

MINUTES OF THE LOSTOCK GRALAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 2ND JUNE 2025 AT THE CHURCH HALL

The meeting commenced at 7.01 pm.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors; M Venables (Chair), M Litton, T Smith, P Cobley, K Hodgkinson, T Hodges, I Parkinson, A Ross and P Walker.

IN ATTENDANCE: L Sandison, Clerk & RFO

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The PC **RESOLVED** to accept apologies and reasons for absence from Cllr L Cashmore and CWAC Cllr M Stocks. PCSO Hambleton also sent his apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr P Walker, Cllr K Hodgkinson and Cllr T Hodges declared a personal interest in Lostock Gralam Community Centre as members of the Community Centre Association Committee.

Cllr P Walker declared an interest in the St Johns Parochial Church Council.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

-No public present.

-The Clerk gave out Cllr ID lanyards.

4. MINUTES

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Minutes of the General Meeting held on Monday 12th May 2025, having been copied to members was taken as read and confirmed as being a correct record.

5. PROGRESS REPORT

- a. Highway S.106 Townshend Road project update received. Project still appears stalled and awaiting further costing information.
- b. Boundary signs on order with no installation date yet.
- c. Barratts have advised that they will look to install a drop kerb on the Packhorse/Stubbs Lane footpath.
- d. Overflowing litter bins continue to be a concern near the Manchester Road Business Park. One business has provided a Euro bin to help increase litter bin capacity; however, its usage and effectiveness are currently unclear. It has been observed that fast food packaging and bulky waste items are frequently disposed of in the public bins, indicating that the issue may extend beyond business park users and involve the wider public. It was also noted that a Manchester Road convenience store appears to be lacking in bin capacity. It was agreed that the Clerk and Cllr M. Venables will visit businesses operating in the area to discuss the matter further.
- e. Social media thank you to Jack Richards and Sons posted on 20.5.2025.
- f. The Clerk has submitted a village noticeboard lotto grant application for £1499.
- g. Planning response sent to MOP re-shed concerns; Cllr M Stocks has also raised an enforcement complaint. MOP was glad they attended the PC meeting and sent their thanks.
- h. The Slow & Easy has confirmed that they are happy to work with the PC on a joint community Christmas celebration for 2025.

- i. The Clerk and Chairman have spoken to PCSO Hambleton with regards to vehicles parking on the Fryer Road junction with Manchester Road. *Noted* Cllr T. Smith suggested that the Fryer Road junction with Manchester Road needs double yellow lines.

6. POLICE

- a. PCSO Hambleton sent a report – see appendix 1 for report.

Cllr T. Smith queried whether 20mph zones are legally enforceable and whether the PCSO can carry out speed monitoring on Townshend Road. Cllr M Venables will put the question to the PCSO at his next PCSO drop-in surgery.

7. MARK STOCKS

No report from Cllr Stocks.

The PC would like support from Cllr Stocks to progress the Townshend Road Highways S.106 project.

8. PLAY AREA

- a) The zip wire inspection will be carried out in July at the same time as the operational play inspection.
- b) Tree inspection booked for Tuesday 17th June.
- c) Cllr M. Venables gave an update with regards to maintenance jobs carried out in the past month.
- d) No concerns/issues regarding the park bin emptying/litter picking were raised, however Cllr M. Venables advised that three visits per week will be required in the six-week school summer holidays.

9. PLANNING

PC PLANNING COMMITTEE / EMAIL CONSULTATION DECISIONS IN THE MONTH	
PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE PC	
APPEALS	
APP/A0665/W/25/3359 308	Land At Winnington Avenue Solar Farm
25/00039/REF	The appeal will be determined on the basis of a hearing. On: 1 July 2025. It was agreed that, if the opportunity to speak at the hearing is available, the Parish Council will present the same case as was submitted at the planning committee hearing.

14. CHAIRMAN & COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

a. Members matters for consideration

None.

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

1. Friends of Lostock Station, verbal update received. It was noted that the volunteers have contributed over 300 hours of work, and the station is now looking significantly improved.

Cllr T Smith provided a verbal update on the activities of the Finance Working Group. Councillors were encouraged to approach local businesses who they know to seek support for the Parish Council's community projects. As a gesture of appreciation, the Working Group plans to install a "thank you" banner on the play area fence to acknowledge businesses that have contributed.

