

MINUTES OF THE LOSTOCK GRALAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 7th JULY 2025 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 and P Walker.

IN ATTENDANCE: L Sandison, Clerk & RFO

ALSO

IN ATTENDANCE: 2 Members of the public (MOP), CWAC Cllr M Stocks and PCSO P Hambleton.

The Chair added two items to the agenda;

1. Consider awarding the Finance WG £60.00 for raffle license and ticket printing.
2. To add Northwich Town Councils invoice to the payments to be made.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The PC **RESOLVED** to accept apologies from Cllr L Cashmore and Cllr T Hodges, Cllr I Parkinson had sent her apologies which was missed at the time of the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr P Walker and Cllr K Hodgkinson 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

A member of the public raised a complaint regarding changes to the local bus service. They noted that the first pick-up time has been moved from 9:30 am—previously aligned with the time free bus passes could be used—to 8:56 am, meaning a £3 fare is now payable even for those eligible for free travel. Additionally, they highlighted that two buses arrive within five minutes of each other from 11:00 am onwards, which they felt was inefficient and made no sense.

4. MINUTES

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 2nd June 2025, having been copied to members was taken as read and confirmed as being a correct record.

5. PROGRESS REPORT

- a. No boundary sign update received. CWAC Cllr Stocks to chase up.
- b. The grass at the Hall Lane lights and the ex-wildflower meadow at Stubbs Lane has now been cut.
- c. The Clerk has submitted a request to Costa Coffee with regards to replacing the dead trees which has been passed y

6. POLICE

- a. PCSO Hambleton read out a report – see appendix 1 for report.
- b. Cllr P Walker queried about parking on double yellow lines outside the primary school.

7. **MARK STOCKS**

- a. Update given regarding MOP planning issue raised at the Annual Parish Assembly.
- b. There is a transport assessment being carried out.
- c. Lostock Gralam may be considered for more housing. PC advised they could ask head of planning along to discuss.
- d. Outcome still awaited from the planning inspector regarding the WS appeal.
- e. Outcome still awaited regarding the Winnington Solar farm appeal.
- f. CWAC has extra funding for highways, some of it will be performance led.
- g. New highways maintenance report will be available to parish councils, Cllr Stocks will forward it on once he receives it.
- h. Devolution- there will be a vote on 9th September, could possibly be a delay which is not yet confirmed.
- i. Cameras have appeared near the Cheshire Business Park entrance, it is not known who has requested them.

8. **PLAY AREA**

- a. Play area and zipwire inspection report awaited.
- b. Tree inspection reported emailed to councillors on 2nd July. Noted that a tree is required to be felled in the Community Centre carpark, the Clerk has notified the Community Centre of the findings.
- c. Cllr M Venables gave an update with regards to maintenance jobs carried out at the park.
- d. No bin emptying or litter picking concerns raised. Noted the bins will need emptying three times per week over the summer holidays.

9. **PLANNING**

PC PLANNING COMMITTEE / EMAIL CONSULTATION DECISIONS IN THE MONTH	
25/01518/FUL	63 Harris Road, Lostock Gralam First floor and single storey front extensions, single storey rear extension No objection
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.

10. **CHAIRMAN & COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

a. **Members matters for consideration**

1. Members discussed the planter contract and agreed that they are happy for now.
2. Members discussed the weeds growing along the roadside and agreed to wait for the new form which Cllr Stocks mentioned.

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

1. Friends of Lostock Station, verbal update received.

2. Cllr T Smith provided an update on the Finance Working Group and proposed that the group run a raffle, which would require a £40.00 licence fee and £20.00 for ticket printing. The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to award the Working Group £60.00 to cover these costs.

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

1. The mobile library has been renewed for another six months but again for just 20 minutes.
2. Grass around the play area fence needs strimming.
3. Manhole at Atchinson Road required resetting.

11. **MP MEETING**

- a. Agenda items for meeting with MP Esther McVey will include, devolution, local plan, how do we make the council more responsive and HS2.

12. **INSURANCE**

- a. The PC **RESOLVED** to accept the lowest quote at £1,166.51, on a three-year fixed rate long term deal so long as the excess is not higher than the current provider.

