

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held at Whitegate Primary School Hall on Monday 12th May 2025 at 7.30pm

Members of the public present: One member of the public attended (NS)

Members of the Council present: Cllr Rayner (Chair), Cllr Haigh, Cllr Baldini, Cllr Cotterill, Cllr Campbell, Cllr Cronin, Cllr Heath.

Members of the public were invited to speak:

1.1 Apologise for absence.

Cllr Leech – holiday

Declarations of interest.

None declared by Parish Councillors

2.1 To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14th April 2025, and Annual Village meeting (assembly) 24th April 2025. 1526/25 resolved that the Council approved the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14th April 2025 and Annual Village meeting held 24th April 2025. Name correction Anne Blaney.

3.1 Matters arising from the minutes Ordinary meeting on Monday 14th April 2025 and annual Village meeting held 24th April 2025.

- Mike Dugine from Cheshire West and Chester has cancelled attending our meeting this evening. The Government has ceased funding Gigabit, he will update when next steps are known. Cllr Heath will contact him tomorrow as we had invited him to the meeting to discuss mobile connectivity not Gigabit which is internet. Action: CH
- Cllr Cronin has received a text to share with the parish council from two residents on Grange Lane, regarding continuation of driving on pavement, this is still a problem. When are we getting 20 mph? date not known. School Buddy scheme can we give it a go? Parish Council response, we have not received their response on H bars (self-funded), they can have them but will need to pay for it themselves as advised by highways (and must be ordered through Highways). Buddies - when previously attended the PC meeting, their option had changed with a suggestion of signage on bins with a suitable message which people see weekly rather than daily. The problem with buddies is who will look after them put in/out daily. The residents need to collectively decide, they have a choice between buddies and the counter suggestion of stickers on bins, this needs to be representative of Grange Lane not individuals.
- Savings account defer until September and can decide what to do then.
- Static caravan, no photo evidence has been provided.
- Lights Cinder Hill – they are still not working, however the power is going off soon, which might be linked, enquire with Cllr Bingham.
- Replied to resident carpark feasibility
- Cllr Haigh and Cllr Rayner are meeting with the footpath officer tomorrow
- Feedback from CWAC regarding Neighbourhood Plan - it will need changing, but not yet, wait and see what happens with Local Plan. We may have to revise it again.
- Complaint from field owner Sandy Lane regarding disposing of garden waste in hedgerow, Cllr Baldini will speak with the owner. Action: PB
- Pot Hole reported on Sandy Lane, Cllr Cronin asked what we can do. It was noted it is not unique in CWAC, and we regularly report them, nothing more we can actually do.

4. Clerk's report and correspondence

4.1 Discussed and agreed action to Clerk's report and correspondence: actions complete or on the agenda.

5. Planning

5.1 1527/25 resolved the following planning application responses:

25/00946/FUL Wynsgate Clay Lane Marton for single storey side extension – no objection

5.2 Appeal – Hunters Retreat – no update yet. Appeal at Vale Farm – converting outbuilding to domestic property, we objected due to the structural needs of the building should require full planning permission.

5.3 Planning enforcements:

- The mosses – awaiting outcome of planning application
- Bawsgate Farm – awaiting confirmation regarding the windows, Clerk to chase
- Static Caravan, land on Clay Lane – awaiting pictures to share with planning enforcement.

5.4 Planning complaints / matters raised by residents: Storage of large equipment in field on Nova Scotia Lane. Confirmed land (6 acres) purchased in January, not planning to do anything with it, have planted 2000 trees, including Redwood, Christmas trees and a nice space for a pond and wildlife. Gates have been installed, residents concerned there is a post box. Confirmed no plans other than planting. Cllr Rayer informed of our tree planting programme on public land.

6. Finances

6.1 The bank statements: Barclays account showed a balance remaining of £105,300. The total account balances is £108,180.21 after payments (including savings accounts). **1528/25** agreed the following:

6.2 Pay reimbursement to Cllr Cotterill (VE day) balance £133.72

6.3 Pay Zurich insurance £290.49. It's a standard policy. covers volunteers provided we list names of those individuals helping, there is no age limit. The list of possessions needs updating.

6.4 Noted issue obtaining copy bank statement from National Savings, several phone calls. Have received a cheque for £75 compensation. Action: Clerk

7. Road Safety update

7.1 We have received notification from Highways regarding SLA and current consultation period including Police comments by 22nd May. This has gone to Andrew Jones, Cheshire Police who carried out the speed assessment.

The parish council discussed road safety priority areas and agreed to add a different section at the bottom for monitoring and enforcement, and remove Chester Lane Brook and Dalefords Lane off the main list, adding Clay Lane. Action: Clerk

8. Parish Issues

8.1 The Beeches - no update.

8.2 United Utilities – still working at Marton site. United Utilities have repaired the verge at property on Sandy Lane junction with Nova Scotia Lane.

8.3 General parish issues – Clerk to enquire with Headteacher for her availability for next meeting to discuss actions. Action: Clerk

8.4 Footpath action log – Footpath 46 needs to be addressed and we have a promise that an order has been placed, further update following meeting tomorrow with footpath officer.

8.5 Climate Action – at the village meeting, visitors were asked to tick one section which is important to them. Tree cover and wild flower area were high and solar wind power with 8/18 votes. Discussed on PC update slides our tree planting programme, and Recreation room will discuss possibility of Solar pannels at their next meeting. Resident also offered an infra-red camera, and offered to show us how to use it, this can inform residents where they are losing heat. Cllr Rayner is keen to carry-out more litter picks than just one per year. Agreed Cllr Rayner to draft an action plan with list of objectives and will share with Cllr Heath. Agreed Cllr Heath explore company which can offer advise on where and what to plant for wildflowers and trees. To find out a price. Action : KR / CH

9. Items for information and discussion only.

9.1 White lines worn away junction Sandy Lane and Nova Scottia lane, and parents dropping off at the Forst School just pulling out of the junction, resulting in near misses. Clerk to report.

There being no further business meeting was closed by the chairman at 8.39pm.

Signed by the Chairman **Dated**

Outstanding actions (if removed they are complete)

Ref	Date	Action Log	Responsible
	Dec 24	Grange Lane residents to investigate Buddy's and if they do want to go ahead with self-funded H-bars. Or wheelie bin sticker signage.	PC to chase up with residents.
9.1	Feb 25	Static caravan Clay Lane junction with Dalefords Lane – need photo evidence and log of usage	PB
	Mar 25	Actions for Stuart Bingham: Follow up on street lighting on Cinder Hill – chase for update Put WMPC forward as volunteers to trial road closures for litter picking	Stuart Bingham
3.1	May 25	Contact Mike Dugine regarding mobile connectivity	CH
3.1	May 25	Update Road Safety Risk register	Clerk
8.3	May 25	Check availability of Headteacher for resident meeting	Clerk
8.5	May 25	Investigate company/price for advice on effective planting of wildflowers and trees	CH
8.5	May 25	Climate action log and outcomes	KR / CH
9.1	May 25	White lines Sandy Lane	Clerk

Agenda Call forward

Ref	Call forward date	Description
	Tbc	VRA re gritting, nuns grave
	Feb 26	Little pick date
	Sept 25	Savings account

Notes: VC not at June meeting