

CHOLMONDELEY AND CHORLEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON : **22 September 2026**

SCHOOL FARM, CHOLMONDELEY

PRESENT:	Councillor C Crossley	Chair
	Councillor C Hopley	
	Councillor A D Fennell	
	Councillor P Probin	Vice Chair
	Councillor G Nicholas	

ALSO PRESENT:	D Foulkes	Clerk
	I Coppack	Member of the Public

35. Declarations of Interest

Members were invited to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Registrable Interests or Non-Registrable Interests relating to items on the agenda.

No declarations of interest were made.

36. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 29 June 2026 were considered.

APPROVED: That the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 29 June 2026 be approved as a true and accurate record of proceedings and signed by the Chair.

37. Public Participation and Cheshire East Councillor Update

37.1 Public Participation

There were no members of the public present wishing to address the Council. A resident who had recently moved into the parish attended the meeting to express an interest in serving the Council and was welcomed to the meeting. Details in respect of the resident are set out under item 44, Parish Council Vacancies and Co-option.

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37.2 Cheshire East Borough Councillor Report

The Ward Councillor was not present and there were no updates to report.

38. Clerk/RFO Report and Correspondence

Members received the Clerk's report on correspondence received, administrative matters and actions arising from previous meetings.

Road closures

Members discussed the issue of the proposed road closure scheduled for 30 September 2026 between 08:00 and 18:00 in connection with the 100th anniversary ploughing match being notified at short notice and of road closures considered unnecessary.

It was reported that approximately 3,000 vehicles use the estate side of the parish, with vehicles entering and leaving throughout the day. Members raised concerns that no diversions had been put in place for the closure at the Pump House, and that the closure related to planned works for which no diversion signage had been provided. It was considered that the closure had no reasonable justification and served no useful purpose.

The Clerk was thanked for the letter written in respect of the road closures. Members considered the matter covered, and the Chair undertook to continue to raise the issues relating to both hedges and road closures with the relevant authority.

APPROVED: That the report be noted.

39. Regular Reports and Updates

a) Police Matters

Members noted that the next Police Cluster Meeting would be held the following evening.

Members also noted the Police Cohesion Meeting, which had been very well attended and at which a good cross-section of views from local residents had been represented.

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Members expressed their appreciation for the manner in which the meeting had been organised.

APPROVED: That the report be noted.

b) Highways, Road Safety and FixMyStreet Reports

Members referred to the matters raised under item 38 in respect of road closures and highway matters, including the Clerk's correspondence of 15 September 2026 concerning the road closure scheduled for 30 September 2026.

Members noted that a fly-tipping incident had been present at a location for some time, comprising garden waste, shrub cuttings and a large number of plant pot labels.

The matter of signage on the A49 was also discussed.

The Chair will continue to raise the matters of hedges and road closures on behalf of the Council.

APPROVED: That the report be noted.

c) Litter and Environmental Matters

Members noted an increase in litter within the parish, which continues to require attention.

Members noted that they will undertake organised litter picks and that arrangements would be made for the Council to provide high-visibility vests, litter pickers and bags, to be sent to a nominated place.

Members discussed the potential to include equipment hire within the budget, should the Council make a charge for the hire of equipment, and asked whether a grant is available towards the cost of litter picking equipment, rather than the equipment being billed by Cheshire East or the supplier.

The Clerk will look into obtaining a grant for the litter picking.

APPROVED: That the report be noted and that enquiries be made as to the availability of a grant for litter picking equipment

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d) Proposed Autumn/Winter Newsletter

Members considered the draft Autumn/Winter Newsletter and were pleased with the draft as presented. Members discussed additional information to be included and:

- Noted the carol service dates, including the service to be held on Friday 18 December.
- Agreed the inclusion of Bonfire Night information, with printed copies to be provided to older residents.
- Agreed that printed copies would be delivered to Green Neighbours, with approximately 30 copies to be printed.
- Agreed that current activities would be included on the Council's website, with printed copies available on request.
- Agreed the inclusion of information on the new pickleball sessions.
- Noted that the chapel in the park is open for a carol service.

APPROVED: That the draft Autumn/Winter Newsletter be approved and published together with the additional information discussed.

e) Proposed Community Events

No community events were proposed for consideration at this meeting.

f) Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

There were no additional matters arising that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

40. Financial Matters

Members considered the schedule of payments, receipts and financial transactions (Appendix A).

APPROVED:

- That the financial transactions and payments at Appendix A be approved.

Members considered the following matters for approval:

- That the 2026/27 NJC/NALC pay award be approved, increasing the Clerk's rate of pay at SCP 21 from £17.18 per hour to £17.75 per hour (2 hours per week).

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- That the increase in the HMRC approved mileage rate from 45p to 55p per mile for the first 10,000 business miles, effective from 6 April 2026, be approved, including any adjustment required for mileage already claimed since that date.

APPROVED: That the 2026/27 NJC/NALC pay award and the increase in the HMRC approved mileage rate be approved.

Members received the budget monitoring report and noted the expenditure to date.

APPROVED: That the report be noted.

41. Governance and Administrative Matters

Members considered governance, policy, procedural and administrative matters requiring review or approval. No matters requiring approval were identified.

APPROVED: That a nil return be noted.

42. Neighbourhood Plan

Members received an update in respect of the Neighbourhood Plan.

It was agreed that contact would be made with the former Chair of the Parish Council in order to take the Neighbourhood Plan forward.

APPROVED: That the update be noted and that the Neighbourhood Plan be taken forward.

43. Planning Applications and Planning Matters

Members considered the planning applications, consultations, planning notifications, enforcement matters and other planning matters received since publication of the agenda (Appendix B). The applications were discussed and Members' comments noted where appropriate.

APPROVED: That the planning matters considered be noted.

44. Parish Council Vacancies and Co-option

Members received an update regarding the current vacancies on the Parish Council. The Parish Council comprises 11 seats in total, comprising 6 seats for the

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Cholmondeley ward and 5 seats for the Chorley ward. Five of those seats are currently filled by elected Members, leaving six casual vacancies across the two wards. Members noted that a resident who had recently moved into the parish, Mr Ian Coppack, had attended this meeting and has expressed an interest in being co-opted to the Parish Council. Mr Coppack provided an outline of his background to Members. Members welcomed Mr Coppack's interest in serving the parish.

APPROVED: That the Clerk send a co-option application form to Mr Ian Coppack, to be completed and returned, for consideration at a future meeting of the Council.

45. Items for Future Consideration

Members suggested the following items for future consideration:

- Bulbs for the parish, with prices to be obtained and reported back to Council. A maximum of £50 was agreed, with the budget to be updated accordingly.
- The orchard and future planting of plants within the parish.

APPROVED: That the items be noted for future consideration.

46. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on:

Tuesday 24 November 2026 at 7.30 pm.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Signed:

Chair

Date:

Signed:

Chair

Date:

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There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at **8.30 pm**.