



# CLOTTON HOOFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

## Annual Report April 2025 – March 2026

**Contact details** .....C/O Clerk to the Parish Council ... Trudy Ryall-Harvey

### **Parish Councillors as at March 2026**

Charles Kinsey (Chair)

Jane Nicholas (Vice-Chair)

Richard Roberts

David Roberts

Geoffrey Bibby

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

As per Parish Council (PC) Standing Orders

### **Governance**

1. The Parish Council employs a Clerk who is also the Responsible Finance Officer.
2. All Parish Councillors identify in advance any pecuniary interests, outside body's involvement and family or personal interests they or their partners might have and sign a declaration of interest form when elected to the Council. In addition, each parish councillor is expected to abide by the Cheshire West and Chester's Code of conduct and declare any other potential conflicts of interest with their PC duties at the start of each PC meeting.

### **Objectives**

As per Standing Orders but in summary to represent and act to address the interests of the community and its local residents

## **Main Points of Note in 2025/26**

1. The Parish Council has eight Parish Councillor seats, and currently five Parish Councillors with three vacancies at the end of the year.
2. The parish of Clotton Hoofield has approximately 135 households and 358 elector's.
3. Ten planning consultations were considered and commented on by the council. The PC responses were heavily influenced by the Neighbourhood Plan policies and principles. Of the applications received:
  - Five were Supported (i.e. positively contributed to the parish as per the Neighbourhood Plan),
  - Five were given a Neutral response (i.e. no material impact as per the NP or general planning considerations)
  - Three planning breaches were referred to CWaC Planning Enforcement for their investigation.
4. The PC continues to utilise its website and Facebook groups to provide access to PC papers, distribute information of potential public interest. These digital communication services have allowed us to reach a wider audience more quickly, whilst allowing residents to communicate more easily.
5. The PC has seen the installation and opening of the Solar Farm at Iddenshall Grange over the last 18 months, they Parish Council worked with Duddon, Clotton and District War Memorial Hall to obtain a grant for them to install solar panels on the Hall roof.
6. Highways issues have been a constant challenge throughout the year. The key actions have been /are:-
  - Reporting potholes where they are more than 4cms deep. This is the minimum size at which CWaC will repair them. The public are also encouraged to report problems they see, via the CWaC online reporting tool.
  - Reporting missing signs when speed limit signs or road nameplate signs have come into disrepair.
  - The general poor road conditions of several country roads within the Parish and in particular Corkscrew Lane.

## **Financial Performance**

The Precept for the year 2025-26 was set at £7,142 this was a 0% increase on the previous year.

The Precept for 2026-27 has been set at £7,321 which is a 1.9% increase on 2025-26 and represents a £0.75 increase on a Band D house to £40.76.

## **Council Attendance 2025-26**

Clotton Hoofield Parish Council held 4 parish council meetings between May 2025 and April 2026.

Each Parish Council meeting was quorate with one Parish Council meeting when all five Parish Councillors attended and three meetings when four Parish Councillors attended.

CW&C Councillor Edward Lush attended none of the Council meetings.

CW&C Councillor Tom Cooper attended 1 of the Council meetings having sent his apologies for the July, October and January meetings.

Over the year no members of the public attended the council meetings. The Parish Council encourages members of the public to attend the meetings and allows a 'public participation' section at each meeting for members of the public to raise any comments or concerns they may have.

This report is signed and dated following a meeting of the Parish Council where the report was approved by all present.

**Signed on behalf of the Parish Council**

Charles Kinsey (Chair)