

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NORLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY  
24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025 AT 7.00 PM AT THE NCK CENTRE, NORLEY**

**PRESENT AT THE MEETING**

Norley Parish Councillors: Deryn O'Connor (Chair), Steve Bakewell, Gerald Brown,  
Ann Crawford, Terry Harvey and Liz Robinson

PCSO Neil Flanagan (for part of the meeting)

Gaynor Hawthornthwaite – Parish Clerk

The members of the public were welcomed to the meeting.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received from CW&C Ward Councillor Lynn Stocks and Norley Parish Councillor Sally Cornelissen.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No known declarations of interest.

**3. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN FORUM**

There was a question from a member of the Norley Speedwatch Group about the proposed reduction in the number of PCSOs and the effect this will have on community support currently provided. This includes the impact it will have on community issues and particularly on the Community Speed Watch, where support is provided from PCSO Neil Flanagan in Norley.

**Action – Councillor O'Connor to follow up with the Police and Crime Commissioner.**

The following were mentioned:

- The overgrown hedge at the junction of School Lane and Post Office Lane which is blocking the footpath and obscuring the street sign.  
**Action – Parish Council to follow up.**
- The road sweeper that had been around Norley today had made a difference to the clearing of the debris at the side of the roads.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2025**

These were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chair.

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2025**

- **Environmental Improvement Programme**

The Work on the development of an Environmental Improvement Programme is ongoing.

- **St John's Church War Memorial**

Discussions about a potential location for a war memorial in the area at St Johns Church or in the village are ongoing.

- **Funding towards Community Projects**

The PC are continuing to follow up with United Utilities community projects in which they could assist with funding and/or volunteering.

- **Cheesehill Lane and ongoing Highway Projects**

The progress and the location/installation of village gateway signs, the location and installation of speed cushions and the permanent changes at the top of Cheesehill Lane is ongoing. CW&C have not yet supplied a date of commencement for the work.

- **Sandycroft Meadows**

Discussions on the potential option for a memorial orchard on part of the meadow that will benefit the community are ongoing.

**Action – Councillor Bakewell to continue to follow up.**

- **Parish Council Laptop**

The new PC laptop has been purchased from and set up by Frodsham Computers.

- **Christmas Tree**

The Christmas tree, ordered from Darlingsons, for the Village Green by the Tigers Head, is due to arrive on Thursday. The Christmas Lights Switch on is due to take place on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November from 5.30 pm. The PC are very grateful to the owner of Oak Tree House who has very kindly allowed the Christmas lights to be plugged in at their outside socket.

- **Housing Needs Survey**

Councillor O'Connor and Martin Bell, Chair of the Norley Neighbourhood Plan Group had an initial online meeting with CNB Housing. It was agreed that the survey will start week commencing 3rd January 2026 and will be for 4 weeks. This gives ample time for the questionnaire to be drafted and agreed and so it does not run over the Christmas period. Councillor O'Connor will continue to keep the PC updated.

## 6. **COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH UPDATE**

The details of the Speed Indicator Device data and fixed figures for October 2025 had been circulated to the PC prior to the meeting and are to be published onto the PC website.

The following speed indicator device data for October 2025 was received and noted:

**In summary:**

Vehicles continue to speed excessively on School Bank. The Community of Norley is undertaking all available actions to deter speeding throughout the village, particularly excessive and dangerous speeds.

Support/action is needed from CW&C Highways and the PCC to implement permanent deterrents to excessive speeding in the village.

Note: All SID devices operated correctly.

**Ashton Road (Exit Speed)**

36.8% (4,738) of vehicles exceeded the 30 mph speed limit, 11.7% (1,513) of vehicles exceeded the prosecution speed limit of 35 mph. The maximum exit speed was 51.7 mph.

**Blakemere Lane (Peak Speed)**

56.2% (16,535) of vehicles exceeded the 30 mph speed limit. 17% (5,013) of vehicles exceeded the prosecution speed limit of 35 mph. The maximum peak speed was 68.9 mph.

**Delamere Road (Exit Speed)**

52.2% (12,697) of vehicles exceeded the 30 mph speed limit, 20.1% (4,891) of vehicles exceeded the prosecution speed limit of 35 mph. The maximum exit speed was 78.2 mph.

