

MINUTES OF THE LOSTOCK GRALAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 2026 AT THE CHURCH HALL

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors; M Venables (Chair), M Litton, T Smith, P Cobley, K Hodgkinson, A Ross, T Hodges, I Parkinson^{7.05pm}, P Walker and L Cashmore.

IN ATTENDANCE: L Sandison, Clerk & RFO

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

PCSO Hambleton sent his apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr P Walker declared an interest in the Community Centre Association as a member; he also declared an interest in the St Johns Church PCC as a member.

Cllr T Hodges declared an interest in the Community Centre Association as a member.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

N/A

4. MINUTES

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Minutes of the Extraordinary and Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 5th January 2026, and the MP meeting held on Monday 19th January 2026, having been copied to members was taken as read and confirmed as being a correct record.

5. PROGRESS REPORT

- a. Northstone parish council consultation response submitted.
- b. The Village noticeboard has now been installed.
- c. A Board advertisement on Stubbs Lane reported to CWAC - Report it Ref SC786740187.

6. POLICE

- a. Report from PCSO Hambleton read out: See appendix.
- b. Cllr Venables provided a verbal update on the current position regarding the PCSO. It was noted that the situation is still subject to confirmation.

Noted: Clerk to enquire where the vapes were reported stolen from.

7. MARK STOCKS

To note that Cllr Stocks has offered an additional Member's Budget grant of £221 towards the parish planters and planting for the Talking Bench project. The Clerk has submitted an application for consideration in the current financial year. Many thanks to Cllr Stocks

8. PLAY AREA

- a) Play area inspection report received and circulated to councillors prior to meeting. Noted Cllr Venables has ordered lock tight to stop bolts being removed from the metal fence.

- b) Two pedestrian gates have been repaired although one was the incorrect gate, waiting for the gate nearest to the teen shelter to be repaired.
- c) Cllr Venables has replaced the zipwire seat and chain, greasing of swings and cone climber are required. *Noted* that the roundabout bearing is not operating correctly and starting to wear.
- d) No bin or litter pick concerns raised.

9. PLANNING

N/A

10. NORTHSTONE HOUSING PROPOSAL

- Cllr Smith thanked the Clerk for the Parish Council consultation response, which accurately reflected the matters raised at the Parish Council public meeting.
- It was suggested that the Clerk display a copy of the consultation response on the Parish Council noticeboard.
- The Parish Council considered public complaints received during the period when surveying was being carried out on the field and agreed to send a formal letter to the developer's consultant detailing the complaints received, copying in CWAC Cllr Stocks.

11. CHAIRMAN & COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

a. Members matters for consideration

1. The Parish Council considered possible locations for a donated noticeboard and agreed that Townshend Road Park and the retail area on Cheshire Business Park should be explored as potential sites.

b. Members updates- *To receive updates from working groups, meetings attended etc.*

1. Verbal update received regarding the work of Friends of Lostock station. Noted that the group are looking to open their own bank account.
2. -Cllr T Smith provided an update on the Talking Bench project and advised that the benches have now been assembled and will be installed in the park in due course. It was agreed that three brass plaques will be ordered at a cost of £40 each, to be funded from the Community Centre Talking Bench project fund.

-The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to order a sponsor thank you banner priced at £42.66 +vat.

c. Members' Reports- *to receive minor matters of interest not included on the agenda.*

Noted: Cllr I Parkinson- life ring missing at water behind Salary Row. Area managed by Greenbelt.

Noted: Cllr P Cobley – the newsagent has now been sold, one to keep an eye on.

Noted: Cllr P Cobley raised concerns about increasing amount of metal racking being stored at a site on Moss Lane.

Noted: Cllr L Cashmore advised Members of comments seen regarding the soil imports at the land off Cookes Lane.

Noted: Cllr T Hodges advised that holding a family fun day at the Community Centre is proving more expensive than in previous years and suggested that a car boot sale could be included. The Parish Council would be happy to support the event.

Noted: Cllr T Smith advised that a parishioner had approached him regarding the ongoing smell of cannabis from a neighbouring property. The Parish Council agreed to contact the relevant authorities to assist in finding a resolution.

