

Minutes of the Ordinary March meeting held on 13th March 2025 at 7.30pm at Coddington Parish Rooms.

Present: Cllrs. R. Sadler (Chair), M. Leigh, P. Roberts (apologies for lateness received due to meeting clash), P. Overmeer, P. O’Leary, A. Lessels, C. Lawton, Borough Cllr A. Waddelove, and the Clerk.

1. Apologies: None.

2. Declarations of Interest: None.

3. Public speaking time limited to 15 minutes. Nothing raised.

4. Community Safety.

No police presence. Monthly report circulated prior to meeting.

Resolved: Clerk to ask PCSO if it would be possible to offer police surgeries in Clutton.

5. Borough Councillors Report.

i) Interruption to energy supply: Due to a lack of resilience. The issue was that the current loop was too big and a smaller loop was to be created in time (e.g. Clutton and Churton were both on the same loop).

Clarification was requested regarding what measures Scottish Power (SP) had available to vulnerable residents during power loss (referencing loss of stair lift access etc). **Resolved:** Cllr Waddelove would liaise with SP.

ii) A534 potholes/water leak at Barton: CWAC had identified a 3m length of crushed/compacted pipe under the road surface but as it was not deemed an emergency it would be scheduled for repair in the 25/26 financial year.

iii) Planning: NP Policy Framework: With CWACs annual housing target significantly increased from circa 500 houses to 1914 there would be implications for rural areas with likely speculative applications to develop land not previously identified in the Local Plan.

iv) Devolution: A mayoral election to happen in May 2026.

v) Stretton Hall Lane speed restrictions: Due 2024/25 but now scheduled for 2025/26 as CWAC ran out of funding.

vi) Speeding reductions: Budget Council had voted to impose a blanket 20mph speed restriction outside all schools in Cheshire where not already in place (this would affect Clutton and Abbey Gate locally).

vii) CWACs budget council meeting had voted to increase council tax for 2025/26 by 4.99%.

6. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2024.

Proposed

Cllr. P Overmeer

Seconded

Cllr. A Lessels

7. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council held on 14 November 2024:

i) Clutton school numbers: Cllrs Lessels reported that a productive and very encouraging meeting had been held with the CEO of the Samara Trust who had presented a new prospectus and advised that pupil numbers had increased. Coloured fencing on the school frontage had been replaced/renewed, there had been some new staff appointments and other investment. The head had agreed to make contact regarding further engagement with the PC and had offered the school premises as an alternative/additional venue to host PC meetings should there be a requirement.

The pear tree that dropped fruit onto the play area had been raised and the school had advised that their 3 yearly tree surgeon visit was due that summer and that it would be taken care of if deemed necessary along with any other highlighted tree related issues. **Resolved:** Noted.

ii) Dog fouling: Cllr Lawton reported that she had met with the relevant representative from CWAC and engaged with local dog walkers, handed out dog poop bags and posted advisory notices re picking up after dogs on available lampposts. There were several community minded villagers who regularly picked up where other owners had not. **Resolved:** To continue to monitor the situation and where possible/safe to do so raise it as an issue with anyone witnessed offending.

iii) CWAC Connections meeting feedback: Cllr Roberts reported that he had attended the session. Various issues had been reported on, including devolution and the mayoral election scheduled for May 2026. It was, however, felt that issues raised in advance by Parish Councils, as invited by CWAC to do so, were not acknowledged or addressed. **Resolved:** Noted.

iv) Defibrillator: Training was available through Tattenhall First Responders or on the second Saturday of the month at Tarporley War Memorial Hospital (tbc). **Resolved:** Cllrs to ask/see if there was any interest within their respective parishes (with help from social media platforms). If suitable numbers interested to look towards arranging a session through Tattenhall First responders, if limited interest to signpost via Tarporley War Memorial Hospital.

v) Social media: Cllr O'Leary advised that he had set up a WhatsApp group for Carden residents to aid Parish Council communications. **Resolved:** Noted.

vi) Carden (and Stretton noticeboards): **Noted:** The header boards would be replaced as soon as the weather allowed.

8. Planning.

Applications still awaiting a decision:

22/03750/FUL Orchard House Barton Road Barton Erection of fence to the front boundary including (electrically operated) entrance gate.

24/01656/FUL Broxton Gates Barton Wells Barton Road Barton The change of use of site to residential and erection of 6 dwellings.

24/02814/LBC Aldersey Park Gate Pier Aldersey Park Handley Replacement gate pier.

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NEW APPLICATIONS:

24/03540/FUL Manor Wood Country Caravan Park Mill Lane Coddington Change of use and alteration of part of existing building to Use Class E (b) – Sale of food (sic) and drink.

25/00232/FUL Foxglove Cottage Barton Road Barton Single storey extension to rear of property.

25/00417/CAT Stretton Lower Hall Stretton Hall Lane Stretton Tree works.

25/00393/LBC The Barn Stretton Lower Hall Stretton Hall Lane Stretton Replace adhoc windows, rooflights and doors with double glazed timber windows, two windows to be blocked up, and installation of three roof lights.

25/00065/FUL Highfield 26 Stretton Green Stretton Construction of outdoor swimming pool to rear garden with replacement of existing timber pergola with new aluminium rear and side pergola to cover outdoor kitchen.

DECISIONS:

Approved: **23/03288/FUL** Land to the North West of Carden Park Hotel Barton Road Clutton Chester Proposed siting of 67 lodges within the grounds of Carden Park Hotel together with associated landscaping and environmental improvements.

9. Finance Matters. Cheques raised and approved/signed by signatories.

Proposed Cllr R Sadler Seconded Cllr M Leigh

i) Online banking. **Resolved:** Cllr Overmeer to progress application with Lloyds Bank.

10. Clutton Play Area/MUGA Update: Cllr Lessels advised no specific update from the Play Area Committee. **Resolved:** Noted.

11. CORRESPONDENCE, PUBLICATIONS, AND INVITATIONS. To receive correspondence, publications, and invitations.

- i) Avian Influenza advisory circulated. **Resolved:** Noted.
- ii) Approach from TWM Traffic and Elan City received. **Resolved:** Noted.
- iii) Complaint received from resident re (a) white line road markings and (b) police visibility.
 - (a) **Resolved:** Cllr Waddelove to ask Highways if replacement/renewal of white lines could be carried out/addressed when sections of road were resurfaced.
 - (b) **Resolved:** Clerk to ask PCSO if police surgeries could be arranged in Clutton.
- iv) Repair to animal drovers keep in Aldersey Green. It was acknowledged that old traditions/structures were easily lost and that they should be repaired/cared for/chronicled/recorded as far as possible and in a timely manner to mitigate loss. Barton Stocks and Barton Wells were other such examples. **Resolved:** Cllr Overmeer to liaise direct with Historic England with a suggestion/request that they agree to an onsite meeting to look at all interests.
- v) BT Kiosk Consultation regarding proposed removal of telephony and locking kiosk (Mill Lane Coddington): To consider adoption. **Resolved:** The Clerk to advise CWAC (and ask them to relay to BT) that the Parish Council request that the telephony NOT be removed as mobile connectivity/signal in the area of the phone box was very poor and the payphone could be relied on for connecting to emergency services/help with the defibrillator. Cllr Waddelove to further liaise with the Chief Planning Officer requesting his assistance to ensure the payphone remained live and available.

12. STANDING CONSIDERATION OF HIGHWAY MATTERS. Members may inform the Clerk of any issues regarding highways and footpaths.

- i) Holywell Lane grass verges. Considerable degradation of the verge and hedging had been raised. The lane was narrow and the sidings in danger of collapsing. There were several possible different causal factors. **Resolved:** Cllr Waddelove to raise with CWAC in the first instance.
- ii) Footpath Clutton to Coddington. Complaint regarding mud on footpaths. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to CWAC.
- iii) Complaint re overhang of hedges outside Rock Farm Barton. **Resolved:** Cllr Waddelove to address.
- iv) Complaint re littering in layby at Edgerley Lane: **Resolved:** Cllr Leigh to contact firm identified from vehicle to request the issue be raised with their employee(s) and that the activity stops forthwith.

13. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING. Thursday 22 MAY 2025 at 7.30pm in the Parish Room Coddington. This will be the Annual Parish Meetings followed by the Ordinary May Meeting

