TABLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Meeting
Held on Monday 4th May 2026 at 7PM
Venue: Mere & Tabley Community Club
Contact: clerk@tableyparishcouncil.co.uk

- **Present:** Councillors (Chair), H. Gurney-Smith (HGS), N Wythenshawe, K Newport (KN) A, Greenway (AG) & B Hartley
- **Also Present:** Ms. S Booth (Parish Clerk)

Part A (Public)

Welcome and housekeeping procedures were completed. The resigning Chair and Vice Chair formally stepped down from their respective positions

1. Election of Chair for the Ensuing Year

1.1 **Chairperson**

Members received nominations for the position of Chair for the ensuing year.
Resolved: That Cllr H Gurney-Smith be elected as Chair of the Council for the 2026–2027 municipal year.
POR: The newly elected Chair was formally welcomed to the role. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office will be signed at the earliest opportunity.

2. Election of Officers for the Ensuing Year

2.1 **Vice-Chair**

Members received nominations for the position of Vice-Chair.
Resolved: That Cllr Alan Greenway be elected as Vice-Chair for the 2026–2027 municipal year.
POR: The newly elected Chair was formally welcomed to the role and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2.2 **Responsible Financial Officer**

Resolved: That the Parish Clerk will remain the RFO for the 2026–2027 municipal year.

3. Declarations of Acceptance to office

Resolved: That the Declarations of Acceptance of Office for the 2026–2027 municipal year be received and noted, and that all Members complete and sign the forms in accordance with statutory requirements.

3.1 **Declaration of Interest**

Resolved: No declarations of interest were made.

4. Apologies for Absence and Confirmation of Quorum

- Cllr T Jackson – Annual Leave
- Cllr S Wharfe – Annual Leave
- Cllr S Carson – Work
- Cllr D Bailey – Annual Leave

Resolved: that the meeting was quorate and apologises accepted.

5. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

5.1 Minutes of the Annual Parish council meeting held on 12th May 2025 [P108 to P111]
Resolved: That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

5.1.1 **Resolved** that there were no matters arising from the above set of minutes.

5.2 Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Parish council meeting held on 9th March 2026 [P127 to P130]
Resolved: That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

5.2.1 **Resolved** that matters arising from the above set of minutes were:

- An amendment was requested to Item 3.1.1 which should refer to Windmill Pub not Windmill Lane.

6. Guest Speakers and Reports: Invited guests will provide their reports. A remote meeting invitation sent to WCKH.

6.1 **Cheshire East Ward Councillor Report.**

It was noted that Councillor Kate Hague had been unable to attend. No significant updates were reported and there had been no material changes since the previous meeting.

Update: Members noted that Villa Farm had been placed on the market.

6.2 **Police Report**

No report had been received. Members noted that information continues to be circulated when received.

6.3 **Parish Councillor Reports/Updates**

Members reported on a number of successful local initiatives, including recent footpath improvements and community litter-picking activities.

It was suggested that future Parish Council meeting dates be shared more widely via social media to improve public awareness.

Members discussed community matters affecting the wider area and noted ongoing frustrations regarding the slow progress of certain local issues, whilst agreeing to continue pursuing improvements.

7. Open Forum

Resolved: That there were no members of the public (MOP) in attendance, therefore this item was closed.

8. Review and Adoption of Policies

Members reviewed the Council's policies.

Resolved: That all policies presented be adopted.

9. Chairman's Report

The Chairman delivered a report reflecting on the Council's activities during the previous year.

Members noted the report.

10. Parish Councillors reports

10.1 Members updated on their roles within the Council

- **AG** updated Members on a number of successful initiatives within the parish, including the completion of footpath improvements along the main road and recent community litter-picking activities undertaken by Parish Councillors and volunteers.
- **KN** suggested that future Parish Council meeting dates be promoted through social media channels to improve public awareness and engagement.
- **BH** provides an update on matters affecting the wider Knutsford community and ongoing local initiatives.
- **NW** discussed progress on a number of local issues. Whilst expressing some frustration at the pace of progress on certain matters.
- Members agreed to continue working with relevant authorities and stakeholders to pursue improvements for the parish.

Resolved: That the updates be noted.

