



Minutes of the Meeting of Brereton Parish Council

held on Monday June 16, 2025

at Brereton Primary School

1. Apologies

It was resolved (**0625/01**) to receive the apologies from Councillor Dixon, due to family commitments.

Members Present - Councillors Andrews, Calderbank, Castle, Charlesworth, Lindsay, Mellers, Wearne (Chair), Wootton, Wray (Cheshire East Ward Councillor)

Members of the Public – one

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Public Forum

A member of the public gave a background history and his proposed plans for the application 25/1516/FUL below.

Cllr Wray arrived

4. Council Minutes

It was resolved (**0625/02**) for the Chair to sign the Minutes of May 12, 2025, confirming them as a true and correct representation of the meeting.

5. Matters Arising

5.1 It was resolved (**0625/03**) to receive the Clerk's Report, Appendix A.

5.2 Chair's Report – it was resolved (**0625/04**) to obtain three quotes for speed indicator devices. Councillor Castle will canvass residents on School Lane for their input.

5.3 Councillor Wray's Report – Councillor Wootton requested Councillor Wray to investigate the loose manhole cover on the A50 towards Arclid. Councillor Mellors asked for clarification on the new electoral boundaries whereby Bluebell Green will continue to be under Brereton Parish but will now fall under Holmes Chapel electoral ward thus represented by the Dane Valley Ward councillor. The rest of Brereton Parish will be represented by the Brereton Ward councillor.

5.4 Any further business - the state of the fence near the Croco river in Brereton Park was raised and it was resolved **(0625/05)** for Councillor Charlesworth to ascertain who owns it and request repair and Councillor Castle to look at the access and safety of the river at this point with a view to contacting The Rivers Trust for repair.

Councillor Lindsay reported on his participation on a Teams meeting discussing the proposed devolution where the aim is to have a combined authority of Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Warrington boroughs, governed under the mayoral systems which will determined from elections in May 2026.

Councillor Charlesworth left the meeting.

6. Finance

6.1 2024/25 Year End Accounts – it was resolved **(0625/06)** to approve the year end accounts for the financial year 2024/25 together with the key variances, earmarked reserves, bank and cash reconciliations, income and expenditure account and the fixed asset register – including acquisitions, disposals and value.

It was further resolved **(0625/07)** to sign the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) having reviewed the effectiveness of the system of internal control for 2024-25 to approve the responses as detailed in Appendix A and published on the website. That following the review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control, to approve sign Section 1 of the AGAR. Following approval, to sign Section 2 of the AGAR and approve the public inspection period (Notice of Public Rights) from Tuesday June 17 to Tuesday July 29, 2025, inclusive.

Finally, the Financial Regulations and Financial Risk Assessment for the financial year 2025/26 were review and it was resolved **(0625/08)** to adopt.

6.2 Review of Project Spend/Reserves – Councillor Lindsay presented a review of project spend and reserves and it was resolved **(0625/09)** for project leads to provide a project financial update at each meeting. Councillor Wootton proposed and it was resolved **(0625/10)** to investigate the feasibility of installing two community benches on the grass land between St Oswald’s Cresent and the A50.

6.3 Brereton Bear Festival – it was resolved **(0625/11)** to sponsor the printing of the programme. All Councillors to place their ‘bear’ in St Oswald’s church by July 12.

6.4 Bank Reconciliation – it was resolved **(0625/12)** to receive the month’s bank account and expenditure against budget reports and approve the year end, March 31, 2025 detailed income and expenditure against budget as presented by the Clerk. It was further resolved **(0625/13)** for the Clerk to look at a savings account to move the reserves into.

6.4 Schedule of Payments – it was resolved **(0625/14)** to approve the following invoices for payment as presented by the Clerk below. It was further resolved **(0625/15)** that anticipated payments needing payment in between meetings can be facilitated by the Clerk for the financial year 2025/26.

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| Staff Salary (May) | 753.80 |
| Staff Pension | 218.75 |
| HMRC | 70.77 |
| Chair's Allowance | 99.50 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Harrison Flagpoles | 124.15 |
| KAM Associates | 225.00 |
| Urban Imprint | 2175.66 |
| The Storage Team | 57.60 |
| N Clarke (Internal Auditor) | 100.00 |
| Parish Online | 300.00 |
| | 4125.23 |

7. Planning Applications/Decision/Inquiry

7.1 25/1516/FUL – it was resolved (**0625/16**) to support the application under HOUO4 Self-build Scheme, in particular sections 1a and section 4 of Brereton's neighbourhood plan. In addition, the applicant can demonstrate that he qualifies under the Definition of Local Housing Connections stated within Section 6.1.

It was noted that planning application 24/2239c, The Homestead BHL CW12 4SZ, APP/R0660/W/24/3351564 has been refused at appeal.

8. Working Priorities

8.1 Community Speed Watch Group – Councillor Andrews presented the figures from this month's speed watch initiative and the aim is still to recruit and train more volunteers. On June 20 a small group of children from the school will be carrying out a speed watch with the group, the effectiveness of the 'little people' signs will also be evaluated. July 11 is national speed watch day, and the group are aiming to join in.

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|-----------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------|--------------|
| 41 | Broomfields | 20/05/2025 10:27 | 282 | 6 | 2.1% |
| 42 | Outer School Ln | 27/05/2025 09:31 | 35 | 12 | 34.3% |
| 43 | Outer School Ln | 30/05/2025 16:00 | 53 | 20 | 37.7% |
| 44 | Broomfields | 31/05/2025 08:00 | 153 | 7 | 4.6% |

8.2 Community Engagement Group – the Brereton summer bulletin is in draft format; Councillor Dixon is liaising with KAM Associates on content. The photographs taken today should be ready for incorporation into the next bulletin. Councillor Mellors will look at a distribution company for future publications. The engagement group are attending the primary school 'Rose' day festival on Saturday, July 5 and will highlight speed within the parish. The group have been asked to look at FP3 along with Holmes Chapel Parish Council as to how best to achieve accessibility. Councillor Wootton has joined the working group.

8.3 Neighbourhood Plan Review – the working group have met with Urban Imprint and walked some of the local area identifying characteristics, on a Teams meeting held on June 3 it was agreed that Councillor Lindsay and Calderbank will review the settlement boundary of Brereton Green. Four areas will be looked at for character mapping to identify any heritage assets and

look at nature recovery areas at the same time. Councillor Lindsay will cover Brereton Heath, Councillor Mellors, Bluebell Green, Councillor Andrews, Brereton Green and Councillor Charlesworth and Wearne will cover the wider rural area.

8.4 Nature Recovery Project – Councillor Charlesworth has met with the Ranger at Brereton Country Park who has agreed to advice on the plan and be an active member. Cheshire Wildlife Trust will produce a habitat distinctiveness map by September outlining habitat enhancement and creation recommendations.

9. Date of Next Meeting – Monday, July 21, 2025. The meeting closed at 21:27

Signed:

Date:

Councillor Wearne Chair, Brereton Parish Council