

Delamere & Oakmere Parish Council Meeting

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF DELAMERE AND OAKMERE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 16TH FEBURAY 2026 AT 7PM

Present: Councillor C Topping, Councillor A Bell, Councillor J Edwards, Councillor D Rutter, Councillor H Dilliway-Nickson, Councillor F Goodier and Councillor T Murray

Also, present Clerk, Mrs J Monks and twenty three members of the public.

1 Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair of the Parish Council, Councillor D Rutter welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting. Councillor R Tattersall sent his apologies for the meeting as he was unable to attend. Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor T Lush sent his apology.

2 Member's Code of Conduct and declarations of interest

None declared.

3 Public Speaking Time

A member of the public addressed the Parish Council with concerns regarding speeding on Eddisbury Hill following an incident which was reported to the Police. Councillor D Rutter stated that the Police were looking at involving the school with regards to speed awareness after the half term holiday. The clerk was asked to contact Cheshire West and Chester Council with regards to the speed signs on Eddisbury Hill to see if these could be improved and the clerk was asked to contact the PCSO to request that they target this area for speeding traffic.

Several members of the public addressed the Parish Council with regards to the planning permission which had been submitted for Station Road. Members of the public wished to object to the planning application on the following grounds;

Harm to the rural character and landscape of the village, traffic and highway safety concerns, environmental impact, impact on wildlife and loss of biodiversity, pressure on local services, lack of local infrastructure and concerns that the existing Earlsbrook Housing Development had not yet been fully completed. Concerns were also expressed about noise and the proposed move of the existing buildings.

Several members of the public were not happy that they had not received any notification about the planning application from Cheshire West and Chester Council. The clerk was asked to contact the Planning Department to confirm which properties had been consulted.

Members of the public were requested to submit any objections directly to the Planning Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council.

4 Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting

RESOLVED that;

The minutes of Delamere and Oakmere Parish Council on Monday 19th January 2026 were approved.

5 Progress Reports and Outstanding Items

The clerk had circulated the email response from the Recreation Manager of Forest England regarding the event in Delamere Forest on Christmas day. The clerk was requested to put this on the agenda for the November Parish Council meeting to review before next year's event.

The clerk had circulated the email response from Forest England regarding the concerts from the National Events Programme Manager. The clerk was asked to put this on the agenda for the Parish Council meeting in April in order to review before the concerts.

6 Planning

The planning applications that had been received up to Monday 16th February 2026 were considered. **RESOLVED** that;

- (a) 26/00204/PIP, Residential development of up to nine dwellings including the relocation of existing/approved buildings. H F S Delamere Ltd Station Road Oakmere. The Parish Council has highway objections as the proposed access onto Station Road would be particularly dangerous especially it is opposite the junction of Eddisbury Hill. Any access whether "in only" or "in and out" at the bottoms of Eddisbury Hill would be dangerous due to there being a blind summit on Station Road. The Parish Council objects due to wildlife concerns particularly on this site and requests that a full ecology assessment is undertaken particularly for protected species. The Parish Council are particularly concerned with regards to protected species crested newt, adders and bats which are found on this site. Objections were raised regarding the movement and relocation of existing buildings on this site. The Parish Council are concerned as they cannot relocate buildings whilst retaining planning permission which has been already granted for this site. Any relocation of any buildings would require new planning application for this site. Given the Parish Council's objection and the numerous objections submitted by members of the public with regards to this planning application it is requested that this planning application is determined by Planning Committee as members of the Parish Council and public wish to address the Planning Committee on this matter to express their objections to this proposal.

The clerk was asked to contact Cheshire Wildlife Trust regarding wildlife concerns for this site and the Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillors requesting their support in objecting to this planning application.

- (b) No objections were made to 26/00345/PIP, Erection of up to two dwellings. Land At Forest Road Oakmere. The clerk was asked to notify Cuddington and Sandiway Parish Council with regards to this planning application.

7 Finance

The clerk reported that the current bank balances were as follows and bank statements showing these amounts were presented and signed by the Chair.

Current Bank account balance is £6,741.07 as at 31st January 2026.

Savings account balance is £25,538.76 as at 31st January 2026.

Income received; £57.07 interest. There is one outstanding invoice for £26.00 from the newsletter.

