

MINUTES OF THE LOSTOCK GRALAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 1st June 2026 AT THE CHURCH HALL

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: L Sandison, Clerk & RFO

ALSO

IN ATTENDANCE: PCSO Hambleton, one member of the public and a Transition Northwich member.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

PC **RESOLVED** to accept apologies and reason for absence for Cllr M Litton, Cllr A Ross, Cllr I Parkinson and CWAC Cllr M Stocks.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

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

3. YOUTH GROUP

A member of the community spoke to the Council regarding their wish to establish a youth group. They explained that their preferred location would be the Community Centre due to the outdoor facilities; however, the Community Centre was currently struggling to find suitable hall availability. The proposed youth group would also require a bank account, insurance, and funding support. They advised that they were due to meet with the Community Centre Committee on 2nd June, with PCSO Hambleton also expected to attend.

Cllr Walker advised that the Church may be able to assist by providing a venue, and that PCSO Hambleton could also offer advice and support.

The Parish Council responded positively to the proposal and asked that the member of the public keep the Council updated on progress. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council operates a small grants scheme and that LSEP currently has grant funding available.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

A member of Transition Northwich spoke to the Council regarding the group's work and its recent showing of the PEB (People's Emergency Briefing) film, which Cllr Hodges had also attended. The film highlights the growing climate and nature emergency. The Council discussed the funding and production of the film with the representative from Transition Northwich, including whether the film had any political affiliations.

5. MINUTES

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Monday 11th May 2026, having been copied to members was taken as read and confirmed as being a correct record.

6. PROGRESS REPORT

- Townshend Road junction fence – CWAC advised that, as the fencing with the two missing rails is not considered to present a safety risk, repair works will not be carried out. The fence can also only be removed by a street works accredited person.

- Thank you posted on social media re-litter picking in the village.
- Community Centre will respond to the PCs latest communication after their next committee meeting on 2nd June.

7. POLICE

- Youth antisocial behaviour reported at Hesketh Drive
- Quad bike antisocial behaviour on private land
- Car/s driving over pavement to park on grass green on Townshend Rd
- Burglary
- Positive drug swipe on Manchester Road
- Co-op thefts x 3
- Two bags of shopping taken at Co-op
- Arson investigation at site off Moss Lane

8. MARK STOCKS

N/A

9. PLAY AREA

- Cllr Venables advised of a visual play inspection he had carried out in the month.
- Cllr Venables advised that he is still awaiting delivery of the junior scrambler step. He now has a replacement bearing for the cone climber and will arrange for the repairs to be carried out with the assistance of a local volunteer friend.
- PC **RESOLVED** to transfer £150 from the Play Area Repairs budget to the Earmarked Reserve for MV Play Area repairs.
- The play area will likely require three litter picks/ bin emptying over the six week school summer holiday.

10. PLANNING

PC PLANNING COMMITTEE / EMAIL CONSULTATION DECISIONS IN THE MONTH	
26/01251/FUL	Extension of the Northwich Biogas Facility Anaerobic Digestion plant including new infrastructure for biogas conversion to biomethane for injection to the gas grid. Response submitted.
PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE PC	
PLANNING APPLICATION DECISIONS	
PLANNING APPLICATION APPEALS	
26/00026/REF	-Tannery Cottage, Manchester Road -Part demolition of existing extensions and erection of a two-storey side and rear extension with side balcony and alterations to existing Appeal Dismissed

11. CHAIRMAN & COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

a. **Members matters for consideration**

1. Cllr Hodges spoke about the PEB film, which he had recently viewed, and encouraged the Parish Council to consider what it could do to help. The Parish Council considered the possibility of arranging a

showing of the film and **RESOLVED** that members should first view the film before deciding whether to organise a public screening.

2. Cllr Smith- PC to consider purchasing more bulbs for Lostock in Bloom in September.
3. All- to consider volunteering at the Community Centre fund day on Saturday 5th September, roles available to be communicated at the next PC meeting.
4. Christmas- the PC considered options for the Christmas 2026 community event.

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

-Cllr Walker advised that its Jack Richards 75th anniversary of being in the parish.

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

- Cllr Walker - Pizza van a success at the Community Centre, pizza sold out by 6.10 pm .
- Cllr Hodges expressed concern about the workload being placed on the PCSO. The Parish Council agreed that it would be happy to write to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), should the PCSO support this course of action.
- Townshend Rd French drain still leaking after repairs carried out.
- The hedge behind the talking benches requires regular watering especially under the tree.
- Parish planters look ready for a change.
- Leaking fire hydrant reported to Fire brigade, the hydrant also requires repair which will be reported to United Utilities
- Wilson Crescent grid banging.

12. COMMUNITY CENTRE LEASE WORKING GROUP

- a. The PC **RESOLVED** to accept the Community Centre Lease Working Group Terms of Reference.
- b. The PC appointed four members to the Working Group, Cllr Cashmore, Cllr Smith, Cllr Litton and Cllr Venables.
- c. A working group Chair will be appointed at its first meeting.

13. CLERKS REPORT

- a. Northwich Biogas - The next Local Liaison Committee meeting will be held on Monday 22nd June at 18:00 on site. They will also be running a site tour at 17:00.
- b. LSEP Newsletter sent to residents also published on PC website and Facebook– they are also planning a Community Open Day on 6 June 2026, 1:00pm – 4:00pm. LSEP has also launched a community grant fund with a 30th June closing date. The PC agreed to submit an application to purchase a mower, blower and strimmer to be used in the parish.
- c. The external audit information has now been submitted.

14. FINANCE

- a. PC reviewed and approve Budget Vs Actual and Bank Rec.
- b. To note that the balance of £1,022.62 held on behalf of the Friends of Lostock Gralam Station will be transferred to the Friends group's bank account.
- c. PC **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments which are due and note any income received:

Payee	Payment Type	Amount
Lyndsey Sandison	TRF	£1,511.70
Nest	DD	£72.48
Ash Waste Ltd	TRF	£202.31
Lloyds Bank	DD	£4.25
Lostock Gralam PCC	TRF	£1600.00
Mid Cheshire Footpath Society	TRF	£8.00
WAP Lawton Ltd	TFR	£600.00
Income		
Mid Cheshire Rail	Lostock in Bloom Grant	£500.00

15. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Purchase Daffodil bulbs in September
- Storage update
- Noticeboard update.

16. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 6th July at 7.00pm in the Church Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

L. Sandison