

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting at 7:30pm
Monday 17th March 2025.**

Councillors in attendance: Jo Butler (JB), Derek Heiron (DH), Charlie Blood (CB), Victoria Coward (VC), Rachel Blood (RB).

Parish Clerk: Michelle Andrew (MA).

1.	Apologies for Absence.	
Noted	Alex Baker (AB), Ian Pulley (IP).	
2.	Declarations of interest.	
	None.	
3.	Public Forum.	
	No members of the public present.	
4.	Additional feedback and information sharing with Cheshire East Councillors.	
All Noted	<p>Cheshire East Councillors were not present at the meeting. Clerk will update Councillors on the following items ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kettleshulme School are hoping to be able to use New Mills Leisure Centre for swimming lessons beginning in May. They are just waiting for confirmation from Cheshire East. - Bakerstonedale Road is in dire need pothole repairs due to the extra vehicle load on the road from the B5470 closure. - Drains along the main road through the village have been cleared this week. 	
5.	PCSO comments.	
Noted	PCSO was not in attendance at the meeting. Next surgery date scheduled for March 27 th 5.30-6.30pm.	
6.	To agree as a true record, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 17th February 2025.	
Approved	Approved 5 FOR.	

<p>7.</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>Finance.</p> <p>a. Payments to be authorised by the council.</p> <p>BACS</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="292 434 1254 739"> <tr> <td>L Smallwood – Cleaning</td> <td>£</td> <td>50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC PAYE – Month 12</td> <td>£</td> <td>56.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk Salary March</td> <td>£</td> <td>226.10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>V Coward Expenses – Laptop</td> <td>£</td> <td>183.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D Heiron Expenses – Projector Screen</td> <td>£</td> <td>161.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Autela Payroll Services – Dec-Mar & EOY</td> <td>£</td> <td>94.56</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk Expenses – Norton Antivirus</td> <td>£</td> <td>29.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>£</td> <td>803.23</td> </tr> </table> <p>Approved 5 FOR</p> <p>b. Bank Statement Reconciliation.</p> <p>Bank accounts at the end of February 2025</p> <p>Current Acc £ 7,524.56 Reserve Acc £ 21,352.37 TOTAL = £ 28,876.93</p> <p>Direct debits paid in February 2025</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="292 1178 1083 1346"> <tr> <td>BT Broadband</td> <td>£</td> <td>40.88</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EDF Energy - Electricity</td> <td>£</td> <td>109.26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EDF Energy - Gas</td> <td>£</td> <td>1,370.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Water Plus</td> <td>£</td> <td>25.84</td> </tr> </table>	L Smallwood – Cleaning	£	50.00	HMRC PAYE – Month 12	£	56.60	Clerk Salary March	£	226.10	V Coward Expenses – Laptop	£	183.99	D Heiron Expenses – Projector Screen	£	161.99	Autela Payroll Services – Dec-Mar & EOY	£	94.56	Clerk Expenses – Norton Antivirus	£	29.99	Total	£	803.23	BT Broadband	£	40.88	EDF Energy - Electricity	£	109.26	EDF Energy - Gas	£	1,370.95	Water Plus	£	25.84	
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<p>8.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Approved</p>	<p>To discuss the renewal of the energy contracts for the village hall.</p> <p>Clerk received energy renewal prices from EDF (current supplier) and Valda via a broker. Gas prices were lower with Valda however electricity prices were lower with EDF. Councillors discussed these and wanted to know if the contracts could be split or whether the prices were as dual fuel contracts. Clerk will also contact EDF direct to see what prices they will offer to remain as well as look at other suppliers. Councillors agreed that Clerk could agree a new contract in line with the rates they had already received due to the possibility of price increases coming in April, prior to the next meeting.</p> <p>Approved 5 FOR.</p>																																					
<p>9.</p> <p>Action</p>	<p>To discuss updates on improvements to the playground on the village field.</p> <p>No Update from ANSA. Clerk will chase again.</p>																																					

