Delamere & Oakmere Parish Council Meeting

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF DELAMERE AND OAKMERE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 20TH JULY 2026 AT 7PM

Present: Councillor C Topping, Councillor A Bell, Councillor D Rutter, Councillor H Dilliway-Nickson, Councillor R Tattersall and Councillor F Goodier.

1 Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair of the Parish Council, Councillor D Rutter welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting. Councillor T Murray and Councillor J Edwards send their apologies for the meeting.

2 Member's Code of Conduct and declarations of interest

None declared.

3 Public Speaking Time

No members of the public were present.

4 Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting

RESOLVED that;

The minutes of Delamere and Oakmere Parish Council on Monday 20th June 2026 were approved.

5 Progress Reports and Outstanding Items

The clerk confirmed that she had asked Cheshire West and Chester Council for weedkiller however this could be only granted to trained and certified professionals they did however confirm that these roads are scheduled to be done by Cheshire West and Chester's contractor in the next four weeks.

6 Planning

The planning applications that had been received up to Monday 20th July 2026 were considered.

 Chair's initial……

RESOLVED that;

(a) No objections were made to 26/01429/FUL, Siting of 10 static holiday caravans and a prefabricated workshop with associated engineering works. Oakmere Lodge Country Park Chester Road Oakmere.

(b) 26/00204/PIP, Residential development of between 5 and 9 dwellings, H F S Delamere Ltd Station Road Oakmere. Amendment/additional information. The clerk confirmed that she had contacted the Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillors regarding requesting this planning application to be heard by the Planning Committee and they have confirmed that as it is a planning application in principle it cannot be heard by the Planning Committee. The following objections were resubmitted to the Planning Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council; The Parish Council has highway objections as the proposed access onto Station Road would be particularly dangerous especially as 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.

Councillor F Goodier asked the clerk to contact Northern and/or Mid Cheshire Railway Association and to request data on the amount of trains which had been cancelled or had a rail replacement bus service for the last twelve months.

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 £9,709.89 as at 30 June 2026.

Savings account balance is £35,887.83 as at 30 June 2026.

Income received; £77.55 interest, £44.00 newsletter invoices.

RESOLVED that;

June 2026 debit card payments are as follows;

CWAC	Street licence for bench	Community Infrastructure Levy (ER)	266.00

July 2026 payments are as follows;

Joanne Monks	Pay for July	607.91
Cheshire Pension Fund	Pension contributions for July	209.08
Joanne Monks	Clerk Expenses July	37.90
Fiona Goodier	Highway Heroes breakfast	52.25
Andrew Bell	newsletter printing	535.98

8 August Recess

As there is no meeting of the Parish Council in August it was;

RESOLVED that;

Planning – The Clerk should liaise with the Chair and Vice Chair on planning applications received during the Recess with subsequent discussion with all other Councillors.

The Chair, Vice Chair and the Clerk be authorised to deal with all routine matters during the Recess with discussion with all other Councillors.

The August payment bank transfer will be undertaken by authorised signatories in accordance with the bank mandates. The clerk was asked to email a financial report for August with the payment schedule to all Parish Councillors.

9 Microsoft Office renewal

RESOLVED that;

The clerk could renew the Microsoft Office licence with the renewal cost of up to £150 plus VAT for the year.

10 Christmas

The clerk confirmed that the amount of £750 had been paid from the Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillors budget for a contribution towards the Christmas tree and event.

The clerk confirmed that an exact quote had not been provided for the cost of the installation of the Christmas tree lights however it was likely to be around the same cost as previous years.

RESOLVED that;

The amount of up to £1,500 plus VAT was approved for the installation of the Christmas lights.

The amount of up to £500 plus VAT was approved for any additional expenditure for the event and tree.

Councillor F Goodier reported that she will organise a Xmas market with stalls at the community centre with all funds to either go to the community centre or to a good cause. Councillor D Rutter will source raffle prizes for a raffle.

11 Eddisbury Hill Fort

The clerk confirmed that she had contacted the designer regarding copies of the interpretation boards and the artwork has now been sent to the clerk. The clerk was requested to send these to Councillor H Dilliway-Nickson so she can obtain a quote for the work.

12 Litter bins

RESOLVED that;

The clerk was asked to contact Cheshire West and Chester Council requesting the installation of litter bins at the following locations;

On the path near to Delamere stores on Station Road in Delamere, Near the exit on the Station car park and on the layby on the A556 near to Abbeywood and the Church.

13 Little Wood

Councillor D Rutter confirmed that he had met with the Flood Management and Project Officer of Cheshire West and Chester Council and the Highways Department regarding Fir Brook and they had logged the job to be completed in the next three months. Several residents had also undertaken work in Little Wood and drained some ditches.

Councillor D Rutter stated that he had been in discussions with United Utilities regarding funding options and volunteer work for Little Wood.

Councillor D Rutter had requested rumble strips on the A556 however the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council have stated that there would be objections from residents.

RESOLVED that;

The clerk was asked to contact the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council and ask them to reconsider these as neighbours had been consulted and they were in favour of the installation of these to slow traffic down.

14 Benches

Councillor D Rutter confirmed that the new benches had been delivered and are due to be installed shorty.

The clerk confirmed that she had applied for a street licence for a new bench to be installed near to J&S Accessories and this is being advertised until 11th August 2026. When the clerk has received the licence the clerk will order the bench.

15 Village signage

The clerk confirmed that the sign had been ordered from Cheshire West and Chester Council and the clerk will provide an update for the September Parish Council meeting.

16 Forest England Concerts

There had been approximately forty online response and there were seven hardcopies of the questionnaire. The clerk was requested to take the hardcopies and scan these in for circulation and then to add the data to the spreadsheet.

The next meeting with Forest England is planned for 28 September and the plan is to share the responses to the questionnaire with Forest England. The clerk will contact them to see if it is possible that the concert manager joins the meeting to discuss the results.

The prize for the completed questionnaire will be undertaken at the next Parish Council meeting in September. The clerk will draft a voucher for the prize and arrange for the payment of £25 to be transferred to Delamere Stores.

17 Highway Heroes

RESOLVED that;

The expenditure of up to £100 plus VAT was approved for the Parish Council to pay for a breakfast for the Highway Heroes event for the end of August.

Councillor F Goodier will update the advert with her contact details.

The ideas of a community award scheme and possible summer fayre was discussed, Councillor H Dilliway-Nickson will contact a resident in Norley to research this.

18 Councillor's report and future agenda items

Councillor D Rutter reported that parts of Station Road will be closed for a couple of days at the beginning of August to allow United Utilities to undertake exploration work.

Councillor D Rutter reported that part of the A556 is due to close on Sunday 26th July for Cheshire West and Chester Council to undertake work.

Councillor A Bell reported that the next newsletter is due out mid-November prior to the Christmas event.

Councillor F Goodier asked the clerk to contact Forest England regarding several overgrown paths and to request that they weedkiller the roads in the forest.

19 Date and time of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is Monday 21st September 2026 at 7pm.

Chair signature……..Dated…….