

Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 6th January 2026

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

Clerk of the Council: Elizabeth Worrall

22 Wesley Avenue, Alsager, Cheshire, ST7 2NG

Email: clerkeaton@gmail.com Tel: 0777 951 8959

There were no members of the public present.

2173 To consider, and resolve to approve, pending applications, the co-option of a new Councillor

The Clerk confirmed that she had submitted the documents for Cllr. Garton (registration of interests and declaration of office) to the Monitoring Officer and no issues had been raised.

2174 To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies were received in advance from Cllr. Waltho, Cllr. Goodwin and Cllr. Smetham.

2175 To receive any declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest

2176 To receive and resolve to approve the minutes of the meeting held November 2025

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

2177 To receive a report from the Ward Councillor if present.

Cllr. Smetham was not present but had sent the below update.

Cheshire East Council rejected the government's proposals for a large development at Adlington, at the last full council meeting in 2025, but the government has powers to continue with this, rather than decision making by the borough council

Officers are arranging Planning sessions for Members. Although the government has not appeared to have provided any further information regarding changes to planning regulations yet. Tarmac are part of a group who are proposing a carbon reduction pipeline for concrete to travel from Stoke-on-Trent to the north, passing underground in the Gawsworth Ward area. Affected landowners will, or have, received consultation letters. It might be useful for us to speak with Tarmac regarding these proposals. Other parishes in the ward are keen to hear more about this. It would be helpful if we could engage with Tarmac for more detail, I have circulated available details to Chairs and Clerks.

2178 To discuss Broadband and digital provision within the village

There was no update.

2179 To receive any update on known flooding and drainage issues within the village and discuss any new occurrences

The Parish Council had noted flooding on Beechwood Drive, during the heavy rains in December, which appears to be a continuation of previous issues. Cllr. Cook has raised a ticket on TRACE and is awaiting an update from Cheshire East.

2180 To consider the following planning applications and any others since the publication of the agenda:

There were no planning applications.

2181 To ratify the comments submitted for the following applications which required comments before this meeting:

25/4366/FUL – Building to the North of Moss Lane, Eaton – Re-use, extension and alternation of building as a C3 dwelling

"The Parish Council has no objections to this application."

It was **RESOLVED** to ratify the above comment.

Cllr. Waltho had noted his wish to write to planning to ask for clarification on several matters; this

will be discussed in more detail at the March meeting. The Parish Council discussed their neighbourhood plan, which expires in 2030, and they will revisit this in 12 months, or sooner, if guidance is published.

Concerns have been raised about a planning application which may fall outside of the agreed plans; residents have reported this matter to Planning Enforcement. Cllr. Harrison will send an e-mail to Cllr. Smetham asking for if she can secure an update for discussion at the next meeting.

2182 To receive an update on the Parish Council's liaison with the Plough Inn

There was nothing to report on the Plough and no meetings planned. Councillors noted two isolated incidents – one where there was a lot of vehicles parked within the village and one incident of noise. Cllr. Cook will liaise with the Plough to make them aware of these incidents.

2183 To discuss the installation of the new benches

The benches are now installed – thanks to a working party of Councillors and volunteers. Cllr. The Clerk will send a thank you to both TARMAC and the Plough.

This will also be included in the Village magazine for the Parish Council's monthly update.

2184 To receive an update on village maintenance (including Council owned asset maintenance)

The Parish Council agreed that the work on the park fence will take place in phases to split the costs. Cllr. Harrison will begin the sourcing of six posts and twelve bags of post crete, for another working party later this spring / summer. The Parish Council discussed that several footpaths may become impassable in the summer months due to hedging growth. The Parish Council will monitor this and will speak to residents as needed.

2185 To discuss any urgent parking or Highways matters within the village

Cllr. Harrison will make some changes to the order of the bullet points on the proposed poster and will circulate for Councillor approval. The Clerk will then send this to the Police, letting them know that, unless there are objections, the Parish Council will display these within the village. Cllr. Cook will inform the Plough that the Parish Council are planning on displaying the parking signs, out of courtesy.

