



WEAVERHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an ordinary meeting

To be held at

Weaverham Community Centre, Russet Road, Weaverham, CW83HY

on

Monday 24th March 2025 at 7.00pm.

Adrian Morgan Acting Clerk

Present: Gillian Edwards (GE) Chairman, Roger Moss (RM), Peter Wilkinson, Nigel Freestone (NF), John Pether (JP), John Freeman (JF), Rees Lasseter (RL) and Ian Mills (IM),

In attendance: 12 members of the public, Cllrs Phil Rimmer, Lynn Stocks and Julie Chrimes Clerk to Cuddington Parish Council.

167 Public Open Forum Members of the public raised the following issues with the council: -

167.1 Keepers Lane Flooding. Letter Received from CWaC did not address the issue GE to follow up with CWaC.

167.2 Damage to curbs on the High Street.

167.3 Zebra Crossing on High Street needs re-painting.

167.4 Speeding in the village.

167.5 Benches in the village needs painting.

Council will look at all these issues and will be referred to the relevant committee meeting of Council for further consideration.

168 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Iain Lasseter and Jason Endress were **approved**.

169 No new declarations of interest were received.

170 Minutes

170.1 Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 18th March 2025 were **approved**.

171 Finance

171.1 The minutes of meeting held on 17th March 2025 were **received**.

171.2 Accounts for February 2025 were **approved**.

171.3 Cheque payments amounting to £3,470.62 were **approved**. Clerk to seek advise from internal audit on the correct method of reporting expenses.

171.4 Council **approved** a payment £500.00 to Weaverham Primary Academy for their playground improvements project which is to come out of this year's budget.

171.5 Skipton Building Society account reduced interest rate was **noted**.

171.6 Council **approved** a request from Rose Fete Committee to hold a car boot sale On Lake House Field on Sunday 13th July 2025 with a hire fee of £30.00.

172 Environment

124.1 Minutes of meeting held on 5th March 2025 were **received**.

173 Village Winter Maintenance

173.1 Council **approved** the purchase of 15 additional bins with salt from Northwich Town Council at a cost of £290.00 +VAT each to be sighted at the following junctions / areas.

1. Lime Avenue shops
2. Northwich Road Shops
3. Hanging Gate Junction
4. Wallerscote Road Bend (Albert's Farm)
5. Wallerscote Road, Church Lane Esthers lane Junction.
6. Withens Lane
7. Well Lane/ Valley Road Junction
8. Gleave Road
9. Barrymore Road
10. Owley Wood Road
11. Wood Lane/ Middlehurst Lane junction.
12. Sighted outside of our schools.

174 Leaf collection

174.1 Council **approved** the use of a ride on sweeper to clear the pavements of leaves that causes flooding. To be used as and when required. Areas to be covered are an initial list which will be kept under review: -

1. Owley Wood Estate
2. Wallerscote Road from Ring O Bells to the Hampsons.
3. Northwich Road from Esthers Lane
4. Sandy Lane / Well Lane
5. Withens Lane
6. Lime Avenue- in front of the high school.

To be added to the maintenance contract subject to consultation with CWaC and will be reviewed in January 2026.

175 Flooding hot spots.

175.1 Council **approved** the following "Flooding Hot Spots" that have been identified in the village that will require gully / drain cleaning twice a year to prevent flooding. This an initial list and will be kept under review: -

1. Petrol station junction/ area.
2. Northwich Road Shops
3. Withens Lane
4. Esthers Lane, Church Lane & Wallerscote Road Junction
5. Keppers Lane
6. Bottom area of Wallerscote Road
7. Sandy Lane
8. Gorstage Lane by the Railway Bridge to Handforth Brook.

To be added to the maintenance contract subject to consultation with CWaC and will be reviewed in January 2026.

176 Winter Maintenance Plan

The Clerk is **authorised** to negotiate the above requirements with our existing contractor and will report back to Council.

177 The Highways Volunteer scheme.

177.1 The Council **approved** the following work activities are carried out by the volunteers as part of the scheme: -

1. Small vegetation clearance- trim low overhanging branches off trees. Removing growth from around trees, cutting back bushes and brambles, removing weeds.
2. Siding out footways. Which is removing weeds, moss, overgrown grass and debris from edge of footways.
3. Cleaning road signs and bollards
4. Minor drain maintenance, such as cleaning small water channels and grips.

5. Cleaning around gully grids, but only from standing on the edge of the road such as a verge and or footway
6. Finger post repairs and painting.

177.2 The Clerk is to contact CWaC to get accepted onto the scheme and draw up a list of areas that need attention in collaboration with The Weaverham Trust. **approved**

177.3 A working group is required to help the Clerk co-ordinate these activities. It was **approved** that Cllrs Peter Wilkinson, Gillian Edwards, with members of Weaverham Trust form the working group.

