

MINUTES OF THE LOSTOCK GRALAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2025 AT THE CHURCH HALL

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors M Venables (Chair), M Litton, T Smith, A Ross, P Cobley, T Hodges, K Hodgkinson, L Cashmore, P Walker, and I Parkinson.

IN ATTENDANCE: L Sandison, Clerk & RFO

ALSO

IN ATTENDANCE: PCSO P Hambleton

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The PC **RESOLVED** to accept apologies and reasons for absence from CWAC Cllr M Stocks.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr K Hodgkinson, Cllr P Walker and Cllr T Hodges declared a personal interest in Lostock Gramam Community Centre as members of the Community Centre Association Committee.

Cllr P Walker declared an interest in the St Johns Parochial Church Council.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

No public present.

4. MINUTES

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 6th January 2025, having been copied to members was taken as read and confirmed as being a correct record.

5. PROGRESS REPORT

- a) Replacement child defib pads are now installed in the AED.
- b) Fly posting on Hall Lane has now been removed.
- c) Fallen bush on White Hill footpath has been removed by POS Landcare.
- d) Members budget grant of £750.00 has now been received for the boundary signs. Thank you to Cllr Stocks. The Clerk has applied for two street furniture licenses at Station Road and Hall Lane. Written permission has been received from the church to install a boundary sign on the church hall grass verge. The PC **RESOLVED** to order the signs with the wording 'Welcome to Lostock Gramam Please drive carefully.' The PC agreed to use £750.00 of earmarked reserve to fund the project which is expected to cost £1500.00.
- e) Townshend Road bin relocation to Manchester Road was rejected by CWAC due to latest bin survey results. CWAC have however agreed to review the frequency of bin emptying at the Manchester Road retail site. Cllr Smith was dissatisfied with CWAC's response especially as bins in the parish have been overflowing in the past week. Cllr Smith asked that the data from the latest bin survey is requested along with a meeting. Clerk to contact the retail site landlord to highlight the issue of litter in the area and a lack of litter bin capacity. The Clerk and Chairman will also speak to the convenience shop owner about providing additional bins and to request that vape stickers are not stuck to the top of litter bins. Noted that a member of the public was seen cleaning the bin outside of the convenience store and removing the many vape stickers to the top of the bin. The Cheshire Business Park grounds maintenance contractors were also seen litter picking along Manchester Road.
- f) The Manchester Road traffic refuge island has now been restored with reflective bollards and a sign.

6. POLICE

- a. PCSO Hambleton read out a report – see appendix for report.

7. MARK STOCKS

Cllr Stocks not in attendance.

8. POLICIES FOR CONSIDERATION

- a) The PC **RESOLVED** to accept revised grant policy and application form. New policy to take effect from 1st April 2025.
- b) The PC **RESOLVED** to accept new WhatsApp policy.

9. PLAY AREA

- a) 1. Play inspection report circulated to Cllrs via email. Cllr M Venables and the Clerk have been through the report and are in the process of tightening loose bolts etc. The basket swing may need a new basket at some point and the junior climber is likely to need a new wooden bridge.
2. The PC **RESOLVED** to accept the HAGS SMP play area inspection quotation for 2025/26.
3. The PC **RESOLVED** to order four metal signs to be installed next to the park entrance gates advising that park users use the play area at their own risk.
- b) As the weather improves the park cleaning and painting will resume.
- c) No issues re litter bin emptying other than Cllr Litton advised that he has twice seen members of the public with dogs on the park.

10. PLANNING

PC PLANNING COMMITTEE / EMAIL CONSULTATION DECISIONS IN THE MONTH	
24/03714/FUL	-72 Harris Road Lostock Gralam -Single storey front and side extension. No objection, noted gap between side extension and boundary is 900 mm.
PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE PC	
24/01903/LDC	-The Post Office 284 Manchester Road -Confirmation that the use of part of the building which was formerly retail (post office) now forms part of the dwelling No objection
VRO036 / 11454	Re: Preliminary Inquiry – Wincham Wharf Boat Builders, 220 Manchester Road, Lostock, Graham, Northwich Cheshire CW9 7NT. EE and Hutchison are in the process of upgrading a number of sites in the UK to make them 5G. This upgrade process will primarily involve swapping existing equipment and replacing this with new apparatus. A number of sites to facilitate capacity and this vital 5G upgrade require a second monopole in addition to the swap out of the existing monopole. No objection
APPEALS	
25/00005/ENF	-Associated Octel Limited, Moss Lane, Lostock Green -The material change of use of the land to storage and distribution (Class B8) use for the storage of refrigerated trailers, plus an open sided structure with plastic panelled dual pitched roof and the construction of earth bunds.