**Fingerpost Lane (Peak Speed)**

18% (3,850) of vehicles exceeded the 40 mph speed limit, 2% (371) exceeded the prosecution speed limit of 46 mph. The maximum peak speed was 65.1 mph.

**Norley Road (Exit Speed)**

**September 2025**

28.3% (10,854) of vehicles exceeded the 30 mph speed limit, 10.4% (3,991) exceeded the prosecution speed limit of 35 mph. The maximum exit speed was 61.8 mph.

**October 2025**

28.2% (10,969) of vehicles exceeded the 30 mph speed limit, 9.9% (3,850) exceeded the prosecution speed limit of 35 mph. The maximum exit speed was 64.1 mph.

**School Bank (Peak Speed)**

88.3% (1,861) of vehicles exceeded the 20 mph speed limit. 55% (1,160) of vehicles exceeded the prosecution speed limit of 24 mph. There were a number of instances of excessive speed on School Bank during October

1 vehicle travelling at 46.8 mph at 18:29 on 16th Oct - School Day

1 vehicle travelling at 42.6 mph at 15:08 on 24th Oct - School Day

1 vehicle travelling at 41.8 mph at 18:24 on 9th Oct - School Day

1 vehicle travelling at 41.5 mph at 12:32 on 17th Oct - School Day

1 vehicle travelling at 41.1 mph at 09:13 on 8th Oct - School Day  
1 vehicle travelling at 40.1 mph at 13:49 on 11th Oct

This supports the need for automatic CSW devices which capture number plate data and would allow these vehicles to be identified.

#### **SID SPARE PARTS**

Due to the fact that TWM have ceased trading and have been acquired by FTS, there may be issues procuring spare parts for the SID devices. Mike North is aware of the issue and following up.

#### **SPEED ENFORCEMENT**

Speed Enforcement was undertaken on Delamere Road (40 mph zone) on 19<sup>th</sup> Nov and School Bank on 15<sup>th</sup> Nov. The majority of vehicles were compliant with the speed limit.

#### **SPEED MONITORING**

Speed Monitoring is planned for Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Nov on Blakemere Lane.

#### **SPEED LIMITS**

Fingerpost Lane 30 mph request – Following the recent speed monitoring results, CW&C Highways is that a reduction to 30 mph would not be possible.

Delamere Road – residents have requested that the 30 mph area be extended to the 50 mph boundary (Remove the 40 mph area).

#### **NORLEY SPEED PROJECT**

A meeting was undertaken with CW&C Highways in July to discuss the project and issues around Hatchmere Crossroads and the following actions are ongoing:

1. Highways to look at the signage and road signs at Hatchmere Crossroads.
2. We were to provide the proposed locations of village signs and speed pads.
3. Steve Bentley to provide a link to allow the requests for village signs to be raised.

The PC will further liaise with CW&C.

#### **Update from PCSO Neil Flanagan**

PCSO Neil Flanagan reported that there had been two reportable incidents in Norley in November 2025.

Neil referred to the recent information that had been circulated from the Police and Crime Commissioner about the Budget Proposals and the impact this will have on the reduction in the number of PCSOs and the support to Norley PC. It was noted that Neil will continue as the PCSO for Norley PC until March 2026. However, Neil will be leaving the Constabulary at the end of March 2026. The PC were very appreciative of all the support that Neil had provided to Norley as the PCSO and he will be missed.

#### **7. FORESTRY ENGLAND MEETING FEEDBACK**

Councillors Bakewell and Brown attended a meeting with Forestry England on 10<sup>th</sup> November at Delamere Forest Visitor Centre. Updates were provided relating to:

- New learning partner – to be managed by Petty Pool
- No current provider for bike hire but options being considered
- Whitefield project works complete and well received by the users
- New play area by Forest café being well used with further extension planned for 2026
- Way marking has been improved throughout the forest
- Forest Live will be for six consecutive nights from Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2026.
- Tree management programme for next twelve months

A further meeting has been arranged on 8<sup>th</sup> December to discuss Norley PC specific issues, particularly around Hatchmere crossroads and the options for car parking concessions.

