



Minutes of ordinary meeting of  
**WEAVERHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

held at  
Weaverham Community Centre, Russet Road, Weaverham, CW8 3HY  
on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7.00pm.

**Clerk** Adrian Morgan

**164 Present:** Gillian Edwards (GE) Chair, Mike Gerrard (MG), Peter Wilkinson (PWi) John Freeman (JF), Peter Wakefield (PWa), Kevyn Hewett (KW) and Caroline Wakefield (CW)

**In attendance:** Clerk Adrian Morgan, CWaC Cllr Lynn Stocks and 11 members of the public.

164.1 **Apologies** were received from Cllrs Keith O Neil and Iain Lasseter **approved.**

165. **Public Open Forum.** The following issues were raised by the public.

165.1 Litter pick arranged by Weaverham Trust was well attended.

165.2 Concerns were raised regarding the 50mph speed limit at Well Lane/ Sandy Lane as it is too high for a single rack road. Can this be reduced? CWaC Councillors will investigate and report back.

165.3 Concerns were raised regarding the proposed Parish Precept of £175k as this was considered too high. Councillors listened to residents' representations.

166. **Agenda Item 188 – Police Matters** was taken out of order, and Standing Orders were suspended to allow the PCSO to provide an update. The report was **noted.**

167. **Minutes-** The minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025 were **approved.**

168. Cllr Keith O Neil was appointed to the Environment Committee **approved.**

169. Cllr Kevyn Hewitt to the Planning and Environment Committees **approved.**

170. **Finance & Policy Committee**

170.1 The minutes of Finance & Policy meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026 were **received.**

170.2 The minutes of Finance & Policy meeting held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026 were **received.**

170.3 The accounts for December 2025 were **approved.**

170.4 Cheque payments amounting to £4,533.33 as detailed in the payments waiting for authorisation report was **approved.**

171. **Budget & Precept for the financial year 2026/27**

171.1 **The Environment Budget** for 2026/27 financial year proposal of £92,600 was reduced to £62,600 reducing the budget by (£30,000) with the following amendments to the budget were made.

**Village improvements** budget reduced by £10,000 **approved.**

**Climate Change** budget reduced by £10,000 **approved.**

**Russet Road Play Park** budget reduced by £2,000 **approved.**  
**Plantation Project** budget by reduced by £4,000. **approved.**  
**Tree survey** budget reduced by £3,000 **approved.**  
**Landscaping** budget reduced by £1,000 **approved.**

171.2 **The Administration Budget** for the 2026/27 financial year of £107,480 was **approved.**

171.3 **The Youth Budget** for 2026/27 financial year of £3,000 was **approved.**

171.4 **The Council's Budget** for 2026/27 financial year proposal of £203,080 was reduced to £173.080 **approved.**

171.5 **The Council's precept for the 2026/27** financial year of £146,000 was **approved.** This represents an increase of £11,000 for the year. A Band D property will pay £72.11, an increase of £5.62 for the year (8.5%).

172 **2025/26 Budget Review**

The budget was reviewed and the following changes to the budget were made.

171.1 Vier £11k from Clerks Salary budget and increase the budget for NIC & Tax by £7k and Pension by £5k **approved.**

172.2 Vier £2k from Neighbourhood Plan and £1k form Fireworks budget and increase Phone fax & Internet budget by £3k **approved.**

173 **The Asset Register** was reviewed.

173.1 The insurance cover to be increased by applying the base value plus an additional 7.5% to ensure the Council has sufficient insurance to replace any asset that may be damaged, based on current market prices **approved.**

173.2 Delegated authority be granted to the Clerk and the Chair of Finance to adjust the Asset Register as required on behalf of Council **approved.**

174 **Signage for Play Park/ Café.**

Two additional signs at a cost of £300 + VAT for the Play Park/ Café area was **approved.**

175 The Northwich Road shops potholes were discussed. This item is deferred to the next meeting of Council **approved.**

176 The Clerk's memo to create A Civic Award Scheme was **approved.**

177 **Council's Strategic Plan.** The following six Community Pillars that will form the Strategic Plan listed below were **approved.**

F177.1 Community Engagement policy.