Additionally, Cllr Smith reported that the group is exploring the feasibility and potential revenue from allowing advertising on the play area fence. It was also clarified that a raffle is being considered as a fundraising initiative for the Parish Council.

Cllr T Hodges informed the group that he is investigating the possibility of applying for funding to install three "friendly benches" as part of a community centre application. The exact locations for the benches are yet to be determined and will require approval from the Parish Council.

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

1. The grass on the Hall Lane traffic lights looks a mess.
2. Are the planters due to be replanted.
3. There were trees planted on the Costa Coffee site which are now dead.
4. Can the library van stay for longer visits as it's a rush when visiting the van.
5. Can the Tesco/McDonalds junction on Manchester Road be improved.

15. **CLERKS REPORT**

- a. The Clerk attended an LSEP LLC meeting on Wednesday 14th May, verbal overview given.
- b. The Clerk and Chairman attended a CWAC Northwich South Connections meeting on Wednesday 14th May. Verbal overview given.
- c. The Clerk and Chairman attended a CWAC Planning meeting on 22nd May. Verbal overview given.
- d. Communication received from MOP re Christmas 2025 plans. Clerk to send PC Christmas 2025 plan response.
- e. The Clerk will be focusing on grant opportunities through June.

16. **FINANCE**

- a. The external audit has been submitted to PKF.
- b. The PC **RESOLVED** to accept the following payments which are due and note any income received:

Payment	Payee	Amount
TRF	Lyndsey Sandison	£1,202.25
DD	Nest	£68.65
TRF	Ash Waste Ltd	£175.20
DD	Lloyds	£4.25
TRF	WAP Lawton & Sons Ltd	£696.00
TRF	MCRUA	£25.00
TRF	Lostock Gralam Parochial Church	£1600.00
TRF	Mid Cheshire Footpath Society	£8.00
	Income	

17. **COUNCILLORS' REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

18. **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting to be held on Monday 7th July 2025 at 7.00 pm in the Church Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.41 pm

L. Sandison

Appendix

Police updates for Lostock Gralam- May 25

Updates

Anti-Social Behaviour

- No reports received.

Burglary

- No reports received.

Theft

- No reports received.

Road Safety

- Speed Enforcement session carried out on Manchester Road, 5 offences were captured and reported.
- Report received of a vehicle being razzed around Cheshire Avenue and doing doughnuts around the roundabout, Vehicle details provided. Vehicle was stopped shortly after the report, the driver was issued with a Section 59 warning for Driving in an Anti-Social manner and provided a negative breath test, but did provide a reading of 32, legal limit is 35. The Section 59 warning covers the driver and the vehicle and if reported again the vehicle could be seized.

Parking/highway Obstructions

- Parking complaint received for vehicles parking on the pavements of Pack Horse Close. Numerous patrols conducted and advisory notices issued to vehicles causing obstructions.
- Parking complaints received regarding parking around the junction of Fryer Road and Manchester Road. Numerous patrols taken place including parking up at the location, and monitoring. Whilst there no issues or obstructions observed. It was raised that the parking was affecting the Buses entering and exiting Fryer Road, particularly at night. A number of bus drivers spoken to and have stated it can be difficult at this junction on occasions, but the vehicles are there for a short period of time, so they just wait and isn't of particular concern to them. Regarding being an issue at night there are no buses running after 7pm. Whilst at the location observed a small number vehicles which were parked on the pavement in Fryer Road, leaving as some of the businesses finished for the day, would suggest workers are parking in Fryer Road to leave spaces
- on the car park for visitors to the businesses.

Weekly Police Surgeries

Friday 6th June, between 10am – 11am.

Princess Road, Allostock. A police vehicle will be parked near to the play area.

Wednesday 11th June, between 6pm – 7pm.

Costa Coffee, Lostock Gralam.

Thursday 16th June, between 1pm – 2pm.

Hulme Lane, Lower Peover. A Police vehicle to be parked near to the shop.

Thursday 26th June, between 5pm - 6pm.

Lostock Green Church, Birches Lane, the surgery will be as part of the community Hub.

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.