RESOLVED that;

January 2026 debit card payments are as follows;

Amazon	key for noticeboard	7.49	1.50	8.99
NW Air Ambulance	Donation	220.00		220.00
Cartridge People.com	Ink	74.63	14.93	89.56
B&Q	Grit	72.50	14.50	87.00

February 2026 payments are as follows;

Joanne Monks	Pay for Feb	608.11
Cheshire Pension Fund	Pension contributions for Feb	217.13
Joanne Monks	Clerk Expenses Feb	32.30
Oakmere Cricket Club	Donation	125.00
St Peters church	Donation	700.00

8 Highway Heros

Councillor F Goodier reported that the next dates for the Highway Heros events would be 29th March 2026 and 26th April 2026. Both events would commence at 10am at Delamere Community centre. Any volunteers were welcome to attend.

Councillor F Goodier would contact the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council for them to provide bags, equipment and for an A board to advertise the event.

Councillor F Goodier had collected the posters which had been undertaken by the school and these would be displayed at suitable locations around the Parish.

RESOLVED that;

Up to £50 plus VAT was approved for the purchase of cable ties for the posters. Councillor T Murray will organise the purchase and send the receipt/invoice to the clerk for payment.

9 Cloud next renewal

RESOLVED that;

The amount of £49.99 plus VAT was approved for the renewal of the website and email hosting.

10 Little Wood

(a) Plaque

A local resident will arrange for the plaque to be displayed in Little Wood and then a photo will be sent to the clerk in order to provide this to Tarmac.

(b) Work in Little Wood

Councillor D Rutter confirmed that there was substantial work which needed to be undertaken and that he was in the process of obtaining quotes.

Councillor D Rutter reported that it would be beneficial to have a meeting for all interested parties with regards to Little Wood. The clerk was asked to book the community centre for a meeting on Monday 9th March at 1pm

RESOLVED that;

The amount of up £20 was approved for room hire at Delamere community centre.

11 Bus stop benches

Councillor R Tattersall had surveyed the bus stops and had circulated photographs.

RESOLVED that;

£258.00 per bench was approved in order to apply for a street licence from Cheshire West and Chester Council.

The clerk was asked contact Councillor R Tattersall to confirm the exact proposed locations of benches in order to apply for a street licence from Cheshire West and Chester Council.

12 Summer Event

Different venues were discussed however there would be issues with regards to the planned road closures. The clerk was asked to put this as an agenda item for the next meeting.

13 Village signage

The clerk reported that she had contacted the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council with regards to installing a village sign on Chester Road near to the traffic lights. The Highways Department confirmed that the cost of the installation would be around £500.00 but there would be an additional cost of £1,000 for traffic management.

RESOLVED that;

The clerk was asked to contact the Highways Department to see if a sign could be located near to the layby so it did not incur the traffic management costs. Also the clerk was asked to contact the Highways Department regarding the installation of another sign opposite the Lounge on the A49.

14 Steering Group membership of Mid-Cheshire Rail

RESOLVED that;

The Parish Council would join the Steering Group of Mid-Cheshire Rail.

Councillor D Rutter reported that Delamere station had won the best station award.

15 Eddisbury Hill fort

Four Parish Councillors had met with residents and owners on the site.

RESOLVED that;

The clerk was asked to contact Forest England to request repairs and for an onsite meeting to discuss.

The clerk was asked to contact the Sandstone Trust to request new signage and that they undertake a ecological survey of the site.

16 Newsletter

Councillor A Bell confirmed that the one outstanding invoice has now been paid.

RESOLVED that;

The amount of up to £675 was approved for the printing of the next edition of the newsletter.

Councillor A Bell reported that the next edition of the newsletter was due to be published in April.

17 Update from Cheshire West and Chester Councillors

There was no Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillors present.

18 Councillor's report and future agenda items

Councillor A Bell expressed concern about the possibility of a business being located on Grestys Waste. However the details of which were not yet known.

Councillor F Goodier reported that there was considerable litter in the Forest and that visitors should be encouraged to take any litter home.

Councillor C Topping reported that she was concerned about the fly tipping on Mara Drive. The clerk confirmed that she had replied and asked the resident to contact the Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillors regarding the issue.

19 Date and time of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is Monday 23rd March 2026 at 7pm at Delamere Community Centre.

Chair signature.....Dated.....