10.2 **Joint Parish Councils Highways Meeting**

- **KN** reported on a recent meeting of neighbouring Parish Councils convened to discuss highways matters affecting the local area.
- Issues discussed included the impact of highway works on residents and businesses, road closures, traffic management arrangements, proposed speed limit changes, highway signage, pothole repairs, flooding, traffic light operation, highway safety, and delays associated with vehicles passing beneath local bridges.
- Members noted concerns regarding damaged and missing signage and the effect of ongoing highway works on local communities and businesses.

- It was reported that a joint submission outlining the issues raised would be prepared and forwarded to Cheshire East Council for consideration.

Resolved: That the update be noted and that further clarification be sought from Cheshire East Council regarding future access arrangements to Cheshire Showground.

11. Standing Monthly Agenda Items and Updates

11.1 **Cllr B Hartley Update:** Members received updates from local meetings and organisations, including:

- Knutsford Town Council matters.
- Cheshire East funding pressures affecting local services and libraries.
- Highway and public realm issues.
- Activities and events taking place at Tabley House.
- Tourism and cultural events planned within the area.
- Local planning and development matters.
- Flood alleviation proposals.
- Community facility projects and funding opportunities.

Resolved: The updates were noted.

11.2 **Cllr S Carson Update:**

Resolved: There was no update for this meeting

12. Recent Cheshire East Planning Submissions

12.1 To consider each of the following planning applications and resolve accordingly.

- **26/1209/HOUS – Partridge Rise, Moss Lane, Over Tabley, Knutsford, WA16 0PH**
  Balcony to be created on the existing flat roof, with frosted glass and parapet walls to the East and North facing. Cladded screen to match dormer to the West facing elevation
  Received: 23/04/26 Circulated to Cllrs: 23/04/26

Resolved: That there were no comments for this application

- **26/1373/DSC – Holly Bush Farm, Pickmere Lane, Tabley, Knutsford, WA16 0HP**
  Discharge of conditions 5,6,7,9,10,14 and 16 on approval 24/3062M: Change of use of existing agricultural storage building to provide a new agricultural research and office building [SUI Generis] with associated external amendments, landscapes works and alterations to access arrangements.
  Received: 27/04/26 Circulated to Cllrs: 27/04/26

Resolved: That there were no comments for this application

13. Schedule of Meetings 2026–2027

13.1 Resolved that the Meeting schedule was agreed for 2026-27

14. Annual Finance Reporting

14.1 AGAR 2025–2026 Draft AGAR accounts and year-end financial reports were presented.

Resolved: That the draft AGAR accounts and associated year-end financial reports for 2025–2026 be approved.

14.2 **Internal Audit Report**

Resolved: The Internal Audit has commenced.

14.3 **Banking - Unity Trust Bank Accounts:**

14.3.1 To note the current financial position in the Unity Trust bank accounts at the **31/03/2026.**

- Current Account T1 (**20448354**): BS-67 **£1,827.68**
- Instant Access Account (**20448367**): BS-55 **£1,188.36**

Resolved: The following payments as approved.

- TPC/RA/153 – Unity Trust – £7.00 DD
- TPC/RA/154 – CHALC Fees - £ Cheque 300089 to be updated at the meeting

- TPC/RA/155 - Clerks Salary Mth 1 & 2 – £AR Cheque 300090
- TPC/RA/156 - HMRC Mth 1 & 2 – £66.66 Cheque 300091

14.4 **Risk Register 2026–2027**
Resolved: The Risk Register and Assertion 10 Action Plan were reviewed and approved.

15. Exclusion of the Public and Press
Resolved: That in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. Members of the public left the meeting.

Signed: _____ (Chair of the Meeting)

Date: _____

PART B – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

16. Confidential / Staffing Matters (if applicable)
Resolved: That this item was not required.

17. Any Other Business (for information only)

- Members agreed to organise a community litter pick on 22 June 2026.
- Members discussed if a meeting could be set up with Cheshire Showground.
- Concerns were raised regarding damaged signage within the parish.
- Members requested that approved minutes continue to be displayed on the parish noticeboard.

Action Items

- *Clerk to write an email to Cheshire showground to arrange a meeting urgently*
- *Clerk to obtain quotations and present options to a future meeting Improvements to the Parish noticeboard.*
- *Broken signage to be reported to CEC via Trace..*
- *Purchase of public information signs where required.*

18. Date of Next Meeting
18.1 **Monday 6 July 2026, 7:30pm** at Mere & Tabley Community Club

Meeting closed at 8.20pm
Minutes prepared by: Sharon Booth Parish Clerk

Signed: _____ (Chair of the Meeting)

Date: _____