2186 To receive an update on the Council's ongoing liaison with TARMAC

The Clerk is struggling to arrange a date for the next liaison meeting with TARMAC, which should have taken place in early January. The Clerk will try again to arrange a meeting and will copy in Cllrs. Cook and Waltho. Cllr. Cook noted one issue with noise, which was resolved by TARMAC.

2187 To consider whether an additional Park Check volunteer

Cllr. Van Weerdenburg volunteered to take on this role. The Clerk will send her the rota.

Cllrs. Cook and Van Weerdenburg will arrange to complete a park check together, to ensure Cllr. Van Weerdenburg is happy with the process and form etc.

2188 To receive and resolve to approve the accounts for payment

BALANCE OF ACCOUNT

£9,055.81 (as of 1st December 2025)

Payments in italics were made after the above figure had been reconciled

PAYMENTS MADE

Clerk Salary (October)	£152.16
Clerk Expenses Allowance (Oct)	£13.00
Marmax (bench)	£516.00
IONOS (website – Nov)	£8.40
IONOS (website – annual charges)	£8.40
Clerk Salary (November)	£152.16
Clerk Expenses Allowance (Nov)	£13.00
TCS Management (payroll)	£64.80
Clerk Expenses (wreath)	£19.99
HMRC	£302.23
<i>Clerk Salary (December)</i>	<i>£152.16</i>

Clerk Expenses Allowance (Dec) £13.00

PAYMENTS TO BE APPROVED

Councillor Expenses (fencing)	£100.00 budget
Clerk Salary (January)	£152.16
Clerk Expenses Allowance (Jan)	£13.00
Clerk Salary (February)	£152.16
Clerk Expenses Allowance (Feb)	£13.00
HMRC	£328.80
TCS Management	£64.80

RECEIPTS

Interest £6.03

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

2188 To review, and resolve to approve, the Parish Council financial risk assessment for 2026

It was agreed that this would be reviewed at the March meeting.

2189 To review, and resolve to approve, the draft Freedom of Information Policy

It was agreed that this would be reviewed at the March meeting.

2190 Any other correspondence, including any matters to be included in the Parish Magazine

The Clerk will write an article for the Parish magazine including a list of dates for the rest of the year, a picture of the installed benches (once sent) and confirming Cllr. Garton as a new Councillor.

The Clerk will request installation of a grit bin on Beechwood Drive via the Cheshire East website. Councillors discussed whether a dog poo bin is needed in the Village – Councillors will consider this and will discuss at the next meeting.

2191 To note the date of the next meeting 3rd March 2026

Cllr. Van Weerdenburg confirmed she is unable to attend the next meeting and sent her apologies.

Action Points

- Cllr. Harrison will send an e-mail to Cllr. Smetham asking for if she can secure an update for discussion at the next meeting.
- Cllr. Cook will liaise with the Plough to make them aware of parking and noise incidents, and inform the Plough that the Parish Council are planning on installing signs related to parking.
- The Clerk will send a thank you to both TARMAC and the Plough for the benches.
- Cllr. Harrison will begin the sourcing of six posts and twelve bags of post crete, for another working party later this spring / summer.
- Cllr. Harrison will make some changes to the order of the bullet points on the proposed poster and will circulate for Councillor approval. The Clerk will then send this to the Police, letting them know that, unless there are objections, the Parish Council will display these within the village.
- The Clerk will try again to arrange the liaison group meeting with TARMAC and will copy in Cllrs. Cook and Waltho, as she is struggling to make contact with them.
- The Clerk will update the park check and will send to Cllr. Van Weerdenburg.
- Cllrs. Cook and Van Weerdenburg will arrange to complete a park check together, to ensure Cllr. Van Weerdenburg is happy with the process and form etc.
- The Clerk will write an article for the Parish magazine including a list of dates for the rest of the year, a picture of the installed benches (once sent by Cllr. Cook) and confirming Cllr. Garton as a new Councillor.