-CWAC Planning decisions from 2024 shared with the PC.

11. CHAIRMAN & COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

a. Matters for Consideration

1. Cllr P Walker thanked the PC for the Churchyard grant and advised that the Church grass cutting cost has increased, which will require the church to look at budget cuts elsewhere.

b. Members updates

1. Cllr T Smith gave a Finance working group update and advised that the letters sent to local businesses did not get any response. Clerk to arrange a meeting and write agenda with Cllr Smith.
2. Cllr M Venables gave a 'Friends of Lostock Station' update.
3. Cllr T Hodges attended the PCC meeting at the Police HQ on 22.01.2025, a written overview was also circulated prior to the PC meeting.

c. Members Reports

1. Townshend Rd – bus could not get through.
2. Wire cutters have been used to cut fence near to the Townshend Rd Park, concern about farm animals getting out raised.
3. Two potholes along School Lane – to be reported to CWAC.
4. Query about when the TATA building will be taken down.
5. Stubbs Lane is very dark due to ivy growing over some street lamps – to be reported to CWAC.
6. The snowdrops are coming out at the the Hall Lane traffic lights.
7. Townshend Rd – cars parked on the grass verge and bus unable to stop in the bus stop.

12. CLERKS REPORT

- a) The Clerk has enquired whether the PC would need planning permission to install solar lighting over the MUGA – CWAC Planning advised that planning would be required. Clerk to instead look at costings for improved security lighting.
- b) The Clerk has contacted a haulage company with regards to one of their HGV drivers damaging the grass verge on Cheshire Av. Response received along with apology.
- c) CWAC Connections Locality Meeting postponed
- d) Cllr P Walker will attend the next Renaissance meeting on Tuesday 25th February.
- e) The Clerk will attend the next LSEP meeting on Thursday 13th February at 2.00 pm.
- f) Communication received from TATA regarding final cessation of production at Lostock, and the decommissioning process. Communication circulated to Cllrs via email 27.01.2025.
- g) Cllr Venables to circulate some possible meeting dates on WhatsApp to discuss Christmas 2025.

13. GRASS CUTTING TENDER

The PC **RESOLVED** to move into Private & Confidential session to consider grass cutting tenders.

- The PC **RESOLVED** to accept the lowest quote and agreed to award a three-year contract to WAP Lawtons. The grass cuttings are to be left, and the PC will maintain the shrubbery inhouse.

End of Private & Confidential session.

- The PC **RESOLVED** to accept Northwich Town Councils planter quote for 2025.

14. FINANCE

- a. The PC **RESOLVED** to accept the bank reconciliation, Cllr Cashmore verified the bank reconciliation and sign the correlating bank statements.
- b. The PC reviewed and **RESOLVED** to accept the following payments which are due.

Payment	Payee	Amount
TRF	Defib4life Ltd	£101.94
TRF	Lyndsey Sandison	£1,184.60
DD	Nest	£68.65
TRF	ASH Waste Ltd	£143.52
TRF	CG Services Cheshire Ltd	£252.00
TRF	Lostock Gralam Church Hall Association	£375.00
TRF	Lostock Gralam PCC	£1600.00
TRF	Hags SMP Ltd	£90.00
	Income	
TRF	Leading Military Fitness	£98.00
TRF	CWAC	£750.00

15. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

-Litter bins

16. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 3rd March at 7.00 pm in the Church Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.58 pm

L. Sandison

Appendix

Monthly Update for January for the Shakerley Ward

Anti-Social Behaviour

Lostock Gralam

- No Reports Received.

Burglary

Lostock Gralam

- An attempted car theft on Stubbs Lane.
- Intruder in Stubbs Lane property.

Theft

Lostock Gralam

- Theft of laundry products and cheese from the co-op.
- Medication not received by delivery notice received.

Road Safety

Lostock Gralam

- HGV abandoned on Hall Lane after Christmas.
- One speed monitoring session carried out; 3 offences recorded.

Weekly PCSO surgery

Thursday 20th February, 11am to 12pm.

Costa Coffee, Lostock Gralam.