178 A49 Safety campaign

The Council supports the cycling to school routes in the parish. The Clerk is to write to CWaC showing our support for the scheme and asking for consideration for funding. **approved**

179 SID on Northwich Road.

A quotation from TWM for a site inspection, repair and report for the SID on Northwich Road Costing £196.20 +VAT was **approved**.

180. Bonfire Night

A quotation from Nemisis for Bonfire Night costing £3250.00+VAT was **approved**.

181. VE Day Celebration.

181.1 A quotation from lime Avenue for Fish & Chips for VE day event £350.00 was **approved**.

181.2 A quotation from Theo's Fish & Chips for VE day event £450.00 was **approved**.

Cllrs Gillian Edwards, Roger Moss and Peter Wilkinson have offered to help with the event.

182. Zebra Crossing.

182.1 The condition of the Zebra Crossing on the High Street was **noted**.

182.2 The crossing has been reported to CWaC for repair ref HW69454161 **noted**

182.3 GE wating for a price from CWaC for the cost of the road closure was **noted**.

183. Kiosk/ Café

183.1 RL gave an update on the project. The toilet should be ready for opening by end May / beginning of June 2025. **noted**

184. Planning

182.1 The minutes of Planning meeting held on 7th March 2025 was **approved**.

185 Solar Panels

185.1 No update was available; this item was deferred to next meeting of Council **approved**.

186 GOV.UK domain transfer

184.1 Council **approved** the principle of transferring to the GOV.UK domain as recommended by HM Government.

184.2 The Clerk to get a quotation for the transfer to include the updating of the Council's Web site & listing the Council's assets on the web site **approved**.

187 Youth Club Car Park.

185.1 The Council is wating for a quotation for the fitting of a height restrictor at the entrance of the car park **noted**.

185.2 The front of the youth club will require a temporary fence to stop access to the rear of the site. Clerk to request a quotation from our contractor. **approved**

185.3 Sign is required limiting the Councils liability for using the car park. **approved**

188 Council Meeting Dates 2025/26.

187.1 The Council meeting dates for 2025/26 Council year was **approved**.

189 Clerks' Update. The Clerk raised the following items with Council: -

189.1 **Clerk's Contract of Employment.** - Council was asked to explain why they were offering a temporary contract the current acting clerk rather than the permanent contract that was offered to previous candidates and is currently offered on the Council's web site? Councillors refused to give reasons why.

189.2 **External Audit.** 2025/2026 audit deadline for submission is day Tuesday 1st July 2025.

189.3 A Letter from **CWaC Chief Executive** regarding Keppers Lane flooding was circulated to Councillors.

189.4 Letter received from a resident regarding the parking issues on **Gorstage Lane**.

189.5 The new **Planning and Infrastructure Bill** is looking to give extra powers to Parish & Town Councils.

189.6 **Issues** with TWM traffic Management were raised.

189.7 **Charitable Street collection** consultation is taking place from 4th March to 13th May 2025. Councillors to make their own individual submission.

189.8 **VJ Day staging-** Quotation received from ARC for £8,500. Clerk looking for other options.

189.9 **Lack of litter picker** presence from CWaC in the village has been resolved.

189.10 **Avoira** price increase will be referred to next meeting of Finance.

189.11 Clerk to arrange **training** for Councillors via CHALC- Jackie Weaver.

189.12 Membership of **SLCC Society of Local Council Clerks**. Referred to next meeting of Finance.

190. Councillors attended the following meetings on behalf of the council.

190.1 JP- no meeting

190.2 RL- no meetings

190.3 PW CWaC Highways @ Helsby

190.4 JF CWaC Highways @ Helsby & Weaverham & Acton Bridge Trust.

190.5 RM Weaverham Trust & Café project

190.6 GE Weaverham Trust

190.7 NF Café Project

190.8 KO Café Project

190.9 IM meeting with IL & RL

191. **Police matters.** PCSO Michelle Gillert will be back in work soon **noted**.

192. **CWaC matters.**

192.1 Councillors gave a verbal report to council which was **noted**.

193. **Public Forum** The following additional matters were raised: -

193.1 Additional salt bins were requested at Forest Street.

193.2 CWaC should be providing the Salt bin at Albert's corner.

193.3 Residents not in favour of Homestead garage using the youth club car park.

193.4 Withens Lane residents have offered to pay £30.00 for the Rose Fate car boot sale.

194. The next meeting of Council, Monday 28th April 2025.

Signed as a true record.

Name ..GILLIAN EDWARDS

Signature ..G Edwards

Date ...28.04.2025