F177.2 Environment and Sustainability policy.

F177.3 Local Services and Infrastructure Policy.

F177.4 Governance, Transparency and Accountability Policy.

F177.5 Community Well-being and safety Policy.

F177.6 Economic and Community Development Policy.

- 178 **The Hillsborough Law.** The Clerk gave a report on the Public Office Accountability Bill which places a duty of candour on Councillors and the Council was **noted**.
- 179 **Environment Committee-** The minutes of Environment Committee held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 were **received**.
- 180 **Parish Gritting-** Concern was raised regarding lack of gritting in the Parish during the recent wintry weather was **discussed**. The Clerk read out a response form CWaC Highways regarding the lack of gritting in the village which was **noted**. Clerk to seek clarification from CWaC on the type of salt being used for gritting **approved**.
- 181 **Tree Survey.** Clerk to request a quotation to carry out the works highlighted as medium and low risk in the report was **approved**.
- 182 **Gully Cleaning** The quotation for gully cleaning at a cost of £700 +VAT per day, as opposed to sweeper hire at around £1000-1200 per day was **approved**.
- 182.1 Clerk to trail the works with the Council's contractor over a three-day period and report back to Council **approved**.
- 183 **Planning Committee -** The minutes of meeting 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026 were **received**.
184. The letter received from Bloor Homes requesting an informal meeting with the Council to discuss NOR10 site for building 900-1,100 homes before their formal public consultation was **discussed**. Clerk to arrange a meeting with Parish Councillors, CWaC Councillors and Planning lay members to discuss our options before committing to a meeting date with the developer. **approved**.
185. The Council meeting timetable for April 2026 to March 2027 was **deferred** to next meeting of Council.
186. **Clerks' Update.** The following items were discussed.
- 186.1 I attended an anti-terrorism workshop last Thursday on behalf of the Council **noted**.
- 186.2 The Grey belt strategy should be with us by the end of the month. We need to refer to Weaverham as a Built-up area and not a village- A built up area has more protection than a village- we await their report **noted**.
- 186.3 I attended online courses covering Cyber security and Assertion 10 **noted**.
- 186.4 We have a cost increase for the scribe accountancy package- £7.60 per month **noted**.
- 186.5 Cllr John Freeman was nominated to attend the King's Garden Party **approved**.

186.6 A1 safety testing will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> March **noted.**

186.7 Delegated authority is given to Cllr P Wilkinson; John Freeman and the Clerk can complete the NALC- “how local councils make plan survey “ on behalf of the Council **approved.**

186.8 Letter from Dan Price PCC was received and **noted.**

186.9 Skipton interest has reduced from 2.75 to 2.45% **noted.**

186.10 The Bank Account is now below the recommended safety buffer approved by Council. This item is referred to next meeting of Finance & Policy Committee **approved**

186.11 Complaint regarding Well Lane/ Sandy Lane speed limit. 50 mph is too high for a single-track road. Request to get the speed limit reduced. CWaC Councillors will follow up **noted.**

186.12 Reminder that the small grants applications will close on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026 **noted.**

187. The following Councillors attended meetings on behalf of the Council.

**PWa** Cemetery, **JF** Anti- Terrorisms training, Cemetery **PWi** ONH consultants, Cemetery, Anti- Terrorisms training, Salford University future homes.

189. **CWaC matters.** Standing Orders were suspended to allow Cheshire West & Chester Councillors to discuss matters with the Council. Their reports were **noted.**

190. **Public Forum** The following additional items were raised by members of the public.

190.1 Residents thanked the Council for all that we do on their behalf **noted.**

190.2 Can The Plantation area & Wilbraham Road be considered for the Gully tidy up **noted.**

191. To **Confirm** date of the next meeting of Council Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 at 7pm.

**Meeting closed at 8.40pm**

Signed as a true record.

Name ..Gillian Edwards.....

Signature ...G. Edwards.....

Date ..23 February 2026.....