KINGSMEAD
PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of Kingsmead Parish Council
held on Monday 19th October 2026

Present: Cllrs B Boylan, D Boylan, Herring, Logan, Martin, Murphy, Reed, Swift (Chair), Syed
Also present: Mrs W Maddock (Clerk & RFO), Cllr Sinar (CWaC) and 18 members of the public.

The meeting started at 7.31pm

122	**Apologies** Cllr Oredugba (work)
123	**Declarations of Interest** No declarations of interest were made
124	**Public Forum** Members of the public are invited to speak with a maximum time limit of fifteen minutes. Parishioners who wish to speak should inform the clerk prior to the commencement of the meeting. The following will also be included in the public forum: The majority of the public attended the meeting to explain their ongoing concerns about the problems caused by inconsiderate and illegal parking around the streets adjacent to SJD college. Cllr Swift and Cllr Sinar explained the work that is ongoing to support the residents; however it was acknowledged that any actions to be taken by the CWaC Highways team is likely to take at least a couple of years to come to fruition (based on the recent experiences of other parishes). It was noted that the college has applied for a lawful development certificate for 5x classrooms and it was suggested that as part of this application, the college could be asked to produce a voluntary travel plan (to include provision to minimise the parking issues). Residents also suggested that the use of banners and additional cones are having limited benefits, with cars still parking across driveways and even in between the cones. It was also thought that the banners are unsightly and potentially degrade the neighbourhood. It was suggested that the problems caused by driving instructors parking on Monarch Drive could be tackled by approaching the Northwich Association of Driving Instructors. Concerns were also raised that the PCSO has not been in attendance very much recently, and it was explained about how changes to local policing has reduced the time available to be in Kingsmead. One member of public raised concerns about the issue of speeding on Monarch Drive and asked if further traffic calming measures could be utilised to improve safety. One member of public provided an update about the recent vandalism in Kensington Way park when signs that had been concreted into the field were ripped out. The resident had reported the incident to the police, along with earlier incidents of ASB including one of racist abuse. The resident asked what other measures could be put in place to deter the ongoing problem and it was agreed that this should be discussed again at the next P&E meeting. 124.1 Cheshire West and Chester Councillors – reports and updates Cllr Sinar confirmed there had been no planning permission for the advertising sign at Kingsmead Square, but that an application has now been submitted for retrospective approval. It was also confirmed that the road signs at Stirling Close are to be replaced by Highways. 124.2 PCSO monthly report The PCSO was unable to attend the council meeting. The monthly newsletter for October (covering 1st to 30th Sept-2026) was circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. The report will be made available on the Council website (Community > Policing > PCSO Monthly Newsletter) by the end of the month.
125	**Minutes** To approve and sign the minutes of the following meetings: 125.1 A meeting of Kingsmead Parish Council held on Monday 21st September 2026. 125.2 A meeting of the Finance Committee held on Monday 5th October 2026. 125.3 An extraordinary meeting of Kingsmead Parish Council held on Monday 12th October 2026.

