MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GRAPPENHALL AND THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, BELLHOUSE LANE, ON THURSDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2026

Present Councillors Browne (Chair), Davies, Dolan, Furnell, Hignett, Hockenhull, Johnson, McQuillian, and Warner.

In Attendance Colette Fellows, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Action

219. It was **resolved that** apologies and reasons for absence from Councillors Drogan, Fisher, Ford, Fernyhough, Speed, Taylor and Worsley be accepted.

220. Dispensation Requests
Members considered a dispensation request from Cllr Ford. It **was resolved** to accept the request for 3 months absence. **CF**

221. Disclosures of Pecuniary and Personal Interests
Councillor McQuillian declared a personal interest in agenda item 231.1.

222. Minutes
Resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 15 January 2026 were approved as a true record. Received the minutes of the Resources Committee on the 14th January 2026 and the Planning Committee on the 5th February 2026. **CF**

223. Correspondence Miscellaneous
a) Correspondence was received from Thelwall Junior School; they held a cake sale at the school and raised £280 towards the Christmas tree that was planted in November.
b) A thank you from Graham Skelland (Choir Master) of the Thelwall Choir for the purchase of new chairs.
c) The Thelwall 1100 Supporters and Management group will hold the final meeting of the organisation on 24th February 2026. The group has thanked the Parish Council for financially supporting the initiative. A completion report will be emailed to members.
d) The PCSO has kindly notified the Parish Council of his voluntary redundancy in March 2026.

224. Information for Noting
a) The biennial Arboriculturists reports have been completed for both the Parish Council's parks and the Walled Garden, the Assistant Clerk is now obtaining quotes for the works needed.
b) The Air-Source heat pump is now installed and fully operational. The Clerk would like to thank Cllr Davies for his support before and during the installation.
c) Two Defibrillators cases have been vandalised and instructions wiped away with Graffiti. Replacement stickers have been attached to three cases as an emergency repair at a cost of £140+vat.
d) The SLCC membership has been renewed at a cost of £379 for 12 months.
e) The Scribe accounting software is to be renewed at a cost of £789.60+vat for 2026/2027.

g) The Warden has unfortunately had a minor accident in the PC van, causing damage to a telecommunications vehicle wing mirror. The accident was reported to the insurance company to deal with. The wing mirror of the PC van will be repaired outside the claim.
h) Councillor Contact information update will be emailed to all Councillors before the meeting.

225. Update on actions from previous meetings

Agenda Item	Action Point	Lead	Status	Update
2025/109.2	New Bin Broad Lane	BD	Complete	
2026/210	Permissions and processes for a Speed Gun.	C Ford	Ongoing	The Road Safety Working Party are awaiting permissions and process before they purchase a speed gun to replace the broken old one.

226. PC Crime Report
An updated crime report was emailed to Members prior to the meeting.

227. 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 11) was 91%.

- Parish Council expenditure was running at 73%.
- Walled Garden expenditure was running at 81%.
- The overall figure was 76%.

228. Accounts for Payment
228.1 It was resolved that payments awaiting authorisation totalling £29,482.18 be approved (see attached).

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

a) Magna Renewables final payment of £3308.00 for the Air Source Heat Pump installation
b) Scribe accounting software £789+vat
c) CJ Electrical – emergency repairs to the lights at the Walled Garden £521+vat.
d) Lowther Forestry Group £545.70+vat – tree safety survey for the parks.
e) Lally Tree Management £750+vat – tree survey Walled Gardens.

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.

228.3 It **was resolved** to accept the petty cash expenditure for the Walled Garden (November 2025 to January 2026) for £188.28+vat. Cllr Fisher has checked and verified all receipts.

