

# HATHERTON AND WALGHERTON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2025 AT HANKELow METHODIST CHAPEL

**Present:** Cllr Nigel Dibben (Deputy Chair), Cllr Joy Sansom, Cllr Rob Tindall, Cllr Ian Bennion, Cllr Steve Mitchell, Cllr James Du Pavey, Cllr Gerald Laxton

### **In attendance**

Abbi Miller (Parish Clerk)  
Cllr Janet Clowes (Ward Councillor)  
Mr Richard Thelwell (Member of the Public)

### **25/102 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received from Cllr Chris Knibbs, Cllr Katie Clinton.

### **25/103 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **25/104 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

It was proposed by Cllr Sansom and seconded by Cllr Laxton and agreed that the minutes from 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024 are approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Deputy Chair.

### **25/105 QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF PUBLIC REGARDING ANY ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

**In accordance with the Parish Council's Standing Orders, section 1d, members of the public were able to ask a question of the Parish Council or make a statement.**

Mr Thelwell raised a comment regarding a blocked gulley and flow of untreated effluent on Audlem Road (Agenda Item 8); the matter was deferred to be covered in Highway Matters 25/109.

### **25/106 MATTERS ARISING**

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024:

#### Item 24/90:

Parish Clerk has written to Scottish Power on behalf of Hatherton & Walgherton Parish Council and Doddington & District Parish Council to query the last periods price increase for electricity. Scottish Power has responded stating that they have exited the unmetered market and cannot offer an unmetered contract, and that the Parish Council would need to contact another supplier. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to look into unmetered suppliers.

#### Item 24/90:

Parish Clerk has written to Noventum Power to present Hatherton & Walgherton Parish Council's proposal. Awaiting a response. **UNRESOLVED.** Carry to next meeting.

#### Item 24/93:

Cllr Dibben to contact Cheshire East Highways for an update regarding repairs to Crewe Road that had not been completed as yet. **RESOLVED.**

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Item 24/95:

The Parish Council agreed to meet the second Tuesday of every two months starting in January. Parish Clerk to confirm with Hankelow Methodist Chapel. **RESOLVED.**

Item 24/98:

Parish Clerk to arrange a litter pick on 15<sup>th</sup> December. **RESOLVED.**

## 25/107 FINANCE MATTERS

- A) The Finance Report (Appendix 16) was presented by the Clerk.
- B) The Parish Council reviewed the budget with regard to the Election Re-Charging Costs and unanimously agreed to remove this line from the FY25/26 budget. The Council approved the precept of £6181.00. **RESOLVED.**
- C) The following payments were authorised:
- Parish Clerk wages £448.56
  - Parish Clerk HMRC contributions £112.00

## 25/108 PLANNING MATTERS

Councillors received the Planning Report (Appendix 17), and the following planning applications with decisions made since the last meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2024:

There were no new planning applications with decisions since the last meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

### 25/108.1 NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

24/5188/PRIOR-6	Fields Farm Audlem Road, Hatherton, CW5 7PG	Prior Approval: Agricultural and Forestry Development - Prior approval for a steel portal frame agricultural machinery storage building.	Parish Council response:  The Parish Council would ask that the location of the structure be reconsidered within the curtilage of the farm yard, as there are concerns that it's current location would be visible from the road, particularly because of its height. This may be better placed on the north west of the farm. The Parish Council also ask that the accuracy of the plans are checked as there are some inconsistencies.
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## 25/109 HIGHWAY MATTERS

- a) Cllr Dibben had written again to Cheshire East Highways regarding the flooding in the Parish.

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- b) Cllr Clowes said she would also write to Cheshire East Highways as there is a risk of flood to properties.
- c) A gulley on Audlem Road, by Oakes Corner, is discharging a large amount of waste, and the other gulley near by this one is blocked, causing a number of issues, including the eroding of the bank on the road. The water is arising from the overflow of a septic tank that services 4 properties nearby. A number of these properties are managed by the Guinness Group. Mr Heler has already contacted Guinness, as the septic tank is very old and needs replacing, but contact, so far, has been unsuccessful. Cheshire East Highways have stated that they do not have the funds or resources to jet the blocked gulleys. Cllr Clowes said she will contact the Environmental Health at Cheshire East Council.
- d) A part of Audlem Road has also collapsed on the left hand side by the brook that runs underneath the road. **ACTION:** Cllr Dibben to investigate.
- e) Cllr Dibben reported that there had been some flooding by the Boars Head on the A51 caused by excess water running off the fields.

## 25/110 HATHERTON LODGE SOLAR FARM

There has been no planning application at this stage, and no response from Noventum Power regarding funding for a community project.

## 25/111 UPDATE FROM CHESHIRE EAST WARD COUNCILLOR

- Cllr Clowes reported that the tree planting project along Bridgemere Lane had been completed and was a success.
- Cheshire East Council has asked the government for exceptional financial support, and have asked to raise council tax by an additional 5%.

## 25/112 PARISH IMPROVEMENT WORKING GROUP REPORT AND PROGRESS

- There had not been an Improvement working group meeting in this period. A meeting will be held before the next Parish Council meeting.

## 25/113 CHESHIRE EAST CONSULTATIONS

There are currently 3 budget consultations involving the Police and Crime Commissioner, Fire and Rescue Services and Cheshire East Council.

All Councillors were encouraged to complete these on a personal basis.

## 25/114 (ALL) MEMBERS REPORTS TO RAISE TO COUNCIL (FORMERLY AOB)

There were no reports raised to the Council.

## 25/115 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025  
Hankelow Chapel, 11 Old School Lane, Hankelow, CW3 0JN

The meeting closed at 20:47 pm