

Final Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 1st July 2025

Members: Cllr. S Waltho (Chair), Cllr. S Cook, Cllr. C Harrison, Cllr. I Goodwin, Cllr. N Thorpe, Cllr. C Van Weerdenburg

Clerk of the Council: Elizabeth Worrall

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There were no members of the public present.

2115 To receive and approve any apologies for absence

Cllr. Waltho confirmed that Michael Cohen had stepped down from his role as Councillor. The Council thanked him for his work over the past several years. It was **RESOLVED** to advertise the Councillor position. The Clerk will arrange for the suitable notices to be posted.

2116 To receive any declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2117 To receive and resolve to approve the minutes of the meeting held May 2025

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting.

2118 To receive a report from the Ward Councillor if present.

Cllr. Smetham shared that several departments are quiet now, due to annual leave. The Parish Council discussed their concerns with Cllr. Smetham regarding devolution and that rural Parish Council concerns will be overlooked in the wider Cheshire area.

2119 To review and discuss any changes to the Asset Register

Cllr. Waltho had measured the length of fencing that was discussed at the May meeting. This has been valued at £692 pounds. It was **RESOLVED** to add this to the asset register. The Clerk will update this.

2120 To receive an update on broadband and digital provision within the village.

Cllr. Cook provided a brief update. The deadline for providing digital provision has now been pushed back until 2032. Cheshire East have not appointed a provider yet, so there is no firm update. There is a short-term option available of fast 4G for individuals who are particularly struggling with broadband provision. Cllr. Cook will circulate the update that she had received to the Clerk and Councillors and will ask if this can be shared with residents of the Parish. (If this can be shared, the Clerk will post to the website and will add to the Parish magazine).

2121 To receive any update on known flooding and drainage issues within the village and discuss any new occurrences

There were no new occurrences of flooding due to the dry weather. The Parish Council will continue to monitor this, as there are concerns that the problems of the previous winter could re-emerge when the weather changes.

2122 To consider the following planning applications and any others since the publication of the agenda:

25/2142/FUL – Ladera Lodge, Ladera Back Lane, Eaton, CW12 2NL – Regularisation of site layout with and additional 6 retrospective units

It was **RESOLVED** to approve and submit the below comment. The Clerk will send a copy to North Rode Parish Council for their information.

Eaton Parish Council have examined the application for the regulation of the site and for the addition of 6 retrospective units.

Whilst the park itself is within the Parish of North Rode, the access to the park is via Back Lane, within Eaton. This is a single width lane, and the Parish Council have always believed that this lane is not suitable for vehicular access (for the originally authorised 55 lodges) and believe that access to the park should have been granted via the A536. The addition of the six additional lodges will only increase our concern regarding road safety issues on Back Lane. Back Lane has a national speed limit of 60mph, and is widely used by residents for walking, running, cycling and

horse riding. Several residents have expressed to Councillors that they feel unsafe walking with their dogs and/or children and feel that an accident will occur soon. The Parish Council feel that an enforceable speed limit of 20mph, with other appropriate traffic calming measures, would be more appropriate on Back Lane (between School Lane and Fords Lane). Previously promised mitigations, such as passing places, have never been provided.

The Parish Council hence oppose the application based on increased traffic, believing that the additional six lodges (above the 55 originally approved) will add to the traffic issues within the village. The Parish Council are also concerned about the retrospective nature of the planning request, - this could lead to the applicant using further retrospective planning applications to install further additional lodges, which would further exacerbate the safety issues.

We request that the Council take the above comments into consideration, and should approval be granted, we request that conditions be applied that reflect the Parish Council's concerns.

2123 To ratify the comments submitted for the following applications which required comments before this meeting:

There were no comments to approve.

2124 To receive an update on the Parish Council's liaison with the Plough Inn

There was no further update since the last meeting. The noise issues are still improved. The Parish Council will continue to monitor this.

2125 To receive an update on village maintenance (including Council owned asset maintenance)

It was **RESOLVED** to remove one of the benches in the park immediately as one of the slats had broken and one of the picnic benches, as several of the fasteners had failed. The benches will be reconfigured to ensure that there is suitable seating within the play area. Cllr. Harrison will liaise with the villagers affected by the moving of the memorial benches. The Clerk will contact a concerned resident who raised the damaged bench with her.

Long term, the Parish Council will consider the purchase of a composite bench. The asset register will be updated at the September meeting.

The Parish Council will consider some additional signs reminding users that no dogs are allowed within the park.

2126 To discuss any urgent parking or Highways matters within the village

The Clerk had no response from the Police since the last meeting regarding the signage. The Clerk will chase this up. Cllr. Harrison will mock up a sign and will send this to the Clerk, for her to send to the Police contact, as they may be able to approve this.

Cllr. Harrison suggested that a sign is installed to remind people that vulnerable users are using Back Lane (horses, cyclists, children). Cllr. Waltho will contact Highways and try to get locations for these approved.

2127 To receive an update on the Council's ongoing liaison with TARMAC

Cllrs. Waltho, Cook and Harrison attended the liaison meeting with TARMAC. The relationship is still strong, and the quarry still have a good level of reserves.

The operative who completes grass cutting and other maintenance is liaising directly with Cllr. Goodwin in relation to these matters.

Cllr. Waltho shared information about an offering from Cheshire Wildlife Trust, who have offered a free survey for local Parish Councils in relation to improving wildlife corridors. The Quarry is also in support of working with the Parish Council and the Wildlife Trust to achieve this. It was

RESOLVED to go ahead with the mapping project; the Clerk will confirm this with the wildlife trust.

Thanks were extended to the Quarry for the open evening, where 20 residents attended for a short tour of the quarry and for TARMAC's work in re-opening the permissive path.

2128 To receive and resolve to approve the accounts for payment

BALANCE OF ACCOUNT

£8,473.59 (as of 1st June 2025)

PAYMENTS MADE

Clerk Salary (May)	£249.39
Clerk Expenses Allowance (May)	£13.00
Millward and Keeling (postcrete)	£114.00
CHALC membership	£124.41

Zurich	£378.00
PlaySafety (ROSPA Report)	£115.20
TCS Management	£61.92
Adam Keppel Green (Audit)	£157.50
IONOS (website – May)	£8.40
Clerk Salary (June)	£197.19
Clerk Expenses Allowance (June)	£13.00
IONOS (website – June)	£8.40

PAYMENTS TO BE APPROVED

Clerk Salary (July)	£TBC
Clerk Expenses Allowance (July)	£13.00
Clerk Salary (August)	£197.19
Clerk Expenses Allowance (August)	£13.00
Clerk TARMAC Mileage	£8.10
Cheshire Community Action	£20.00
HMRC	£157.40
Cllr. Waltho expenses (defib)	£140.40

RECEIPTS

Interest	£5.90
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The Parish Council noted that the Clerk's salary is unconfirmed for July as the Clerk's additional hours for attending the TARMAC meeting on the 30th June. Cllr. Waltho confirmed that the defibrillator spares were slightly more than the budgeted amount approved at the May meeting, as such, this has been resubmitted to the Parish Council for re-approval.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the above payments and for the Chair to sign the Bank Reconciliation.

2129 Any other correspondence

It was agreed to write an article about the open evening, and confirming that the permissive path had reopened, for submission to the Parish Magazine.

The Councillor vacancy will be advertised in the August edition of the Parish Magazine.

2130 To note the date of the next meeting 2nd September 2025

Cllr. Cook extended her apologies for the next meeting.