



Gnosall Parish Council
(Including the wards of Moreton & Knightley)

Minutes of the Meeting of Gnosall Parish Council
held on Monday 9th March 2026 at 7.30pm in The Grosvenor Centre

	Present Cllr Gregory (in the Chair), Cllr Haycock, Cllr Pearson, Cllr Sullivan, Cllr Beswick, Cllr Parry, Cllr Baker, Cllr Booth, Cllr Alker, Cllr Middleton, Cllr Knight, J Marshall Chief Officer SBC Cllr Spencer, SBC Cllr Winnington, SCC Cllr Pert
	Open Public Forum None present
26/023	To Receive Apologies and Record Absences Cllr Holmes, Cllr Symons, Cllr Herbert, Cllr Reeves-Riche'
26/024	To Record any Declarations of Interest None declared
26/025	To receive and confirm the minutes of the last meeting held on 9th June 2025 26/014 add missing 'd'. 26/015 - change notable to notably, add missing apostrophes to Council's and Doctor's. With those amendments the minutes were confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the chair of the meeting.
26/026	To consider any matters arising from the minutes No matters arising
26/027	To receive the following reports: a) The Chief Officer's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Chief Officer gave a brief overview of recent meetings and committees.• The new noticeboards for the Allotments and Village Green have been ordered.• Business Plan Meeting scheduled for the 23rd of March.• Interim Internal Audit has been carried out. Digital compliance is now part of the End of Year accounts, and the website has been updated to ensure it meets legislation. Financial matters will be discussed at the next Resources Committee in April. b) Any reports from Parish Councillors on meetings/courses attended Cllr Pearson advised that GAGA elected to change their name at their AGM and are now Gnosall Gardens & Allotments (GGA). They are operating again with the 'shed' open on Sundays from 10am -12pm and memberships will be renewed at the end of March.

	<p>c) Any reports from Borough and County Councillors</p> <p>Borough Cllr Spencer advised that roads are in a dreadful state across the borough and that he is planning on putting a motion to the County Council for a repair plan. He advised that the Wharf Road planning application has gone to appeal and encouraged members to comment on the appeal which closes in 5 weeks.</p> <p>A resident has asked who owns the fence between Stacey's Gardens and the Chippy Jumps - SCC or Parish, as the fence needs repairing. Chief Officer to enquire.</p> <p>Borough Cllr Winnington advised that as part of the Local Government Reorganisation, an interim shadow cabinet will be formed in 2027, with further elections for the new Unitary held in 2028.</p> <p>County Cllr Pert advised that the potholes in the High Street had been patched and that he has requested additional resources on Brookhouse Road and Beffcote. He is still working on resolving flooding issues at Wharf Road and Moreton. There is a road dressing programme scheduled for Knightley Road in 2026 and he has requested that they look at drainage as part of this programme.</p> <p>He had previously reported the result of the Highways Routine Inspection of Brookhouse Road, which had indicated nothing of note that wasn't already scheduled for work. However, discussion suggested that the inspection may have been of Brookhouse WAY (as has previously occurred) and that the many potholes on Brookhouse Road might not have been inspected at all. He advised that he would check this out.</p>
26/028	<p>To report any Highways issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Befcote Lane - resident complaint. Issue has been reported to Highways and inspection is due. • Audmore Road to Moore End - resident complaint. Articulated vehicles driving through village to chicken farm. Planning approval stipulated access from Woodseaves. Referred to Planning Committee. • Lowfield Lane - on going discussion with residents to try to resolve. • Outwoods Lane - on going. • Other issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ potholes on A518 between Haughton & Gnosall ○ Roundabout on Station Road, large gouges in tarmac at the edge of the carriageway. CO to report. ○ Junction to Brookhouse road - large pothole. ○ Pelhams Alley - enquiry regarding legal right of way and ownership. CO to enquire from SCC if it is on the definitive map.
26/029	<p>To receive minutes and reports from committee and working groups</p> <p>a) Matters relating to the Planning Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DRAFT minutes of the meeting held on the 12th of February were presented. • Cllr Gregory advised that, following Stafford Borough Council advising they would not accept 100% affordable housing and required a market led scheme with 40% affordable homes, the Knightley Road Project Board representatives and Planning Committee had both discussed this change and agreed to recommend to council to continue to support the Knightley Road application.

Members of the Planning committee were asked to share their thoughts, with all stating their disappointment at the Borough Council's decision. The committee decided that the other benefits of the scheme, particularly regarding flood prevention and attenuation, were such that they wished to recommend a continuing partnership to Full Council.

The recommendation was as follows: 'That, notwithstanding the indication by Stafford Borough Council that a 100% affordable scheme at Knightley Road would not be acceptable, Gnosall Parish Council recognises the benefits of working in partnership with Housing Plus and Central & Country, particularly in respect of flood prevention and attenuation and the improvement of existing services. It therefore wishes to continue to work in partnership to bring forward the Knightley Road development. It is the view of this council that affordable homes to rent and buy are needed in Gnosall. We remain committed to this principle.'

