

Doddington and District Parish Council

15th September 2025

Commenced: 7.30 pm

Terminated: 9.20 pm

**Present: Councillors Councillor Taylor (Chair)
Councillors Cartwright, Clowes, Frodsham and Wilson**

1. WELCOME

The Parish Council welcomed Councillor Frodsham following his recent absences.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest from Members of the Parish Council.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 21st July 2025 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no Members of the Public in attendance.

6. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR

Councillor Clowes reported that the Cheshire East Full Council meeting would be held on Wednesday to consider Devolution.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

7. TREE INSPECTION

Councillors agreed that the trees were in good condition and that they were receiving water naturally, at the moment.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

8. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

Councillor Clowes reported that she had asked Tom Evans from Cheshire East Council for an assessment of the current Neighbourhood Plan to formally identify which policies were out of date, which policies were not out of date, and which additional policies should be included in the Plan.

The Steering Group was expected to meet in the next few weeks. Councillor Clowes reminded the Members that a Budget would be required for this project.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

9. AIRMENS MEMORIAL SERVICE UPDATE

Councillor Clowes to provide a verbal update and sought agreements regarding the next steps.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Clerk contacts again, the Mayor of Cheshire East's Secretary, Melanie Rodgers and her Manager Martin Smith to ascertain the availability of the Mayor;**

- (ii) That the Clerk contacts Councillor Moore to enquire about the provision of signage;
- (iii) That the Clerk notifies PCSO Nick Jarvis, and asks him to inform the policing team at Nantwich of the event;
- (iv) That the Clerk contacts the Nantwich Squadron Leaders, Alan Ryder and Philip Reade to invite the Air Cadets to the event.

9. FINANCE AND BUDGET 2025-2026

The Parish Council considered a report of the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer as follows:-

(i) Transactions

RESOLVED

That the following transactions be approved:-

| PAYEE/PAYER | DETAILS | RECEIPTS | PAYMENTS |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|----------|
| ThenMedia | 6 months subscription | | £144.00 |
| Ash Humber | Tree planting | | £660.00 |
| Blakenhall Village Hall | Room Hire for May Meeting | | £30.00 |
| Blakenhall Village Hall | Room Hire for July Meeting | | £30.00 |
| Scottish Power | Annual electricity charge | | £178.25 |
| HMRC | PAYE June 2025 and July 2025 | | £58.80 |
| M Clough | Salary June 2025 and July 2025 | | £235.46 |
| Unity Trust | Monthly Service Charge | | £5.42 |
| Community Heartbeat | Annual Maintenance Fee | | £198.00 |

(ii) Approval of Payments

RESOLVED

That the following payments be approved:-

| PAYEE | DETAILS | £ |
|-------------------------|--|---------|
| Blakenhall Village Hall | Room Hire for September | £30.00 |
| M Clough | *Salary August 2025 and September 2025 | £258.00 |
| HMRC | PAYE August 2025 and September 2025 | £64.40 |

*Members noted that this figure included the National Local Government Pay Award which was backdated to 1st April 2025 in the sum of 54p per hour.

(iii) Budget Expenditure to 31st August 2025

RESOLVED

(a) That the following Budget Head expenditure to 31st August 2025, be approved:-

| Budget Head | Total | Budget Allocated | £ Difference |
|---|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Clerk Salary and PAYE | £588.52 | £1,850.00 | £1,261.48 |
| Office Expenses | £10.44 | £101.00 | £90.56 |
| Information Commissioner | £0.00 | £40.00 | £40.00 |
| Insurance | £214.00 | £214.00 | £0.00 |
| Subscriptions | £194.96 | £225.00 | £30.04 |
| Internal Audit Fee | £100.00 | £150.00 | £50.00 |
| Website/Emails | £144.00 | £400.00 | £256.00 |
| Room Hire | £60.00 | £210.00 | £150.00 |
| Street Lighting | £178.25 | £225.00 | £46.75 |
| Projects (Grit Bin Investment/Bridgemere Lane Improvements) | £660.00 | £660.00 | £0.00 |
| Remembrance | £0.00 | £150.00 | £150.00 |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Defibrillator Maintenance | £198.00 | £250.00 | £52.00 |
| Payroll Provider | £42.26 | £150.00 | £107.74 |
| Election Recharges | £0.00 | £175.00 | £175.00 |
| Neighbourhood Plan | £0.00 | £200.00 | £200.00 |
| RINGFENCED CIL | £0.00 | £5,982.14 | £5,982.14 |
| | £2,390.43 | £10,982.14 | £2,126.83 |

- (b) That Councillor Clowes contacts Tom Evans, the Neighbourhood Plan Officer, to ascertain whether or not the CIL monies can be used to review the Neighbourhood Plan;
- (c) That the virement of tree planting from Ash Humber, from the Projects Budget to the CIL Ringfenced Budget, be approved;
- (d) That if allowed, funding for the Review of the Neighbourhood Plan be taken from the ringfenced CIL monies;
- (e) That Councillor Taylor to inspect all the Notice Boards and the Bus Shelter on Bridgemere Lane, and report back to the next meeting with a view to considering their refurbishment.

(iv) Explanation of Variances

As requested at the last meeting, the Clerk reported that a new Neighbourhood Plan Budget had been created and £200.00 had been transferred from Remembrance Budget to the Neighbourhood Plan Budget.

RESOLVED

That this transfer be deferred to the next meeting pending confirmation of the use of the CIL monies.

(v) Bank Reconciliation – 31st August 2025

RESOLVED

That the following Bank Reconciliation as at 31st August 2025, be approved:-

| | |
|---|------------------|
| <u>Bank Reconciliation 31st August 2025</u> | |
| DODINGTON AND DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL | |
| Financial year ending 31 March 2026 | |
| | |
| Prepared by: Muna Clough, Parish Clerk & RFO | |
| | |
| Balance per bank statements as at 31st August 2025 | £ |
| Current Account (11290091) | £10,064.45 |
| | |
| | |
| Less: any unpresented cheques | £198.00 |
| | |
| Add: any unbanked cash | |
| | |
| Net bank balances as at 31st December 2024 | £9,866.45 |
| 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 2025 | £9,756.88 |
| | |
| Add: Receipts in the year | £2,500.00 |

| | |
|--|------------------|
| | |
| Less: Payments in the year | £2,390.43 |
| | |
| | |
| Closing balance per cash book [receipts and payments book] must equal net bank balances above | £9,866.45 |

(vi) Bank Statements

RESOLVED

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

- **31st July 2025**
- **31st August 2025**

10. STREETLIGHT – CHECKLEY LANE

The Chair reported back on discussions with residents who found the streetlight particularly valuable at night.

RESOLVED

That the streetlight be retained.

11. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Council considered an update from Councillor Clowes on the following:-

• **New Planning Applications**

(i) Application Reference Number: 25/3025/PRIOR-3R

Proposal: Prior approval for the change of use of agricultural building to a flexible commercial use (Class B8 (Storage)).

Location: Foxes Bank Farm Bridgemere Lane, Hunsterson, Nantwich, Cheshire East

(ii) Application Reference Number: 25/3096/FUL

Proposal: The application is for the erection of a replacement calf building. The applicants have applied to the Rural Payments Agency for the “Farming Transformation Fund Calf Housing for Health and Welfare Grant”, of which their application has been successful. The site is all used for agricultural purposes therefore there is no change of use.

Location: Foxes Bank Bridgemere Lane, Hunsterson, Nantwich, Cheshire East, CW5 7PN

(iii) Application Reference Number: 25/3404/DSC

Proposal: Discharge of conditions 4 and 15 on approval 20/0016N

Location: The Farthings London Road, Bridgemere, Nantwich, Cheshire East, CW5 7PZ

(iv) Application Reference Number: 25/2323/DSC

Proposal: Discharge of Conditions 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21 and 22 on approval 21/6417N for change of use of land for the siting of 5 holiday lodges and ancillary works

Location: Fletcher's Pool Land To The South Of Bridgemere Lane, Hunsterson, Nantwich, CW5 7PN

(v) Application Reference Number: 25/3467/PRIOR-6

Proposal: Prior agricultural determination for the erection of a new building

Location: Doddington Park House London Road, Doddington, Nantwich, Cheshire East, CW5 7NJ

RESOLVED

That the Clerk, in consultation with Councillor Clowes, submits the comments of the Parish Council, in relation to applications (i)-(v) above, to the Local Planning Authority.

• **Comments submitted under the provisions of the Standing Orders**

(vi) Application No: 25/2323/DSC

Address: Fletcher's Pool Land To The South Of Bridgemere Lane, Hunsterson, Nantwich, CW5 7PN

Proposal: Discharge of Conditions 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21 and 22 on approval 21/6417N for change of use of land for the siting of 5 holiday lodges and ancillary works

(vii) Application No. 25/2441/CLPUD

Location: 2, Pewit Cottages Pewit Lane, Hunsterson, Nantwich, Cheshire East, CW5 7PP

Proposal: Lawful Development Certificate for proposed reinstatement of building to agricultural use.

(viii) Application Number: 25/0893/FUL

Location: Beech Meadows Dingle Lane, Bridgemere, Nantwich, Cheshire East, CW5 7PZ

Proposal: Replacement dwelling house

(ix) Application Reference Number: 25/3040/DSC

Location: Land To North Of, Checkley, CW5 7PX

Proposal: Discharge of conditions 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21 and 24 on Approval 22/4984N.

(x) Application Reference Number: 25/2763/VOC

Location: Clayfields Checkley Lane, Checkley, Nantwich, Cheshire East, CW5 7QA

Proposal: Variation of condition 2 on approval 22/4668N: Construction of a replacement dwelling and garage with associated landscaping following the demolition of the existing house and outbuildings.

RESOLVED

That the comments of the Parish Council, considered and submitted to the Local Planning Authority under the provisions of the Standing Orders, be approved.

12. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

Councillor Clowes updated the Parish Council on the following Highways matters:-

- Ongoing United Utility mains burst on Hunsterson Road, Bridgemere, Checkley Lane;
- A recent power outage due to a fallen tree,
- Road/lane closures on the A51 in October, together with gulley drainage and jetting;
- Problems on Audlem Road with United Utilities

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members noted that the date of the next meeting was 17th November 2025 at 7.30 pm at Blakenhall Village Hall.

14. URGENT ITEMS

The Chair was of the opinion that the following items should be considered as a matter of urgency.

15. UPDATE REGARDING THE HALL

An update had been received from the Trustees of the Village Hall. Charitable status had now been achieved and the Trustees were encouraging events such as Jazz in the Village and MacMillan Coffee Mornings.

Funds were very limited and maintenance repairs still required.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

16. REVIEW OF POLLING STATIONS 2027

Councillor Clowes reported that Cheshire East Council had been seeking new venues for Polling Stations, due to boundary changes. Members agreed that Bridgemere Primary School was the only suitable location.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.