

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting at 7:30pm  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025.**

**Councillors in attendance:** Jo Butler (JB), Derek Heiron (DH), Charlie Blood (CB), Victoria Coward (VC), Alex Baker (AB), Ian Pulley (IP), Rachel Blood (RB), Hayley Whitaker (CE-HW)

**Parish Clerk:** Michelle Andrew (MA).

<b>1.</b>  <b>Noted</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence.</b>  Jos Saunders (CE-JS)	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Declarations of interest.</b>  None.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Public Forum.</b>  No members of the public present.	
<b>4.</b>  <b>All Noted</b>	<b>Additional feedback and information sharing with Cheshire East Councillors.</b>  Cheshire East Councillor Hayley Whitaker was present at the meeting. CE-HW has been pushing for a solution to the swimming lesson issue that Kettleshulme School has been having due to the road closure as mentioned at the last meeting. The school have been in contact with Buxton pool however they do not have enough teachers available for the classes. CE-HW has also requested that the diversion routes are placed on a higher maintenance plan with CE Highways so the potholes can be repaired as quickly as they appear. More signage has been placed on diversion routes making clear that the roads are unsuitable for HGVs. CE-HW has requested further information from Highways as to when the assessment on the road collapse will be completed and when repair work will begin. CE-HW has also submitted a member's enquiry about the bridge on Higher Lane / Mudhurst Lane that has plastic barriers. Also, a discussion on the devolution plans that are going ahead for Cheshire East, Cheshire West, Chester & Warrington.	
<b>5.</b>  <b>Noted</b>  <b>Approved Action</b>	<b>To discuss writing a letter to Cheshire East CEO regarding current village issues.</b>  Councillors decided that a letter to the Cheshire East CEO outlining the general issues in the village, as well as the lack of communication over the road closure and the lack of attention that Kettleshulme receives within Cheshire East would be sent. 7 FOR. VC will now work on putting the letter together.	

<p><b>6.</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	<p><b>PCSO comments.</b></p> <p>PCSO was not in attendance at the meeting. Next surgery date scheduled for March 6<sup>th</sup> 5.30-6.30pm.</p>																																								
<p><b>7.</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p>	<p><b>To agree as a true record, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025.</b></p> <p>Approved <b>5 FOR.</b></p>																																								
<p><b>8.</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	<p><b>Finance.</b></p> <p><b>a. Payments to be authorised by the council.</b></p> <p><b>BACS</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="288 801 1254 1070"> <tr> <td>L Smallwood – Cleaning</td> <td>£</td> <td>73.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC PAYE – Month 11</td> <td>£</td> <td>56.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk Salary February</td> <td>£</td> <td>226.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>V Coward Expenses – Toner Printer</td> <td>£</td> <td>79.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A Baker Expenses – Fence Panels</td> <td>£</td> <td>94.61</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Zurich – Hall Insurance</td> <td>£</td> <td>1,140.04</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>£</b></td> <td><b>1,671.24</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>Approved <b>7 FOR</b></p> <p><b>b. Bank Statement Reconciliation.</b></p> <p>Bank accounts at the end of <b>January 2025</b></p> <table data-bbox="288 1294 703 1402"> <tr> <td>Current Acc</td> <td>£ 10,366.73</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reserve Acc</td> <td>£ 21,331.91</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL =</b></td> <td><b>£ 31,698.64</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>Direct debits paid in <b>January 2025</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="288 1509 1083 1677"> <tr> <td><b>BT Broadband</b></td> <td>£</td> <td>40.88</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>EDF Energy - Electricity</b></td> <td>£</td> <td>174.44</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>EDF Energy - Gas</b></td> <td>£</td> <td>1,164.46</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Water Plus</b></td> <td>£</td> <td>29.75</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>c. Budget Assessment - Utilities.</b></p> <p>Clerk has estimated the variance in the budget of the utilities to be around -£1,800 mainly due to the high bills last spring from a broken radiator valve. However, the variance in the budget as a whole is estimated around -£400 due to less spend on staff costs and subscriptions. Income variance is estimated at £600 and therefore this would cover the shortfall.</p>	L Smallwood – Cleaning	£	73.99	HMRC PAYE – Month 11	£	56.40	Clerk Salary February	£	226.30	V Coward Expenses – Toner Printer	£	79.90	A Baker Expenses – Fence Panels	£	94.61	Zurich – Hall Insurance	£	1,140.04	<b>Total</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>1,671.24</b>	Current Acc	£ 10,366.73	Reserve Acc	£ 21,331.91	<b>TOTAL =</b>	<b>£ 31,698.64</b>	<b>BT Broadband</b>	£	40.88	<b>EDF Energy - Electricity</b>	£	174.44	<b>EDF Energy - Gas</b>	£	1,164.46	<b>Water Plus</b>	£	29.75	
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<p><b>9.</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p>	<p><b>To discuss the renewal of the annual insurance policy for the village hall.</b></p> <p>Clerk has received the insurance renewal offer from Zurich Insurance at £1,140.04. This is an increase from the previous year of £41.11. Councillors agreed this existing policy would be renewed. <b>7 FOR.</b></p>	
<p><b>10.</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	<p><b>To discuss updates on improvements to the playground on the village field.</b></p> <p>Clerk emailed ANSA for an update, but no response was received.</p>	
<p><b>11.</b></p> <p><b>All Noted</b></p>	<p><b>To note any correspondence received.</b></p> <p>Clerk has received a number of emails from local residents regarding vehicles and delivery vans using side roads that are not suitable for large volumes of traffic due to the closure of the B5470 and the recent closure of Buxton Old Road in Whaley Bridge. As Buxton Old Road has now reopened, it is hoped that this will ease however it will be closely looked at.</p> <p>A resident contacted the Council regarding a patch of grass on Paddock Lane to ask if anything can be done to improve the appearance. As this area is on Paddock Lane itself, Parish Councillors would not be able to give permission for any work to be carried out.</p> <p>Clerk received an email confirming that the Devolution plans to include a May 2026 Mayoral election had been approved by Government.</p>	
<p><b>12.</b></p>	<p><b>To consider Planning applications / decisions received.</b></p> <p>None.</p>	
<p><b>13.</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	<p><b>Reports from Community Events working party.</b></p> <p><b>a. CRTA – Gus Glyn ‘Routes to Classics’ – Saturday 05<sup>th</sup> April.</b> JB has emailed for flyers and promotional material to help advertise the event.</p> <p><b>b. VE Day 80 Celebrations.</b> An event will be held on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May. Working party will meet to discuss further.</p> <p><b>c. Band Event.</b> A provisional date for the band event is October 4<sup>th</sup> after 2.30pm.</p> <p><b>d. Other Upcoming Events.</b> A pop-up café is being discussed for June time. More information to come.</p>	
<p><b>14.</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	<p><b>Reports from Grants Applications working party.</b></p> <p><b>a. Rural England Prosperity Fund.</b> - <b>Digital Connectivity Projects Update.</b></p> <p>Toner printer has been purchased for £66.58 excluding VAT. Laptop is currently out of stock but a reminder has been set up when back in stock. If this is not in stock within 3-4 weeks then an alternative will be purchased within the agreed budget of £170-180.</p>	