**8. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY**

Following the resignation of Vic Leyden as a Norley Parish Councillor, the Clerk notified CW&C Democratic Services of the vacancy and a Notice of Vacancy has been received to be displayed from 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025. Democratic Services will notify the PC if an election is to take place within 14 days from the date of the notice. If an election is not to be held, the law requires the Parish Council can co-opt a person to fill the vacancy as soon as practicable after the expiry of the period of fourteen days.

The PC thanked Vic for all his work and dedication to the Parish Council.

**9. PLANNING MATTERS**

**25/03540/FUL** – The Spinney - Single storey side extension

Any PC comments to be submitted to the Clerk by 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

**10. APPROVAL OF 2026 PC MEETING DATES**

The following 2026 PC meeting dates were approved, to be held at 7 pm at the NCK Centre:

- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July
- Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October
- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November

**11. APPROVAL OF PC PRIVACY POLICY**

The draft Privacy Policy had been circulated for PC comments.

The Clerk is to make the suggested amendments and then circulate the approved policy.

**12. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk reported on the following:

The Parish Council have been informed that Marstons Brewery is applying for an extension to the current entertainment licence;

Correspondence had been received from a West View resident relating to the continued management of the Common Land on West View Road.

**Chalc**

- Bulletins, Member Briefings, and training dates

**Delamere Forest monthly update.**

**Police and Crime Commissioner**

- Update On Government Announcement Regarding PCC Role
- Proposed Budget Proposals

**13. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The PC received and discussed the 2025/26 operating budget information (attached at Appendix 1) for the half year up to the end of September 2025 and noted that both income and expenditure were in line with the projections made.

Based upon the 2025/26 projected expenditure, and likely balance at year end, it was proposed that the precept level for 2026/26 should be maintained with no increase, other than for inflation. The Final Precept setting for 2026/27 to be finalised and approved at the January 2026 PC meeting.

**CIL Payments**

The total CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) carried forward to 2025/26 was £5991.16.

The following CIL payments have been allocated in 2025/26:

- £1800 to Norley Play Area
- £1500 Norley Bowling Club

- £1000 towards the Refurbishing of the scout hut on Crabmill Lane

This would leave £1691.16 to be allocated before the 2025/26 financial year end.

An acknowledgement and thanks for the PC donation of £1000 for Funding towards the

Refurbishing of the scout hut on Crabmill Lane had been received from the Norley Scout Group.

Approval of the following bacs payments:

- Payroll for last 3 months – Invoice No: 12559 - £57.60
- Maintenance SID Devices in October – Rock Graphics - £144.00
- Reimbursement for payment of plants for planters at Hatchmere – Mrs C Brown - £42.00
- Payment of new PC laptop and set up – Frodsham Computers - £499.00
- Repainting of all letters on the stone by the Tommy in St John's Churchyard – Blackwells Stonecraft Ltd - £144.00 (which was completed before Remembrance Sunday)
- Reimbursement to Councillor O'Connor for the payment of the Poppy Wreath - £20

#### 14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following were mentioned:

- **Councillor Brown** asked if there was any update on the parking on High Street. The PC are not aware of any update but will follow up.
- **Councillor Harvey** asked if the Churchyard footpath was closed. The PC confirmed that it was still closed.
- **Councillor O'Connor** reported that:
  - Councillor Cornelissen is continuing discussions with Phil Gifford from the Wildlife Group to find a suitable location for the service tree.
  - There has been no response yet from an email sent to Jamie Baron on 10<sup>th</sup> November about Cheesehill Lane and ongoing Highway Projects
  - Discussions about a potential location for a war memorial in the area at St Johns Church are ongoing.
  - Following the resignation of the current Chair of JNCOT (Joint Norley Communities Organisations Trust) who is to finish his tenure as a trustee; in accordance with the JNCOT Constitution, the PC are responsible for the appointment of the Chair of JNCOT.

**Action – Councillor O'Connor to attend the JNCOT meeting in 2 weeks' time.**

A member of the public asked if there were any developments on the Cheshire Railings. Due to the cost of the repair/replacement the PC were not progressing this currently.

#### 15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026** at 7 pm at the NCK Centre.

The Meeting closed at 8.40 pm.