229. Governance

229.1 Annual Review of Parish Council Risk Assessments. These can be found on the Parish Council website, and a copy of the amendments was attached to the agenda. It **was resolved** to amend/adopt. **CF**

229.2 Annual Review of Parish Council Standing Orders. These can be found on the Parish Council website, and a copy of the amendments was attached to the agenda. It **was resolved** to amend/adopt. **CF**

229.3 Annual Review of Financial Regulations. These can be found on the Parish Council website with no amendments. It **was resolved** to accept. **CF**

231.4 Annual Review of Parish Code of Conduct for Councillors. These can be found on the Parish Council website. The Parish Council follows the Principal Authority policy (WBC). No changes have been made since June 2021. For information only. **CF**

230. Nantwich Town Council - Support for Legislative Change to the Sale and Use of Fireworks.

At its meeting on 15 January 2026 Nantwich Town Council adopted a Notice of Motion expressing concern about the widespread distress to pets and farm animals, injuries and accidents caused by the private use of fireworks, and the demands placed on emergency services as a result of their sale and unregulated use.

In response, the Council has written to its Member of Parliament, the Prime Minister, and the Home Secretary to request national action to prevent the private sale of fireworks and to promote instead organised public displays and bonfire events conducted by responsible organisations under licence from the relevant principal local authority. The Council believes this approach would improve public safety, reduce animal distress, and ensure better deployment of emergency services.

The text of Nantwich Town Council's motion is below for reference. Assistance is sought from the Council to support this call, including by writing to our local MP and relevant Government Ministers to request similar legislative action. Should the Council decide to support this initiative, Nantwich Town Council would appreciate a copy of the Council's correspondence to assist with collating support across the wider region.

The Council is asked to RESOLVE that

1. *Having regard to the upset to pets and farm animals , the injuries and accidents caused, and the resources spent by our emergency services, the Town Clerk is requested to write to our MP, the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary asking them to support legislation preventing the sale of fireworks and promoting, instead, public displays of fireworks and bonfires arranged by responsible organisations with licences issued by the relevant principal local authority for the area.*
2. *The Council further requests the Clerk to write to all Parish Councils in the former Crewe and Nantwich area and to all Town Councils in Cheshire East, asking them to join with this call and urging the Town Councils to send similar requests to all Parish Councils in their locality.*

It **was resolved** that members do not support the new initiative request for a change in legislation and feel that it wouldn't be a fair view of residents of this community, however, members would support a greater regulation on the sale of fireworks in reducing noise levels.

231. Requests for Funding

231.1 The Clerk received the following request for funding:
Grappenhall Community Library has requested a defibrillator for the outside wall of library. There will be 24-hour access to the defibrillator by a combination lock on the gates, the code to which will be provided to the emergency services. The cost of a new defibrillator is £1290+vat. The library would pay for the electrician to install. It **was resolved** to accept the request. **CF**

231.2 The Clerk received a financial support request from Stockton Heath Festival for £400. It was resolved that due to current budget restraints it was refused at this time. **CF**

232. War Memorial – Thelwall

The War memorial needs some remedial works and re-planting. The Clerk requested a budget be set to update and improve the area and setting. It **was resolved** to allocate £1,000. **CF**

233. Environment Committee – EV Chargers

233.1 Cllr Furnell provided an update on the EV Charger installation, including the options suppliers are responding to and an indication of possible cost (notes shared). The Environment Committee requested authorisation to spend, subject to the proposals satisfying the Council's requirements. Authorisation was being sought to reduce the risk that the Council misses the 31st March 2026 deadline for a government grant contribution.
Members requested that an economic case be prepared to include a cost/benefit evaluation of current environmental impacts from emissions, along with the costs of buying/leasing an electric vehicle for the Parish Wardens. The Council deemed the grant contribution was not a significant driver to make a timely decision. **CF**

233.2 In a PC Meeting in July 2023 (ref 2023/63) it **was resolved** that Council be recommended to explore the proposal further with WBC to installing an EV charger on our Stansfield Drive carpark.
Members had agreed in principle to the proposal. WBC would manage a third-party provider. Due to permissions needed from Utilities companies the project has been very slow in progressing.
WBC requested permission for Connected Kerb to make enquires and applications. It **was resolved** to accept the request. **BD**

234. Warrington Borough Council Matters

Cllrs Browne, Hignett, and Johnson updated members on Warrington Borough Council matters.