<b>Noted</b>	DH brought information about the motorised projector that was priced at £179. Councillors agreed again that a motorised version would be most suitable and approved to purchase <b>7 FOR</b> .
<b>Approved</b>	DH also brought information about the best projector he had found that was a laser projector and priced around £1,400. Councillors agreed this was a good option. <b>7 FOR</b> .
<b>Approved</b>	
<b>15.</b>	<b>To discuss maintenance of the hall and garden.</b>
<b>Noted</b>	<b>a. – b.</b> Defer.
<b>Noted</b>	<b>c. Fascia Boards.</b> Work ongoing. Half now complete.
<b>Noted</b>	<b>d. Progress with EPC Certificate</b> Clerk has emailed a couple of local companies for quotes but has yet to receive a response. RB will send Clerk the information for the company used by the school.
<b>Noted</b>	<b>e. – h.</b> No updates.
<b>16.</b>	<b>To discuss hall lettings.</b>
<b>Action</b>	A list of how to work certain items in the hall will be produced by RB.
<b>Noted</b>	All bookings must complete and return a booking form to secure their booking.
<b>17.</b>	<b>Update on ownership paperwork for the village hall.</b>
<b>Action</b>	Solicitor quotes will be sought for setting up a new trust.
<b>18.</b>	<b>Updates on Road Maintenance &amp; Drainage in the village.</b>
<b>Noted</b>	<b>a. B5470 Closure Updates.</b> Clerk has emailed Highways for a further update as the website is not being updated however no response was received. Also see Point 4 above.
<b>Noted</b>	<b>b. Grit Bins</b> Clerk emailed insurance company asking about the possibility of the Parish Council providing filled grit bins for residents to use and any possible liability that could arise. The response was that the liability would be to keep the bins filled but there would be unlikely to be any liability on the Parish Council should an accident happen due to a resident slipping on an area that another resident had used the grit on.
<b>Action</b>	Councillors decided that a further attempt would be made, and form submitted for a bin to be provided by Cheshire East. VC and Clerk to complete.
<b>19.</b>	<b>Items for future meetings.</b>
<b>All Noted</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The knob has come off the noticeboard and needs repairing.</li> <li>- The flag on the hall keeps getting caught on the mesh at the bottom. It may be possible to remove the mesh.</li> </ul>

<b>20.</b>	<b>Items for information.</b>	
<b>Noted</b>	Clerk submitted a Small Business Rates Relief application as requested by Cheshire East. The correspondence address on the bill needs to be amended to the village hall.	
<b>21.</b>	<b>Date and time of the next meeting.</b>	
<b>Noted</b>	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2025 – 7.30pm.	

The meeting concluded at 8.53 pm.