<p>10.</p> <p>All Noted</p> <p>Action</p>	<p>To note any correspondence received.</p> <p>Email received from Peak District National Park detailing a consultation that is running on the proposed updated Local Validation List (a list of documents required when submitted a planning application). DH and Clerk have scanned through the proposed document and could so no apparent issues with the proposals.</p> <p>Email received from Cheshire Community Action Group looking for community buildings to take part in a 'Social Value Engine' evaluation. Councillors suggested that this could help support future funding applications and so more details should be sought on what is involved. Clerk will request further information from the group.</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p>To consider Planning applications / decisions received.</p> <p>None.</p>	
<p>12.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Action</p>	<p>Reports from Community Events working party.</p> <p>a. CRTA – Gus Glyn ‘Routes to Classics’ – Saturday 05th April. Tickets are being advertised and TENs license will be obtained for the evening.</p> <p>b. VE Day 80 Celebrations. Councillors discussed different options and decided on an evening quiz event on Friday 9th May starting at 7.30pm. There will be a £5 entry charge, which will include food. BYO drinks. Prizes such as winner of the quiz and best dressed.</p> <p>c. Band Event. A provisional date for the band event is October 4th after 2.30pm. TBC.</p> <p>d. Other Upcoming Events. Clerk has been looking at filming licenses for the hall to hold cinema evenings once the projector has been all set up. A one-off single show license looks to be around £90. This will be looked into further.</p>	
<p>13.</p> <p>All Noted</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p>	<p>Reports from Grants Applications working party.</p> <p>a. Rural England Prosperity Fund. - Digital Connectivity Projects Update.</p> <p>Laptop has been purchased at £153.32 + VAT. Projector screen has been purchased at £ 134.99 + VAT Clerk has found 3 different online stores selling the projector that was discussed and agreed at the February meeting. Currys and Richer Sounds listed the projector at £1,599 inc VAT and Peter Tyson listed it at £1,499 inc VAT. Councillors agreed that the projector would be purchased via Peter Tyson due to pricing. 5 FOR. Due to the large expense, Councillors agreed that JB would purchase the projector and then Clerk would immediately BACs the payment provided the price remained as above. 4 FOR.</p>	

<p>14.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Action</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>To discuss maintenance of the hall and garden.</p> <p>a. Noticeboard repair. Noticeboard currently will not stay closed due to a broken knob. DH will assess and see if a repair is possible.</p> <p>b. Hall flag Require someone to come out and look at the flagpole. This will be arranged.</p> <p>c. Fibre broadband box batteries & back-up. VC shared that it is hard to determine how long the back up would last as it is dependent on how much power would be required at the time. With this in mind, and due to the small price difference between the 850VA and 1200VA units, Councillors decided that the higher power unit would be purchased for £90 + delivery. Batteries for the broadband box would also be purchased at £18. 5 FOR.</p> <p>d. Wi-Fi extender. VC tried a spare extender that sent the Wi-fi through the electricity, but this did not work, possible due to the age of the wiring in the hall. As the broadband renewal is due around June, Councillors decided that the best option would be to try and obtain an extender as part of the broadband renewal.</p> <p>e. Fascia board progress. AB was not present at meeting for update.</p> <p>f. Progress with EPC Certificate. Clerk contacted a further 2 companies who both responded requesting floor plans and property size information. The only floor plans available do not list room sizes but the Government business rates website lists the main hall at 172m sq. Clerk will email this information, along with the floor plans available to see if this is enough information to be able to provide a quote.</p> <p>g. – i. Defer.</p>	
<p>15.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Approved Action</p>	<p>To discuss hall lettings.</p> <p>Councillors assessed the hire charges for the village hall as these had not been updated since June 2023. It was decided that daytime rates would increase to £120, with 4-hour bookings increasing to £70. Block 2-day bookings will increase to £500 and 3-day bookings to £750. These changes will come into effect from 1st April 2025. The charge for overnight bookings will be £180. Approved 5 FOR. Clerk will update the pricelist on the website.</p>	
<p>16.</p>	<p>Update on ownership paperwork for the village hall.</p> <p>No update.</p>	
<p>17.</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>Updates on Road Maintenance & Drainage in the village.</p> <p>a. B5470 Closure Updates. The latest update on Cheshire East website is as follows .. <i>‘The road remains closed for safety reasons while investigative works are carried out to deliver a permanent solution. These investigations will include assessing the condition of the embankment and the surrounding area. The ecology survey is now complete, and the drainage survey is near completion.</i></p>	

Noted	<p><i>The ground investigation specification is currently being done. Given the complexity of the situation and the necessary investigative work, it is too early to provide a definitive timeframe for reopening the road. We are hoping to start the works in summer 2025.”</i></p> <p>The drains along the main road through the village have been cleared this week.</p>	
18.	<p>Items for future meetings.</p> <p>None.</p>	
19. Noted	<p>Items for information.</p> <p>Councillors wish to express their gratitude to residents who did a litter pick around the village recently.</p>	
20. Noted	<p>Date and time of the next meeting.</p> <p>Annual Parish Meeting - Monday 14th April 2025 – 7.00pm. Ordinary Meeting – Monday 14th April 2025 – 7.30pm.</p>	

The meeting concluded at 9.02 pm.