235. Neighbourhood Plan Working Party

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group is currently in the process of reviewing and considering all the representations submitted on the Pre-Submission (Regulation 14) draft Neighbourhood Plan. These will be reported to a future meeting of the Council and

the Council, as the neighbourhood planning body, will need to agree any modifications and approve the resulting draft of the Plan for submission to WBC. Responsibility for taking the process forward then lies with WBC as the local planning authority.

236. Consideration of Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered, see attached report:
2025/01561/FULH Single storey rear extension and boundary treatments, 609 Stockport Road, Thelwall WA4 2TH

2026/00135/NMA Non-material amendment to Condition 6 (Parking Provision) of outline ref.2022/42154 to remove reference to site layout plan, 225 Chester Road, Grappenhall, WA4 2QD (For information only)

2026/00049/DISCON Discharge of condition (CHEMP) on application 2022/42474 (Proposed demolition of existing office building and redevelopment of site for 10 no. residential dwellings), Warrington Hillcrest, Hillcrest Knutsford Road, Grappenhall WA4 3LA (For information only)

2025/01789/CLDP Single storey rear extension, 7 Lichfield Avenue, Grappenhall WA4 3LG (For information only)

2026/00144/TPOCA Proposed fell of 4 No. Trees, remedial works to 3 No. Trees and remedial work to 1 group of trees, Scout Hut Church Lane, Grappenhall WA4 3EP (For information only)

Chair print and sign.

Print…… **Sign ……**

Grappenhall and Thelwall Parish Council

PAYMENTS LIST

					Payment Ref.	Description	Supplier				
438	Office Cleaning	04/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Amanda Sweeney	Amanda	Z	30.00		30.00
443	Admin - Postage/Copier/St	04/02/2026		Barclays - Current	Wall	Stationery	Miscellaneous	S	8.24	1.65	9.89
439	Admin - Postage/Copier/St	04/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Viking Office Supplies	Viking	S	97.49	19.51	117.00
440	General Maintenance	04/02/2026		Barclays - Current	Twenty Four	Defib Vinyl installation	Miscellaneous	S	140.00	28.00	168.00
438	W.G	04/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Amanda Sweeney	Amanda	Z	400.00		400.00
443	W.G	04/02/2026		Barclays - Current	Wall	Stationery	Miscellaneous	S	8.24	1.65	9.89
444	Equipment	04/02/2026		Barclays - Current	Emergency light	Walled Garden Sensor	C J Electrical	S	521.00	104.20	625.20
442	W.G Outreach Expenses	05/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Have a go expenses	S M Chorlton	Z	40.00		40.00
441	Equipment	05/02/2026		Barclays - Current	Walled garden	dishwasher - Walled	Laundry Craft	S	198.14	39.63	237.77
446	Subscriptions - Software	09/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Adobe	Adobe	E	10.95		10.95
448	Equipment and Site	09/02/2026		Barclays - Current	Lowther	Lowther Forestry	Miscellaneous	S	545.70	109.14	654.84
447	W.G - Tree/Hedge/Ground	09/02/2026		Barclays - Current	Lally tree	Tree Survey - Grappenhall	Miscellaneous	S	750.00	150.00	900.00
449	Parish Council Salaries	11/02/2026		Barclays - Current	February payroll	PC Payroll	Grappenhall and	Z	7,826.21		7,826.21
449	Parish Council Pensions	11/02/2026		Barclays - Current	February payroll	PC Payroll	Grappenhall and	Z	1,807.85		1,807.85
449	HMRC PAYE/NI	11/02/2026		Barclays - Current	February payroll	PC Payroll	Grappenhall and	Z	2,714.25		2,714.25
451	Grants - Donations	11/02/2026		Barclays - Current	BE Furniture	40 Ex-Hire Chairs for	Miscellaneous	S	500.00	100.00	600.00
451	Grants - Donations	11/02/2026		Barclays - Current	BE Furniture	40 Ex-Hire Chairs for	Miscellaneous	S	248.00	49.60	297.60
449	W.G Salaries	11/02/2026		Barclays - Current	February payroll	PC Payroll	Grappenhall and	Z	4,617.14		4,617.14
449	W.G HMRC/PAYE/NI	11/02/2026		Barclays - Current	February payroll	PC Payroll	Grappenhall and	Z	1,459.02		1,459.02
449	W.G Pensions	11/02/2026		Barclays - Current	February payroll	PC Payroll	Grappenhall and	Z	1,310.80		1,310.80
450	Equipment	11/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Walled garden Electrical	C J Electrical	S			
455	Utilities	16/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Parish Council Electric	Eon Next	L	133.33	6.67	140.00
461	Telephone/Internet	16/02/2026	Aug 25	Barclays - Current	13193	Telecommunications costs	Hudson Hill Consulting	S	90.00	18.00	108.00
459	Subscriptions - Software	16/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Microsoft	Microsoft	Z	7.99		7.99
452	Subscriptions - Software	16/02/2026		Barclays - Current	08/04	Payroll Software	Sage	S	41.00	8.20	49.20
454	Subscriptions - Software	16/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Microsoft	Microsoft	S	102.90	20.58	123.48
464	Office Maintenance Work	16/02/2026		Barclays - Current	new batteries	Intruder Alarm	Complete Security	S	40.00	8.00	48.00
453	Vehicle Hire - Parish	16/02/2026		Barclays - Current	16/04	Vic Young - Van Hire	Vic Young Ltd	S	357.31	71.46	428.77
453	Vehicle Hire - Parish	16/02/2026		Barclays - Current	16/04	Vic Young - Van Hire	Vic Young Ltd	S	357.31	71.46	428.77
460	Bank Charges	16/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Banking Charges	Barclays	X	8.50		8.50
465	Website costs	16/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Parish Council Websites	Parish Council	S	228.00	45.60	273.60
461	W.G Telephone/Internet	16/02/2026	Aug 25	Barclays - Current	13193	Telecommunications costs	Hudson Hill Consulting	S	52.50	10.50	63.00
456	W.G Utility Gas/Elec/Water	16/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Walled Garden Water	WaterPlus	E	90.45		90.45
457	W.G Utility Gas/Elec/Water	16/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Walled Garden Gas	Eon Next	L	476.19	23.81	500.00