125.4	A meeting of the Parks and Environment Committee held on Monday 12th October 2026. **Resolved** – that the minutes were a correct record of each meeting and should be signed by the Chair.
126	**Finance & Administration**
126.1	To note and approve the following matters from the minutes of a Finance Committee meeting held on Monday 5th October: a) Confirmation of bank reconciliations at the end of Q2-2026 (agenda item 105). b) Financial position as of 30th September 2026 (agenda item 106.1). ***Noted*** – that the bank reconciliations had been approved for the first quarter of the financial year and signed off by Cllr Reed in accordance with Financial Regulation 2.6. Also the balance sheet and expenditure for the year which are detailed in the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting (agenda item 106.1), which can be found here: 2026-10-05_Finance_Committee_Minutes_-_FINAL.pdf c) The committee recommends that no amendments be made to the budget at this time. **Resolved** – to accept the recommendation that no amendments are made to the budget.
126.2	To consider and approve the payments for Oct-2026 **Resolved** – that payments to the sum of £18,458.81 (circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting for review) should be approved for payment in Oct-2026. The list of payments is appended to the minutes.
126.3	To approve expenses for the Clerk for the period of Sept-2026. **Resolved** – to approve the Clerk's Sept-2026 expenses, which will be paid in November.
126.4	To approve the ongoing membership to SLCC for the clerk at a cost of £316 pa. **Resolved** – to approve the clerk's membership of SLCC for the next year.
126.5	To consider and approve a support plan for the KPC mobile phone at a cost of £3.54/month. **Resolved** – to approve the support plan (which includes mobile replacement within 24-hours) at a cost of £3.54.month.
126.6	To note the Parish Council's new address: PO Box 875, Northwich, CW9 9XQ. ***Noted*** – that the PO Box address for the parish council is now active and will be its new administrative address .
127	**Planning**
127.1	To note any planning applications received since the last meeting: • Kingsmead Square (26/02954/FUL) Expansion of existing rapid electric vehicle (EV) charging site with the addition of two new rapid EV charging bays. Existing feeder pillar to be removed and three new feeder pillars are to be installed, along with a battery storage unit (BESS) ***Noted*** – the above application which was discussed. No comments are to be submitted.
127.2	To note any planning decisions received since the last meeting: • Land At Grid Ref 365825 372409 St Georges Way (23/02726/OUT) - Approved Outline application with all matters reserved for the erection of five detached dwellings. ***Noted*** – that the outline planning application for the above development has been approved. An application will now need to be made for full planning approval, which the council noted is likely to require several conditions to be met.
128	**Parks and Environment**
128.1	To receive feedback from a meeting of the P&E Committee held on Monday 12th October and to approve a number of recommendations. ***Noted*** - a summary of the P&E committee meeting provided by Cllr Herring (Chair of the P&E). The minutes of this meeting can be viewed on the website: 2026-10-12_PandE_Comm_Minutes_-_FINAL.pdf Recommendations: a) That an addendum should be made to the "Ponds and Maintenance" contract to authorise additional flailing of the wildlife corridor at the rear of Stretton Walk, when required, at a cost of £690 (plus VAT). **Resolved** – to approve amending the contract to include an option for additional flailing of the wildlife corridor. This ad-hoc work will be carried out when required at a cost of £690 (plus VAT) and when authorised by the clerk and either the KPC Chair or Chair of the P&E committee.

	b) That provision should be made in next year's budget for removing ditch spoils at the rear of Stretton Walk at a cost of £7850 (plus VAT). **Resolved** – to approve a provision being put in the budget for this work to be completed in 2027. c) That Groundwork & Leisure be instructed to replace the safety surfacing at Kingslawn and Dukes Way 2 play areas, and to install a crash mat at the base of the slide in Kensington Way play area. **Resolved** – to approve a quote from Groundwork & Leisure Services to replace the safety surfacing at the play areas listed above at a total cost of £19,760 (plus VAT).
128.2	To approve the purchase of wildflower seed for planting in early spring when conditions allow. **Resolved** – to approve purchasing 5kg of Cotswold Wild Flora seeds from the Cotswold Seed Company at a total cost of £172.75.
129	**Community**
129.1	To consider feedback from residents regarding parking issues opposite Sir John Deane's college and to approve any actions by the Parish Council. ***Noted*** – the feedback and comments received from the members of public who attended the meeting and those who had also emailed the council. Cllr Martin also confirmed (following the last meeting of the SJD Foundation Trust) that the proposed classroom extension is to provide better facilities for the college rather than for an expansion of student numbers. **Resolved** – following a discussion regarding the points raised, it was agreed that the banners would still be a useful tool, that could be used at the most critical times when parking issues are at their worst (e.g. around and after Easter time) and it should be proposed to planning that a travel plan be considered as part of any approval for the latest planning application.
129.2	To consider installing an additional defibrillator in Kingsmead. **Resolved** – to defer a decision about installing an additional defibrillator pending further consideration about where it might be installed and any installation costs.
129.3	To consider a request for support with funding a Girlguiding opportunity. **Resolved** – to approve a one-off payment of £500 to support the fundraising efforts by a local resident to take part in an international Girlguiding opportunity.
129.4	To receive feedback regarding the next newsletter and to approve next actions ***Noted*** – that articles are still required for the newsletter as follows – Chairs introduction and update on community policing (Cllr Swift), parks and play areas (Cllr Herring), new councillor introductions (Cllrs Murphy and Oredugba), Christmas event (Cllr Logan). These are required asap if the newsletter is to be delivered in early November.
129.5	To consider if Kingsmead Parish Council will be represented at the Davenham Remembrance Service and to approve the purchase of a wreath or wreaths. **Resolved** – to approve Cllr Swift attending the service on behalf of KPC and the purchase of two wreaths; one to be laid at the Davenham war memorial and one in Kingsmead. Councillors agreed to meet on Sunday 1st November to prepare the Kingsmead memorial for Remembrance Sunday.
129.6	To note the next community litter pick on Sunday 25th October. ***Noted*** – the date of the next community litter pick, which will be managed by Cllr Herring.
130	**Events**
130.1	To receive an update from the Events WG following a recent meeting about the Christmas event. ***Noted*** – a summary provided by Cllr Herring, confirming the event will run on Friday 4th December from 5-8pm. All bookings have been secured, although the school band still needs to confirm if it is available on this date. The Chair has agreed to make a contribution from the Chairs allowance towards tombola prizes.
130.2	To approve the following expenditure for Christmas: a) Event management package from Mack's Music (including live band). **Resolved** – to approve a quote from Mack's Music for an event management package at a cost of £1371. b) Basic DBS checks to be undertaken for councillors and volunteers who are involved with the event management. **Resolved** – to approve covering the cost (£20) of basic DBS checks for councillors and a specific volunteer taking part in the event. Councillors with enhanced DBS checks for external bodies do not need to complete the basic check.

