MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GRAPPENHALL AND THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, BELLHOUSE LANE, ON THURSDAY 15 JANUARY 2026

Present Councillors Browne (Chair), Davies, Dolan, Drogan, Fisher, Ford, Fernyhough, Furnell, Hockenhull, Johnson, McQuillian, Speed (arrived 19.45) and Worsley.

In Attendance Colette Fellows, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Action

197. It was **resolved that** apologies and reasons for absence from Councillors Hignett, Taylor and Warner be accepted.

198. Dispensation Requests
No dispensation requests were made.

199. Disclosures of Pecuniary and Personal Interests
Councillor McQuillian declared a personal interest in agenda item 207.

200. Minutes
Resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 4 December 2025 were approved as a true record.

201. Correspondence Miscellaneous
a) Correspondence has been received from the Assistant Chief Constable, Neighbourhood Policing of Cheshire Constabulary regarding the future of neighbourhood policing in Cheshire. The letter states that following the conclusion of consultation and careful consideration of a counter proposal as well as current understanding of the difficult financial forecast, the proposal to reduce the number of PCSO posts from 87 to 27 will now be progressed. Further details will follow from our Local Policing Unit Chief Inspector in the New Year and the opportunity to ask questions will be provided at that stage.

202. Information for Noting
Councillor Contact information was updated and emailed to all Councillors before the meeting.

203. Update on actions from previous meetings

Agenda Item	Action Point	Lead	Status	Update
2024/134	Air Source Heat Pump	BD/CF	Ongoing	Work to commence 19 January 2026, which was agreed with the Clerk and Asst Clerk due to annual holidays colliding.
2025/109.2	New Bin Broad Lane	BD	Ongoing	WBC advise that the new bin for Broad Lane has now been ordered. Installation date to be advised.

204. Expenditure to date

The Clerk presented the expenditure to date and noted that there were several large invoices yet to be presented for payment from various suppliers.
The 'on target' expenditure for January (month 10) was 83%.

- Parish Council expenditure was running at 70%.
- Walled Garden expenditure was running at 68%.
- The overall figure was 70%.

205. Accounts for Payment

205.1 It was resolved that payments awaiting authorisation totalling £25,324.11 be approved (see attached). **CF**

205.2 The Council was contacted by Beechwood Industries as the grounds maintenance cost is to increase in line with the RPI as of October 2025 (4.3%). The increase is £31.95 + vat per month. Beechwood Industries is requesting payment be backdated to December 2025. It **was resolved** to accept the backdated payment. **CF**

205.3 To note the following items over £500 for January that must be published under the Transparency Code or the Audit Regulations Section 13 (2) 'Payments over £500 each quarter.

a) Livewire Investment £13,672+vat purchase of Solar Panels on the GYCA roof.

The Local Government Transparency Code 2015 relates to a Parish Council which has gross annual income or expenditure (whichever is the higher) exceeding £200,000.

205b. Precept 2026-27

The budget for 2026/2027 with recommendations from the Resources Committee to adopt was presented for Precept setting purposes. It **was resolved** to accept the recommendations as follows:

The precept will increase by £4.52 per household (0.09p per week) 6.3%. This would generate a precept of £317,684.05. Cost to resident £76.88 PA compared to 2025/2026 £72.36 PA.

206. Asset Register

To note the Clerk has disposed of the £15,000 investment held with LiveWire Community. The Investment has now been used to purchase the Solar Panel on the GYCA roof and take over management.

207. Requests for Funding

The Clerk received the following request for funding:
Grappenhall Community Library would like support in purchasing a Defibrillator.
Members agreed in principle to support the Community Library and have asked the Clerk to liaise with the library to ensure that the facility would be accessible for all the community. **CF**

208. Warrington Borough Council Matters

Cllrs Browne, Johnson and Speed updated members on Warrington Borough Council current affairs.

Cllr Hockenhull left the meeting at 19.53pm

209. Neighbourhood Plan Working Party

Consultation on the Pre-Submission (Regulation 14) draft Neighbourhood Plan closed on 1 January 2026.

All households within the Parish received a leaflet with a link to the draft Plan and response form. In addition, 276 organisations/companies/individuals received a letter notifying them of the consultation and detailing how the draft Plan, response form and wider evidence base and supporting documents could be accessed.

Copies of the draft Plan and response form along with the wider evidence base and supporting documents was available online. Hard copies of the Plan and response forms were also available at 7 deposit locations (Parish Council Office, Grappenhall Community Library, Grappenhall Co-op, Thelwall Post Office, The Rams Head PH, The Little Manor PH and Grappenhall Heys Walled Garden) and drop-in sessions were held at the GYCA, Thelwall Parish Hall and Grappenhall Heys Walled Garden. Pop up sessions were also held at All Saints Christmas Fayre in Thelwall and St Wilfrid's Christmas Fayre in Grappenhall. It is estimated that around 200 people attended the drop-in/pop up sessions. In addition, several videos and regular updates were posted on social media platforms.

A total of 58 consultation responses on the draft Plan has been received. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group will now review and consider the submitted representations before reporting them to the Council. Decisions will need to be made over whether to amend the Plan and the reasoning behind such decisions will be recorded, as the information will be incorporated into a consultation statement. The Council, as the neighbourhood planning body, will need to agree the modifications and approve the resulting draft of the Plan for submission to Warrington Borough Council as the local planning authority. After which responsibility for taking the process forward lies with the local planning authority.

Cllr Hockenhull rejoined the meeting at 20.10pm.

210. Road Safety Working Party

Members of the Council's Road Safety Working Party would like to resume the Community Speed Watch initiative. This was previously led by a resident.

The working party has contacted the Police for guidance and training on carrying out Community Speed Checks including risk assessments. However, to undertake the checks a new Community Speed Radar Gun will be required as the one previously used is no longer working.

