

MINUTES OF THE LOSTOCK GRALAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 5th JANUARY 2026 AT THE CHURCH HALL

The meeting commenced at 7.08 pm.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors; M Venables (Chair), M Litton, T Smith, P Cobley, K Hodgkinson, A Ross, I Parkinson ^{left at 8.00pm}, P Walker and L Cashmore.

IN ATTENDANCE: L Sandison, Clerk & RFO

ALSO

IN ATTENDANCE: PCSO Hambleton

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The PC **RESOLVED** to accept apologies from Cllr T Hodges and Cllr M Stocks.

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.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

N/A

4. MINUTES

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 1st December 2025, having been copied to members was taken as read and confirmed as being a correct record.

5. PROGRESS REPORT

- a. Boundary signs have now been installed. A complaint was received and considered. The Parish Council discussed the matter and was satisfied that Cheshire West and Chester Council Highways determined the location of the signs in accordance with their policy, and that the Parish Council followed the correct process throughout.
- b. The Clerk has chased the Highway S106 project again.
- c. Flood near the Griffiths Road junction reported and resolved.

6. POLICE

- a. PCSO Hambleton read out a report: See appendix.
- b. To note, communication received that PCSO redundancies will go ahead. The PC did send a letter to the Police Constable with regards to the valuable work of PCSO Hambleton.

7. MARK STOCKS

Cllrs Stocks was not in attendance but sent a report which was shared with councillors.

8. PLAY AREA

- a. 1. The PC **RESOLVED** to accept a play area repair quote to strip down and supply new hydraulic mechanisms to two pedestrian entrance gates, quote agreed at £1172 + Vat.

2. The PC will look to arrange a work party to cut back the overgrown shrubbery to coincide with when there will be skip on the park.
- b. No maintenance jobs to report over December.
- c. No concerns raised regarding litter picking and bin emptying at the play area.

9. PLANNING

PC PLANNING COMMITTEE / EMAIL CONSULTATION DECISIONS IN THE MONTH	
PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE PC	
APPEALS	

10. HOUSING PROPOSAL

The Parish Council resolved to submit a housing consultation response that reflects both the representations received from the public and the concerns raised by the Parish Council.

11. PRECEPT 2026/27

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to request a precept of £34,932, which would result in a band D charge of £44.51 which is a 6% increase on last years band D charge of £41.99. This increase equates to an annual band D increase of £2.52.

12. NEW POLICIES

The PC **RESOLVED** to accept the following new policies, I.T Policy, Equality and Diversity, Internal Controls and Accessibility.

13. CHAIRMAN & COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

a. Members matters for consideration

None

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

1. Verbal update received regarding the work of Friends of Lostock station.
2. Cllr T Smith clarified that, in his view, the Finance Working Group has now achieved the objectives it was established to deliver and should therefore be concluded. It was noted, however, that all funds currently held will remain ring-fenced and used for community projects as originally intended.

The Clerk informed the Council of an error on a quote agreed at the December meeting which would result in the Talking Bench project being more expensive than expected. The Council therefore considered new quotes and **RESOLVED** to proceed with an alternative groundwork's quotation of £800 + VAT. It was noted that the Council would also need to hire a skip. A meeting with the contractor was agreed to be arranged prior to the commencement of works to finalise installation plans.

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

- Thank you banner to sponsors outstanding.
- Community Litter pick – Cllr Venables to circulate possible dates.
- The dog bin on Stubbs Lane cut-through was noted as deteriorated.

Cllr I Parkinson left the meeting at 8.00pm

14. CLERKS REPORT

- a. Cllr P Walker will endeavour to attend the Local Liaison Committee - transition meeting | Northwich Biogas Development (former Ørsted site) | 28/01/26 18:00.
- b. PC agreed to form a work party to tidy up Townshend Road junction with Hall Lane.
- c. Activity at a site on Moss Lane sent to the Planning Enforcement Officer.
- d. There will be a Cheshire West Connections Event: Contaminated Land Strategy Consultation - Tuesday 13 January 2026 6pm to 7pm? (Online meeting).
- e. PC considered Agenda topics for upcoming meeting with MP Esther McVey.
- f. Complaint received with regards to dog fouling along School Lane.
- g. A complaint has been received from a member of the public regarding difficulties crossing Stubbs Lane safely, particularly during school run times. PCSO to arrange traffic monitoring black cables.
- h. PC considered mop complaint regarding various matters, PCSO Hambleton will monitor parking along Cheshire Avenue.

15. FINANCE

- a. PC **RESOLVED** to accept Bank Reconciliation (verified by Cllr Cashmore) and the Q3 Budget Vs Actual.
- b. The PC **RESOLVED** to award The Friends of Lostock Station a £300.00 grant towards station improvements. *Noted* Cllr members of the FOG abstained from voting.
- c. The PC **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments which are due.

Payee	Payment Type	Amount
Lyndsey Sandison	TRF	£1,218.58
Nest	DD	£72.48
HMRC	TRF	£556.47
Ash Waste Ltd	TRF	£146.04
Lloyds Bank	DD	£4.25
Mark Venablesl	TRF	£38.95
Fenland Leisure Products Ltd	TRF	£113.40
Tim Smith	TRF	£22.96
Income		
LMF	TRF	£130.00

16. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Lostock Green Noticeboard
- Cllr Cashmore unable to attend MP meeting.

16. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

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

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm

L. Sandison

Appendix 1

Anti-Social Behaviour

- Report of motorbikes razzing around the field off Manchester Road, 2 motorbikes seized.

Burglary

- No reports received.

Theft

- Reported theft of Number plates from a vehicle on Langford Road.

Road Safety

- Vehicle stop check on Cheshire Avenue driver provided a positive drugs wipe test.

Parking/highway Obstructions

- No reports received.

Weekly PCSO surgeries

Monday 26th January, between 6pm – 7pm.
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