is grey belt
- concern hat the development is outside the village infill boundary
- concern about disruption, noise and dust from construction
- concern about the capacity of local infrastructure, including schooling and sewage capacity
- concern over the impact on views and house values
- concern about the impact on wildlife

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- concern over the likely phasing of the development and whether new public open space would be protected
- suggesting the council establish a planning taskforce to challenge development proposals
- concern about the highways and traffic impacts of the development
- concern that it would lead to further erosion of the green belt
- concern that the affordable housing would lead to antisocial behaviour or be used to house migrants

A representative of Gawsworth Hub sought the council's endorsement for the installation of an InPost cabinet on Longbutts Lane, outlining that it would require the relocation of the council's noticeboard and that this would be undertaken at the expense of the Hub.

26/110 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Wilson and Puddicombe.

Cllr Smetham reported that all borough councillors had voted in favour of the motion opposing Peak Cluster.

The Clerk read a report from Cllrs Wilson and Puddicombe, which states they had met with 10 local residents the previous week to listen to their concerns and answer their questions on the process concerning the Penningtons Lane development. It was further reported that the councillors welcomed Peak Cluster's announcement of events they are hosting during the further consultation period starting imminently and that they had booked on the first session of the day at the Gawsworth consultation event.

26/111 LAND OFF LONGBUTTS LANE DEVELOPMENT

It was **RESOLVED** to oppose the principle of development on the fields.

It was agreed that the grounds for opposition be:

- Concern over highway safety and traffic onto the A536
- Challenging the claim the land qualifies as grey belt, on the basis that it checks the urban sprawl of Macclesfield
- That the site is not a sustainable location for development with respect to access to services
- That development is not required in Gawsworth as there is no identified local need
- Concern over utilities provision, noting power supply issues in the village and low pressure at adjacent households
- Concern over flooding of the fields and resultant surface water run off
- Noting the site is within/adjacent to the Jodrell Bank Consultation Zone

26/112 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held 20th October, subject to an amendment to 26/093 to replace the word "confirmed" with "stated" in section "it was confirmed that the PCC would be responsible for maintaining the existing churchyard".

26/113 FINANCE

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

Payee	Detail	Amount
L and J Print	October Gazette Printing	100.00
Knutsford Town Council	Traffic Management Training (SH)	180.00
Berry's	Advance Notice Signs (Remembrance Sunday)	43.20
Duttons	Hire of Road Closure Signs/Cones	204.00
A Keppel-Green	November Salary	586.96
A Keppel-Green	Reimbursements (mileage, laptop)	337.10
A Keppel-Green	December Salary	586.96

The receipts since the previous meeting, and October bank balances were noted.

26/114 PEAK CLUSTER PIPELINE

It was agreed the council should meet in December to agree a response to the second consultation.

The forthcoming public engagement session in Gawsworth Scout Hall was noted, and it was agreed that at least one councillor attend each session, with Cllr Shepherd attending 0945, Cllr Webb at 1215, Cllr Kinsey at 1515 and Cllr Hardy at 1815.

26/115 COMMUNITY IR CAMERA

It was **RESOLVED** to buy an infrared camera and establish a community loan scheme in partnership with the Gawsworth Hub.

26/116 VILLAGE HALL WATER BUTT

It was **RESOLVED** to seek permission from the Scouts to install a large water butt on the Scout Hall.

26/117 QUIET LANES

It was **RESOLVED** that:

a) The council seek the designation of Maggoty Lane, Lowes Lane and the end of Penningtons Lane as quiet lanes

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b) The council seek the endorsement of the designation from Cllr Smetham
c) The clerk write to the Head of Highways asking for the process to seek designation and outlining the parish council's willingness to facilitate the process locally including to undertake a preliminary survey to gauge support

26/118 STAFF TRAINING

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the clerk's attendance at the SLCC Practitioners' Conference 2027.

26/119 PARISH MATTERS

The proposal from Gawsworth Hub to install an InPost locker on Longbutts Lane was discussed, no objection was raised to the proposal and the council endorsed the principle of its installation.

A request from Action Against Carbon Capture and Storage to site a gazebo in the car park on the date of the Peak Cluster consultation event was discussed. It was agreed that it be permitted, subject to location.

It was suggested that the Parish Council offer to lead on the coordination of Remembrance Sunday, it was agreed to discuss this at the January meeting.

It was suggested that the comments on the meeting streams on Facebook should be relayed to the meeting live; the Clerk advised this was not appropriate, noting that there are two periods for public participation and that the council would not permit live comments from residents in attendance in person. It was noted that the comments are relayed to the meeting in the second public participation session as appropriate.

It was noted that the streetlight on Hillcrest Road required repair and that the war memorial base was suffering rot.

The Chair thanked Cllr Hollinshead and the Clerk for coordinating the Remembrance Sunday road closure.

26/120 STRATEGIC PLAN, PARISH MAINTENANCE AND ACTIONS LOGS

The logs were noted.

26/121 QUESTIONS TO THE CLERK

The Clerk confirmed that arrangements for the Christmas lights were being progressed. It was suggested that a small event should be held at Penningtons Lane.

26/122 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident suggested the council's approach to the Longbutts Lane development proposal should solely be focused on resistance and not to suggest any amendments to ameliorate concerns.

The Clerk relayed comments from Cllr Clarke in support of a small event at Penningtons Lane.

26/123 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the council meet on 24th November.

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