

MINUTES OF THE LOSTOCK GRALAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6th JULY 2026 AT THE CHURCH HALL

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors; M Venables (Chair), K Hodgkinson, T Hodges, A Ross, T Smith, P Walker and L Cashmore.

IN ATTENDANCE: L Sandison, Clerk & RFO

ALSO

IN ATTENDANCE: 12 Members of the public.

1. PROPOSED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PUBLIC FORUM

Public comments were received regarding the proposed Station Road development. Concerns raised included the suitability and safety of the proposed access from Station Road, the ability of the existing infrastructure to accommodate additional development, loss of privacy for neighbouring properties, disruption during the construction phase, and the impact of increased traffic on road safety. Residents also expressed concern about the loss of green fields and wildlife habitat, noting the presence of horses, owls, hedgehogs and bats in the area. It was further highlighted that Station Road is in a poor state of repair, with recurring subsidence issues, and that there were doubts as to whether the proposed homes would be genuinely affordable.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

PC **RESOLVED** to accept apologies and reason for absence for Cllr M Litton, Cllr P Cobley, Cllr I Parkinson, CWAC Cllr M Stocks and PCSO Hambleton.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Cllr Walker declared an interest in St Johns Church PCC as a member.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

- MOP raised concern about fly tipping down Arthur Street & Fitton Street alleyways, including rat issue.
- MOP raised concern about Plants on the corner of Herbert Street which are encroaching onto pavement.
- MOP raised concern about vehicles parking on the junctions making visibility difficult when pulling out off junctions (Fitton Street/Herbert Street) request for yellow lines on the junctions.
- MOP raised concern about the Hall Lane pavement (leaves).

5. MINUTES

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 1st June 2026, having been copied to members was taken as read and confirmed as being a correct record.

6. PROGRESS REPORT

- CWAC grass cutting now complete, update re Harris Rd wildflower meadow received;
- The Harris Road site is wildflower and is down to be regenerated later this year. The area will be cut and groundwork done and reseeded.
- The Church has offered to host a PEB film showing- Tues 8th September at 6 pm. Some concerns raised about the PC promoting the film.
- Street furniture licence update awaited in relation to the recycled noticeboard

7. POLICE

Please see appendix for Police report.

8. MARK STOCKS

-No update report received.

-PC **RESOLVED** to apply for a £300 members budget grant for children's food at the community Christmas event.

9. PLAY AREA

- a. Cllr Venables carried out a visual inspection of the play area. He reported that the cone climber's lower bearing is stiff on initial use. He will clean the bearing and apply a different grease.
- b. PC **RESOLVED** to accept HAGS quote for an Operational Play Inspection – Inspection to be booked for October.
- c. The Council noted quote received for a zip wire inspection, together with a quote to replace the zip wire cable, trolley and dampener. It was agreed that the Parish Council would consider the quotes once further quotes for the zip wire had been obtained.
- d. No repairs to report in the month.
- e. The Parish Council agreed that the additional summer play area bin emptying would be undertaken in-house rather than using a paid contractor.

10. PLANNING

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

11. CHAIRMAN & COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

a. **Members matters for consideration**

None

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

-Cllr Walker gave a verbal overview of the Northwich Biogas meeting he attended on Monday 22nd June.

-Cllr Cashmore gave an update from the Community Centre Lease Working Group. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Community Centre to advise that the Parish Council is commencing the lease review process in preparation for the expiry of the current lease at the end of 2027.

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

- The Council noted an issue regarding access to the Community Centre for water and agreed to be self-sufficient when watering the Talking Bench planters.

-Cllr Hodges will follow up on the list of volunteer roles for the Community Centre Fun Day.

-Noted dog food banner outside Manchester Road cottage.