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Grappenhall and Thelwall Parish Council

PAYMENTS LIST

Vouche	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Payment Ref.	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
458	W.G Utility Gas/Elec/Water	16/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Walled Garden Electricity	Eon Next	S	833.33	166.67	1,000.00
465	W.G Website	16/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Parish Council Websites	Parish Council	S	228.00	45.60	273.60
462	W.G - Tree/Hedge/Ground	16/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Tree felling - ~~Walled~~	Nick	Z	300.00		300.00
463	Equipment	16/02/2026		Barclays - Current	Dishwasher	Dishwasher Repairs	Laundry Craft	S	123.50	24.70	148.20
473	Grants - Donations	17/02/2026		Barclays - Current	Thelwall Choir	40 Ex-Hire Chairs for	Miscellaneous	Z	-248.00		-248.00
470	Website costs	18/02/2026		Barclays - Current		GTPC Email Domian	Parish Council	S	48.00	9.60	57.60
466	W.G - Plants/Bulbs/Genera	18/02/2026		Barclays - Current	Fruit Netting	LBS Horticultural Ltd	LBS	S	153.01	30.60	183.61
471	W.G - Plants/Bulbs/Genera	18/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Potatoes- Walled Garden	Tamar Organics	Z	134.50		134.50
472	W.G - Plants/Bulbs/Genera	18/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Veg Walled garden	Tamar Organics	Z	202.80		202.80
467	Christmas Lights - Broad	19/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Electricity for Christmas	N Power	L	117.19	5.86	123.05
468	Equipment and Site	19/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Heavy Duty Bin Bags	System Hygiene	S	27.04	5.41	32.45
469	W.G	19/02/2026		Barclays - Current		Cleaning Supplies	System Hygiene	S	183.90	36.78	220.68
437	Subscriptions - Software	26/02/2026		Barclays - Current	Accounts	Scribe Accounts	Scribe Accounts	S	789.60	157.92	947.52
								Total	**28,111.38**	**1,370.80**	**29,482.18**

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