13. **CLERKS REPORT**

- a. The PC considered that the Clerk had been sent minutes from the Community Centre Committee, which included an issue of footballs hitting the community centre. The PC agreed that no action will be taken from receiving the minutes.
- b. The PC agreed to apply for a £500.00 Christmas Members Budget Grant from Cllr M Stocks.
- c. The Clerk applied for £750.00 of funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to provide 25 fully funded places for children's military fitness classes, to be held once a week during the summer period. The PC was unsuccessful with the application.
- d. Remote attendance and proxy voting in local authorities: Consultation and government response.
[Read the official government response](#)
- e. Ash Waste have again agreed to fix the weekly church bin collection rate.
- f. The PC considered requesting a traffic survey on Townshend Road but instead agreed to ask for a traffic survey on Station
- g. Chester West and Chester have released an **Issues and Options paper** for their new Local Plan. This document is available through the agenda for their next meeting and proposed three draft spatial strategy options for new housing and employment development across the area. The reports are available here:
[Report](#)
[Appendix 1, site maps](#)

14. **FINANCE**

- a. No update regarding the external audit outcome.
- b. The PC **RESOLVED** to accept the Q1 budget vs actual and to approve the Q1 bank reconciliation.
- c. The PC **RESOLVED** to add Cllr K Hodgkinson to the Lloyds bank mandate to enable payment authorisation.
- d. The PC **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments which are due and note income received:

Payment	Payee	Amount
TRF	Soft Surfaces Limited	PAID 9/6/25 £100.20
TRF	Fenland Leisure Ltd	PAID 17/6/25 £101.28
TRF	Lyndsey Sandison	£1,200.58
DD	Nest	£68.65
TRF	HMRC	£506.10
TRF	Ash Waste Ltd	£157.56
DD	Lloyds Bank	£4.25
TRF	Mark Venables	£4.40
TRF	Indigo Ltd	£432.00
TRF	Mark Venables	£19.25
TRF	Northwich Town Council	£234.00
	Income	
TRF	Lostock Military Fitness	£102.00
TRF	Eastfield Pharmacy	£100.00

15. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- How do we get a doctors surgery – MP question.
- Football advertising.

16. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Meeting with MP E. McVey to be held on Monday 1st September 2025 at 7.00 pm in the Church Hall.

The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting to be held on Monday 1st September 2025 at 7.45. pm in the Church Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

L. Sandison

Appendix

Monthly Update for June 2025 for the Shakerley Ward

Anti-Social Behaviour

Lostock Gralam

- Numerous reports of vehicles being driven in an Anti-Social manner around Cheshire Avenue. The details of a couple of vehicles involved were provide and the owners have been issued with a Section 59 Warning for using a vehicle in an Anti-Social Manner. Another vehicle was stopped on the car park, and following checks of the occupants, the passenger was found in possession of a large cannister of Nitrous Oxide without a legitimate reason. The Offender was dealt with for possession of a class C drug.
- Report of a vehicle having the tyres slashed whilst parked on the driveway. No CCTV or witnesses to assist with an investigation.
- Report of a bin on fire under the Bridge on Octel. (Shurlach Road).
- Report of a drunk male in the road Cheshire Avenue/Manchester Road. Patrols attended and found the male, who was in possession of stolen items from the Coop. The theft was dealt with by means of a Community Resolution and the male was issued a banning notice by the store.

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Burglary

Lostock Gralam

- One reported, a residential property under renovation has been entered and metal items removed, including a water tank, copper piping and a washing machine. Details of a vehicle involved have been provide. An investigation is ongoing.

Theft

Lostock Gralam

- A report of theft of house keys, which had been left in the door of a residential property.

Road Safety

Lostock Gralam

- One Speed Enforcement session conducted 4 offences were captured.
- Vehicle stop checked on Fryer Road, believe the vehicle is involved in the supply of drugs. The driver provided a negative drugs wipe and a search of the vehicle and occupants was negative.

Parking/highway Obstructions

Lostock Gralam

- Concerns raised about parking on Pack Horse Close, a number of advisory notices issued, no further issues observed. Patrols to monitor the parking will continue and appropiate action taken when necessary.
- Concerns raised about parking on Fryer Road and Manchester Road, no issues observed. Patrols to monitoring the parking will continue and appropiate action taken when necessary.

Weekly PCSO surgeries

Thursday 10th July, between 5pm – 6pm.

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, <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/police-forces/cheshire-constabulary/areas/cheshire/campaigns/northwich/residents-voice> when completing the survey, the Policing area is Shakerley.

PCSO Phil Hambleton
Shakerley Police Beat Team