The recommendation was accepted. Nine in favour, 2 abstentions.

b) Matters relating to the Grosvenor and Events Committee

- The DRAFT minutes from the meeting held on the 16th of February were received.
- The council **ratified** the recommendation to redecorate the main hall at a cost of **£1757.00**.
- The council **ratified** the recommendation to divide the chair store at a cost of £770.00.
- The council **ratified** the proposal to purchase additional Christmas lights and artificial Christmas Tree in the 2025/26 budget at a cost of **£1185.84 + VAT**.
- The council **resolved** to replace the damaged amplifier at the Grosvenor Centre at a cost of **£636.00 + VAT**.

c) Matters relating to the Procedures and H&S Committee

- The DRAFT minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd of March 2026 were presented.
- The Council **resolved** to accept the Consent to Hold Personal Information form.
- The Council voted on the adoption of the IT and Cyber Security Policy. The council **resolved** to adopt the policy with nine in favour, one abstention and one objection.

26/030

Finance related matters

- a)** The financial statements for February 2026 were received and accepted.
- b)** The bank reconciliation was not presented due to technical difficulties presently being worked on by scribe and will be presented at the next meeting.
- c)** The payments of direct debits/standing orders (in accordance with Financial Regulations point 6.7) for March were approved.
- d)** The Council **resolved** to accept the quarter 3 accounts as presented.
- e)** The Council **resolved** to accept the 2026/27 Precept as calculated by Stafford Borough Council at £121,763.22, which represents a 3.2% increase on 2025/26 and equates to £60.05 for a Band D property.

<p>26/031</p>	<p>To decide to elect an interim Vice-Chair.</p> <p>Following the resignation of Cllr Haycock as Vice-Chir, the Council resolved to elect an interim Vice-Chair for the remainder of 2025/26.</p> <p>Cllr Pearson was nominated by Cllr Parry nominated, with Cllr Alker seconding the nomination. No other nominations were presented.</p> <p>The vote passed with ten in favour and one abstention.</p>
<p>26/032</p>	<p>To consider the recommendation to install solar panels at the Grosvenor Centre</p> <p>Cllr Knight presented a recommendation to install solar panels at the Grosvenor Centre. This will help the council keep energy costs down in a volatile market and will help move the Council to a more sustainable future.</p> <p>Four quotes were obtained with the preference being for iSolar at £18,495.00. Funding is being sought, which will dictate the timeline for installation.</p> <p>The Council resolved to support this recommendation.</p>
<p>26/033</p>	<p>To consider the Council's response to the Local Government Reorganisation</p> <p>The Government is undertaking a public consultation on the Local Government Reorganisation for Staffordshire. The public consultation closes on the 26th of March 2026. Councils are asked to submit a response as a public body.</p> <p>The Council resolved to make a formal response and councillors were reminded that they are encouraged to make a personal response also.</p> <p>The various proposals were then considered in and discussed in some detail before a vote was taken.</p> <p>There are five proposals for consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cannock Chase District Council, East Staffs Borough Council and Stafford Borough Council: This proposed 2 Unitary Councils: <u>North Staffordshire</u> (Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire Moorlands & Stoke) & <u>South Staffordshire</u> (Cannock, East Staffs, Lichfield, South Staffs, Stafford & Tamworth). 2. Staffordshire County Council proposed 2 Unitary Councils: <u>East Staffordshire</u> (East Staffs, Lichfield, Staffs moorlands, Stoke and Tamworth) & <u>West Staffordshire</u> (Cannock, Newcastle-under-Lyme, South Staffs and Stafford) 3. Staffordshire Moorlands District Council proposed 2 Unitary Councils: <u>North Staffordshire</u> (Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire Moorlands & Stoke, plus 16 parishes from East Staffordshire and 6 from Stafford) & <u>Southern & Mid-Staffordshire</u> (Cannock, Lichfield, South Staffs, Tamworth and the remaining 22 parishes of East Staffs and 34 of Stafford). 4. Lichfield District Council, South Staffs Borough Council & Tamworth Borough Council proposed 3 Unitary Councils: <u>North Staffordshire</u> (Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire Moorlands & Stoke) <u>South-West Staffordshire</u> (Cannock, East Staffs, South Staffs, & Stafford) & <u>South-East Staffordshire</u> (Lichfield, East Staffs & Tamworth) 5. Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council proposed 4 Unitary Councils: <u>Unitary Authority 1</u> (Newcastle-under-Lyme), <u>Unitary Authority 2</u> (Cannock, South Staffs & Stafford), <u>Unitary Authority 3</u> (Staffs Moorlands and Stoke) & <u>Unitarity Authority 4</u> (East Staffs, Lichfield & Tamworth) <p>It was decided to discount proposal 3 as being the most unsatisfactory and votes were taken on the remaining 4 as follows: Option 1, 3 votes; Option 2, 6 votes; Option 4, 1 vote and</p>

	Option 5, no votes (1 abstention) but it was also agreed that the overwhelming preference was to retain the current authorities. These views will be represented in the response to the consultation.
	At 9.30pm a motion was tabled to extend the meeting by a half hour in accordance with Standing Order 3.0 x.
26/034	To request items for the next Agenda
26/035	Exclusion of Public and Press A resolution was passed in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press for discussion regarding lease renewals where publicity might be prejudicial to the special nature of the business. Councillors will be provided with a confidential Appendix.
26/036	To confirm the date and time of the next meeting 13 th April 2026 from 7.30pm at the Grosvenor Centre.
	Meeting Closed 21.40pm

Signed:

Dated: