



Minutes of the Meeting of Brereton Parish Council

held on Monday January 20, 2025

at Brereton Primary School

1. Apologies

It was resolved **(0125/01)** to receive the apologies from Councillor Lindsay

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

Members of the Public – 5

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Public Forum

- A couple of members of the public highlighted their objections to planning application 24/4728/FUL The Little Cow Shed being, noise, traffic, litter, the lack of documents visible on the Cheshire East Planning Portal and the short consultation timeframe over the Christmas period.
- Congleton Town Councillor Robert Douglas informed the meeting that Cheshire East have applied for a 5% uplift in the precept. The results from the Brereton Speed Action Group speed checker on Brereton Heath Lane have come in at an average of 30 mph. This could influence a lowering of the current 60mph limit. Councillor Douglas continues to campaign for Brereton and Somerford voters to be able to vote in their own parishes rather than the current system where residents must travel to neighbouring parishes to vote. He also continues to investigate and highlight Cheshire East's perceived failings in securing S106 monies for the local communities from house building in the area. His current estimate is approximately £800k has been left outstanding in this area.

4. Council Minutes

It was resolved **(0125/02)** for the Chair to sign the Minutes of December 16, 2024, confirming them as a true and correct representation of the meeting.

5. Matters Arising

- It was resolved **(0125/03)** to receive the Clerk's Report, Appendix A and further resolved **(0125/04)** to engage KAM Associates at a cost of £225 per edition, to produce a quarterly newsletter on behalf of the parish council.

6. Chair's Report

- The Chair expressed the Council's best wishes to the school caretaker who is currently in hospital having suffered a serious fall at home.
- Thanks was given for the distribution of the first parish newsletter which has been well received.
- A meeting with Urban Imprint to carry on the review of the neighbourhood plan has been arranged for February 17 at 4:30 pm, all Councillors are welcome to attend and from there a small working group can take forward the recommendations.
- Attendance at the Parish Liaison meeting was reported on, where a pooled approach to speed watch training was suggested, engagement with Cheshire Wildlife Trust was discussed together with the proposed absorption of local election costs, the long term parking of large vehicles in our local lay-bys, lots of positivity for Brereton's new parish boundary signs was received and finally the plan by Cheshire East to raise the council tax 4.99 to 9.99 and the proposal of signing a joint parish letter of objection about the lack of transparency surrounding the figures mentioned. It was resolved **(0125/04)** for Brereton Parish Council to sign the said letter.
- Nalc/Chalc are looking for 'exciting news' and it was resolved **(0125/05)** to send in details of the Community Speedwatch.
- A meeting has been arranged with the School, BPCIG and the Vicar about proposals for an additional classroom.

6.1 Ward Councillor Report - Councillor Wray was not present.

6.2 Planning Process Protocol - Councillor Mellors presented the final draft of the document, and it was resolved **(0125/06)** to adopt the Planning Process Protocol and review it on a bi-annual basis.

6.3 Nature Recovery – Councillor Charlesworth shared his initial thoughts on this new initiative. Nature recovery is about restoring, enhancing and connecting with the natural environment. He intends to liaise firstly with Cheshire Wildlife Trust to identify sites and opportunities and create the Brereton Parish Nature Recovery Group involving any other interested local groups, volunteers and the farming community to operate as a separate umbrella organisation supported by the parish council.

6.4 No further business to bring to Council

7. Finance

7.1 Bank Reconciliation – it was resolved **(0125/07)** to receive the month's bank account and expenditure against budget reports as presented by the Clerk.

7.2 Schedule of Payments – it was resolved **(0125/08)** to approve the following invoices for payment as presented by the Clerk below.

SJC Domestic Electrician	400.00
The Storage Team D/D	28.80
Staff Salary (January)	753.80
Staff Pension	218.75
HMRC	19.00
Shires Accountants	18.00
	1438.35

8. Planning Applications/Decision/Inquiry

8.1 24/4760/HOUS Tree Cottage CW12 4SW - it was resolved (0125/09) to support the application.

8.2 24/441/FUL Moss Farm, Brereton Heath CW12 4SX -

9. Working Priorities

9.1 Community Speed Watch Group – Councillor Andrews gave a review of the year. Six councillors and three residents have taken part along with the PCSO on four occasions and the figures are as follows.

First	30/03/2024	last	09/12/2024	
Location	checks	Count	Offenders	%age
2024 Tot	25	3428	78	2.3%
St Oz	13	574	17	3.0%
A54	9	2782	39	1.4%
Outer	3	72	22	30.6%

9.2 Community Engagement Group – circulated a draft plan of proposed ideas for the year ahead and will be revisited at the next meeting.

9.3 Neighbourhood Plan Review – already covered under 6.1.

10. Date of Next Meeting – Monday, March 3, 2025.

The meeting closed at 21:02

Signed:

Councillor Wearne

Chair, Brereton Parish Council

Date: