

WARDLE PARISH COUNCIL

10th March 2026

Commenced: 7.30 pm

Terminated: 8.55 pm

Present: Councillor Roden (Chair)
Councillors Jennings, Leftwick, Nelson and Welch

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence from Members of the Parish Council

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 1st December 2025 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3. CO-OPTION TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council considered an application for co-option onto the Parish Council.

RESOLVED

That Pamela Brown be co-opted to the Parish Council.

4. BUDGET AND FINANCE REPORT 2025-2026

The Parish Council considered a report of the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, on the following matters:-

(i) Transactions

RESOLVED

That the following transactions from 1st April 2025 (current account), be approved:-

PAYER/PAYEE	DETAILS	RECEIPTS	PAYMENTS
RBS	Service charge		£5.40
Cheshire East Council	Precept - 1st Instalment	£1,513.50	
Zurich Municipal	Annual Insurance Premium		£196.00
RBS	Service charge		£5.00
M Clough	Office Expenses from 23/09/2024 – 05/05/2025		£480.00
A Latham	Quarter 1		£275.00
Alraham and Calveley Village Hall	Room Hire for May		£12.00
Alraham and Calveley Village Hall	Room Hire for May		£12.00
RBS	Service charge		£5.80
RBS	Interest		
RBS	Service charge		£6.20
RBS	Service charge		£5.00
Cheshire East Council	Parish Compact	£1,150.00	
Alraham and Calveley Village Hall	Room Hire for August		£24.00
M Clough	Office Expenses from 06/05/2025-12/08/2025		£210.00
A Latham	Quarter 2		£275.00
Cheshire East Council	Precept - 2nd Instalment	£1,513.50	
RBS	Interest		

RBS	Charges		£1.20
HugoFox	Email charges		£2.99
HugoFox	Website Hosting		£143.86
HugoFox	Email charges		£2.99
M Clough	Office Expenses from 13/08/2025-03/12/2025		£240.00
Alraham and Calveley Village Hall	Room Hire for December		£24.00
HugoFox	Email charges		£2.99
A Latham	Quarter 3		£275.00
RBS	Charges		£0.80
HugoFox	Email charges		£2.99
RBS	Charges		£0.40

(ii) Approval of Payments

RESOLVED

That the following payments be approved:-

Members are requested to approve the following payments:-

PAYEE	DETAILS	PAYMENTS
A Latham	Lengthsman Quarter 4	£275.00
M Clough	Office Expenses 04/12/2025-05/03/2026 13 weeks @ £15.00 per week	£195.00
I Brookes	Pinfold Maintenance from Oct. 2024	£357.50

(iii) Budget Expenditure to 23rd February 2026

RESOLVED

That the following Budget Head expenditure to 23rd February 2026, be approved:-

Budget Head	Total	Budget Allocated	£ Difference
Office Expenses	£1,085.82	£780.00	-£305.82
Room Hire	£72.00	£80.00	£8.00
Insurance	£196.00	£620.00	£424.00
Community Projects	£0.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Lengthsman	£825.00	£1,100.00	£275.00
Bank Charges	£29.80	£72.00	£42.20
Pinfold Maintenance	£0.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
	£2,208.62	£5,652.00	£3,443.38

(iv) Bank Reconciliation as at 23rd February 2026

RESOLVED

That the following Bank Reconciliation as at 23rd February 2026, be approved:-

Bank Reconciliation 23rd February 2025	
WARDLE PARISH COUNCIL	
Financial year ending 31 March 2026	
Prepared by: Muna Clough, Parish Clerk & RFO	
Balance per bank statements as at 11th February 2026	£
Current Account (61011375)	£2,865.06

Reserve Account (01011618)	£1,310.21
Less: any unpresented cheques	
Current Account (61011375)	£0.00
Reserve Account (01011618)	£0.00
Add: any unbanked cash	
Net bank balances as at 23rd February 2026	£4,175.27
The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments account) for the year, as follows	
<u>CASH BOOK</u>	
Opening Balance Current at 1st April 2024	£896.68
Opening Balance Reserve at 1st April 2024	£1,294.79
Add: Receipts in the year	
Current Account (61011375)	£4,177.00
Reserve Account (01011618)	£15.42
Less: Payments in the year	
Current Account (61011375)	£2,208.62
Reserve Account (01011618)	£0.00
Closing balance per cash book [receipts and payments book] must equal net bank balances above	£4,175.27

(v) Bank Statements – Charitable Bank Account (Current Account)

RESOLVED

That the following bank statements, as circulated with the report, be received:-

- (i) Statement Number 281
- (ii) Statement Number 282
- (iii) Statement Number 283

(vi) Bank Statements – Business Money Manager Account

RESOLVED

That the following bank statements, as circulated with the report, be received:-

- (i) Statement Number 203
- (ii) Statement Number 204
- (iii) Statement Number 205

5. INSTALLATION OF DEFIBRILLATOR

The Parish Council received an update from the Chair and were advised that Cheshire East Council had estimated their charges to be in the region of £4,625.30 for the installation, legal and officer charges.

Having questioned these charges, the Clerk had been advised that installation of the equipment would have to be carried out by Cheshire East operatives as it involved a direct connection to a Cheshire East Street Lighting column. Only Cheshire East Contractors had that authorisation, as it was a Council asset.

The Clerk had been further advised that the costs had been broken down as far as the officer was able to provide. Installation costs were estimated as the officer was waiting for final confirmation from the Highways Commercial Team. These were likely to be slightly lower than indicated and were for illustration purposes only.

The Parish Council was very disappointed with the delays and costs being charged by Cheshire East Council and it was hoped that the MP would be able to influence this matter, as the Clerk was in regular contact with her Secretary, who was most helpful.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Chair and Deputy Chair to call at the site of Andrea Bickerton, at the Engineering Depot, to explain the situation and request urgent progress.**
- (2) That if this is unsuccessful, the Parish Council to write to the Acting Chief Executive of Cheshire East Council, explaining that if this matter is not resolved urgently, then the matter will be circulated for the wider public .**
- (3) That if the matter is not resolved within 6 weeks, the defibrillator to be installed on the most suitable wall of the Chair of the Parish Council.**

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Members noted that the date of the next meetings were as follows:-

Tuesday, 5th May 2026 – 7.00 pm Annual Parish Meeting

Tuesday, 5th May 2026 – 7.30 pm Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

7. URGENT ITEMS

There were no items which the Chair was of the opinion required consideration as a matter of urgency.

8. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The Parish Council received the following update from Councillor Posnett:-

- Council tax was increasing 4.99%.
- Controversy over Leader and Deputy Leader of Cheshire East Council signing letter over new Adlington village.
- Peak Cluster – Councillor Posnett was meeting with the Peak Cluster team at the end of the month. There was a general consensus of a lack of adequate consultation on this proposal.
- An application for 2100 new homes had been submitted near to Leighton Hospital.
- Defibrillator – Councillor Posnett referred to a number of grants that might be available to help the Parish Council with the costs of the installation of the defibrillator.