The working party recommended a new Community Speed Radar Gun and 5 Community Speed Watch signs be purchased at a cost of around £600 + vat and £79 + vat respectively. A total cost of around £679 + vat. Members requested that permission and processes be sought from the local Police and WBC before purchasing a new Radar Gun.

211. PC Crime Report

An updated crime report was emailed to Members prior to the meeting. PC Officer Burns and PCSO Samuel were unable to attend the meeting.

212. Consideration of Planning Applications

To consider the following planning applications:
2025/01706/FULH Single storey extension to front and rear, 8 Mapperton Gardens, Grappenhall – No objection.

2025/01711/FUL Erection of replacement stable block and store (for the keeping of donkeys, ponies and horses), construction of midden and reconfiguration/surfacing of existing track with permeable hard surface, Canal Bank Farm, Canal Side, Grappenhall. No objection.

2025/01739/FULH Single story rear and side extension.56 Albert Road, Grappenhall. No objection.

Chair print and sign.

Print…… **Sign ……**

Grappenhall and Thelwall Parish Council

PAYMENTS LIST

Vouche	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Payment Ref.	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
381	Telephone/Internet	06/01/2026	dec rental	Barclays - Current	dec rental	Telecommunications costs	Hudson Hill Consulting	S	89.71	17.94	107.65
383	Office Cleaning	06/01/2026		Barclays - Current	012	Amanda Sweeney	Amanda	Z	60.00		60.00
382	Office Maintenance Work	06/01/2026		Barclays - Current	0491	IT Support	Rob Worsley	S	48.33	9.67	58.00
386	Office Maintenance Work	06/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Pat Testing	P B Electrical	S	137.50	27.50	165.00
385	Equipment and Site	06/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Heavy Duty Bin Bags	System Hygiene	S	81.12	16.22	97.34
384	South Warrington Parishes	06/01/2026	TBA	Barclays - Current	SEWUE	GYCA - Room Hire	GYCA	Z	75.00		75.00
381	W.G Telephone/Internet	06/01/2026	dec rental	Barclays - Current	dec rental	Telecommunications costs	Hudson Hill Consulting	S	53.46	10.69	64.15
383	W.G	06/01/2026		Barclays - Current	012	Amanda Sweeney	Amanda	Z	410.00		410.00
386	WG PAT Testing	06/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Pat Testing	P B Electrical	S	137.50	27.50	165.00
378	Parish Council Salaries	12/01/2026		Barclays - Current	January Payroll	Payroll	Grappenhall and	Z	7,553.31		7,553.31
378	HMRC PAYE/NI	12/01/2026		Barclays - Current	January Payroll	Payroll	Grappenhall and	Z	2,729.99		2,729.99
378	Parish Council Pensions	12/01/2026		Barclays - Current	January Payroll	Payroll	Grappenhall and	Z	1,817.24		1,817.24
378	W.G Salaries	12/01/2026		Barclays - Current	January Payroll	Payroll	Grappenhall and	Z	4,602.81		4,602.81
378	W.G HMRC/PAYE/NI	12/01/2026		Barclays - Current	January Payroll	Payroll	Grappenhall and	Z	1,463.41		1,463.41
378	W.G Pensions	12/01/2026		Barclays - Current	January Payroll	Payroll	Grappenhall and	Z	1,313.81		1,313.81
398	Utilities	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Parish Council Gas	Eon Next	L	47.62	2.38	50.00
399	Utilities	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Parish Council Electric	Eon Next	L	133.33	6.67	140.00
395	Subscriptions - Software	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Microsoft	Microsoft	S	102.90	20.58	123.48
393	Subscriptions - Software	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current	08/04	Payroll Software	Sage	S	37.50	7.50	45.00
403	Subscriptions - Software	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Microsoft	Microsoft	Z	7.99		7.99
404	Subscriptions - Software	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Adobe	Adobe	Z	10.95		10.95
392	Admin - Postage/Copier/St	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Canon - Copier Rental	Canon	Z	90.70		90.70
406	Office Maintenance Work	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Cheshire Pest Control	Cheshire Pest Control	S	104.77	20.95	125.72
394	Vehicle Hire - Parish	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current	16/04	Vic Young - Van Hire	Vic Young Ltd	S	357.31	71.46	428.77
405	Bank Charges	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Banking Charges	Barclays	X	12.66		12.66
408	Grants - Donations	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Grant Awarded	WODAC	Z	500.00		500.00
397	Grounds Maintenance	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Grounds Maintenance	Beechwood Industries	S	774.96	154.99	929.95
400	W.G Utility Gas/Elec/Water	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Walled Garden Water	WaterPlus	E	90.45		90.45
401	W.G Utility Gas/Elec/Water	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Walled Garden Gas	Eon Next	L	476.19	23.81	500.00
402	W.G Utility Gas/Elec/Water	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Walled Garden Electricity	Eon Next	S	833.33	166.67	1,000.00
406	W.G Janitorial Expense	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Cheshire Pest Control	Cheshire Pest Control	S	104.77	20.96	125.73
396	W.G Business Rates	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current	19/04	Business Rates	Warrington Borough	Z	180.00		180.00
407	W.G Outreach Expenses	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current	Wreath Making	Wreath Making	Woolly Willow	Z	200.00		200.00
409	W.G Outreach Expenses	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current	136	Cards & Creations	S M Chorlton	Z	40.00		40.00

Grappenhall and Thelwall Parish Council

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Vouche	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Payment Ref.	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
409	W.G Outreach Expenses	14/01/2026		Barclays - Current		Cards & Creations	S M Chorlton	Z	40.00		40.00
								Total	**24,718.62**	**605.49**	**25,324.11**

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