12. CLERKS REPORT

- a. The Clerk attended an LSEP meeting on 18th June. The presentation slides were shared on email with councillors on 23rd June. The Clerk brought to the council's attention that LSEP propose to submit an application under S36C of the Electricity Act to vary the existing planning consent, to increase tonnage from 600,000 tonnes to 728,000. Public consultation to launch on 24th June and run until 21st July 2026. LSEP are looking to submit variation application to the Secretary of State in late 2026. Clerk to submit a response based on the previous variation response.
- b. LSEP £2000 grant application submitted for community tool shed project.
- c. The annual insurance payment will be due in August; the PC is in a long-term agreement with Gallagher that ends on 17/08/2028. This year's charge will be £1,182.62.
- d. The Clerk queried HGV's using Station Road with Planning Enforcement, response shared with councillors.
- e. Local Plan Update: The Council has published a summary of responses received during the Local Plan Issues and Options consultation held last year. Due to changes to the national planning system, the Council has decided to prepare the new Local Plan under the new plan-making system introduced in March 2026. A revised process and timetable will therefore be followed, beginning with publication of the draft timetable and notice of intention to commence plan preparation. Further consultation opportunities will be available as the plan progresses.
- f. Two public complaints received in the month regarding the long grass at the Hall Lane traffic lights, also complaint about Station Road sink holes and the lack of a safe pedestrian route under the train bridge on Griffiths Rd.
- g. The external audit outcome is awaited.
- h. *Noted:* Cllr Hodges declared an interest as a Community Centre trustee and took no part in the discussion or decision.

The Parish Council considered the Community Centre's response regarding CCTV broadband costs, electricity usage and surge protection. The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to contribute 50% of the broadband costs and the cost of the surge protection. It was agreed that the invoice for the surge protection would be paid by the Parish Council, with 50% of the cost subsequently recharged to the Community Centre. It was further *noted* that Cllr Venables will provide a monitoring device to measure the Parish Council's CCTV electricity usage, enabling an appropriate electricity contribution to be calculated.

- i. Mop complaint about rats on Fryer Road received.

13. GRASS CUTTING

The PC considered the cost of appointing a contractor to cut the grass in the areas where the PC has planted daffodil bulbs. Having considered the quote received, the PC **RESOLVED** that these areas would instead be cut in-house at the end of April or early May each year, once the daffodil foliage has died back.

14. FINANCE

- a. PC reviewed and approve Budget Vs Actual and Bank Rec.
- b. PC **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments which are due and note any income received:

Payee	Payment Type	Amount
Lyndsey Sandison	TRF	£1,220.14
Nest	DD	£72.48
Ash Waste Ltd	TRF	£164.88
HMRC	TRF	£556.47
Lloyds Bank	DD	£4.25
AJG Community Schemes	TRF	£1,182.62
Income		

15. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

-Christmas.

16. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 7th September at 7.00pm in the Church Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.53 pm

L. Sandison

Appendix 1

Monthly Update for June 2026 for the Shakerley Ward

Anti-Social Behaviour

Lostock Gralam

- Report of youths playing football on Warren Avenue, and a window being smashed, no formal complaint received.
- Report of youths being a general nuisance in Vale Royal Close, kicking balls and hitting windows, vaping, littering and preventing residents leaving their driveways by blocking them.
- Report of an ebike being razzed along Silverlea Road by unknown person.
- Report of a male riding a Quad bike on warren Avenue, some details provided to assist in identifying the rider. Enquiries ongoing.

Burglary

Lostock Gralam

- No reports received.

Theft

Lostock Gralam

- Three reported low value thefts from the Coop, CCTV obtained, awaiting identification of the suspect.
- Three reported thefts of laundry products, coffee and meat from the Coop, 4 suspects identified and linked to various thefts from Coop stores across Cheshire. Investigation is continuing.

Road Safety

Lostock Gralam

- No monitoring or enforcement carried out.
- Manchester Road, vehicle stop checked. The vehicle was in a dangerous condition and had no MOT, the vehicle was seized.

Parking/highway Obstructions

Lostock Gralam

- Reports of vehicles driving across a grass verge on Townshend Road, Highways are repairing the damage which has been caused. Will continue to work with partner agencies to attempt to get preventative measures installed.

Weekly PCSO surgeries

The surgeries covering both Witton & Rudheath and Shakerley areas will be held on Wednesday 8th July, at Costa Coffee, Cheshire Avenue, Lostock Gralam between 1pm – 2pm.

Tuesday 14th July, at The Venue, Gadbrook Road, Rudheath between 3.30pm – 4.30pm.

Friday 24th July, on Princess Road, Alloostock, a Police vehicle will be parked near to the play area, between 5pm – 6pm.

Thursday 30th July, at Lostock Green Church, Birches Lane, Green between 11am – 12pm as part of the Community Hub.

Wednesday 5th August, at The Venue, Gadbrook Road, Rudheath between 5pm – 6pm.

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.

PCSO Phil Hambleton

Northwich South Beat Team