Noted: Cllr P Walker reminded the Parish Council that the Community Centre lease expires on 1 January 2028. The Parish Council will arrange a meeting with the Community Centre Committee in due course.

Noted: Cllr K Hogekinson advised that there is a pothole outside 43 School Lane. She also advised of a van regularly parking on the School Lane junction.

Noted: Cllr A Ross advised that the dog waste bin near to the substation needs a new lid.

Noted: Cllr M Litton emptied a bin on the Manchester Road retail site.

12. CLERKS REPORT

- a. LLC Meeting rescheduled for Wednesday 25th February - transition meeting | Northwich Biogas Development (former Ørsted site) | 18:00.
- b. Northwich Town Council has advised that the planter service level agreement price for 2026/27 will remain unchanged at £390.00 + VAT. The PC **RESOLVED** to continue with the contract.
- c. ZOLL has received field reports on the Powerheart G5 (defib) where after normally scheduled self-tests the AEDs have displayed Error Code (EC) 501 and cannot deliver lifesaving therapy. This failure mode is likely due to exposure to humidity outside the device's published specification. The field notification is intended to alert users of this specific error code, the importance of storing their device within stated environmental ranges, and to continue to visually inspect their device readiness on a periodic basis.
- d. The Government has announced its growth strategy for the North, which includes its plans for investment in Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR). NPR will seek to create a turn up and go railway, improving connections between the key cities along the Northern Growth Corridor: Liverpool, Manchester, Bradford, Leeds, Sheffield and York, with connectivity benefits across the rest of the North. Full information about this announcement can be found at: [Northern Growth Strategy: Case for change - GOV.UK](#)

13. FINANCE

- a. Bank Reconciliation and Budget Vs Actual received.
- b. The PC **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments which are due.

Payee	Payment Type	Amount
Lyndsey Sandison	TRF	£1,286.08
Nest	DD	£72.48
Lostock Association Church Hall	TRF	£336.00
Ash Waste Ltd	TRF	£155.18
Lloyds Bank	DD	£11.64
MS Groundworks	TRF	£950.00
Npower Commercial Gas Limited	TRF	£25.11
Freeola	DD	£13.46
Income		
LMF (Jan)	TRF	£130.00

14. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Slow & Easy Christmas debrief meeting
- Leaflet box on noticeboard

16. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

- Ordinary Parish Council meeting to be held on Monday 2nd March 2026 at 7.00 pm, in the Church Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm

L. Sandison

Appendix 1

Monthly Update for January 2026 for the Shakerley Ward

Anti-Social Behaviour

Lostock Gralam

- Report of 2 youths on mopeds driving erratically along Cheshire Avenue and 2 youths throwing bins around, prior to patrols attending the youths had left the area.
- Damage to the crops and field on Manchester Road, opposite Costa. Enquiries established it was surveying work being carried out, without the permission of the landowner.

Burglary

Lostock Gralam

- No reports received.

Theft

Lostock Gralam

- Reported 2 males have stolen £400 worth of vapes. Waiting for the CCTV footage to be supplied.
- Report of a laptop charger from the Weavers Whistle, could have been taken over a number of days.

Road Safety

Lostock Gralam

- No monitoring or enforcement carried out.
- Concerns raised about the speed of vehicles travelling on Stubbs Lane, data recorders have been deployed, starting 15/1/26 and 21/1/26 with an average of 900 vehicle per day and the average speed being 20.3mph.

Parking/highway Obstructions

Lostock Gralam

- No reports received.

Weekly PCSO surgeries

Wednesday 4th March, between 10am – 11am.

Costa Coffee, Lostock Gralam, CW9 7UA.

Everyone is welcome to come along to say hello and discuss any local issues or concerns.

I am aware that not everyone will be able to attend these surgeries, if you wish to raise any concerns please complete the Residents Voice Survey on the Cheshire Police Website, search for Residents Voice Northwich, and when completing the survey, the Policing area is Shakerley.

**PCSO Phil Hambleton
Shakerley Police Beat Team**