131 **External Meetings**

To receive feedback from relevant councillors about meetings attended:

- Cllr Syed – Cheshire & Warrington Combined Authority / Police and Crime Commissioner.
  Noted – summary reports provided by Cllr Syed, which are appended to the minutes.
- Cllr Oredugba - Cheshire Association of Local Councils.
  Noted – that this report will be deferred to the next meeting as Cllr Oredugba had sent apologies.
- Cllr B Boylan and Cllr Swift – CWaC Town and Parish Conference.
  Noted – the information received at the conference from various CWaC officers, including managing private hedges, recycling and public rights of way.

132 **Resident Matters**

To note resident communications and to consider any actions as appropriate.
Noted – the communications received since the last meeting and the actions being taken to resolve any issues.

133 **Clerk's Report**

To receive an update on issues not covered elsewhere on the agenda and to note any actions.
Noted – the advice received from the PCSO regarding the latest incident of vandalism at Kensington Way park, including the use of CCTV or locking the gates at night. A message received from Rector of Davenham, confirming he's moving to a new parish, but thanking the council for their efforts in maintaining Kingsmead. Induction training has been carried out with Cllr Murphy. Letters were delivered to residents of Wheelock Close to confirm that No.1 will take over responsibility for the management of land behind their property, which resulted in several complaints being received. It was agreed to hold a meeting on Monday 26th October to confirm the council's position. A new mobile phone and service provider has been organised and the contract is now active. It should be noted that KPC pays the Vodafone invoice in full and receives a discount sum from Onecom (the new service provider). Notice of cancellation has been served for the VOIP service, which will end on 12th November. The new domain email forwarding problem has been resolved, and although the website is still a work in progress, statutory information is available. A report of fly tipping at SGF submitted to CWaC, who have confirmed they will not take any action as it's on private land. The clerk attended two external conferences and circulated the CWaC Design Code consultation information.

134 **Future Agenda Items**

Items to be placed on the agenda for future meetings.

- ASB and vandalism at Kensington Way play area
- Installation of an additional defibrillator
- Replacement of road signs
- Speeding concerns along Monarch Drive

135	**Next Meetings**	KPC – Extraordinary Meeting	Monday 26th October at 7.30pm in Kingsmead School
		Parks & Environment Committee	Monday 9th November at 7.30pm in Kingsmead School
		Kingsmead Parish Council	Monday 16th November at 7.30pm in Kingsmead School
		A full list of meetings can be found at: Council Meetings Schedule | Kingsmead Parish Council	

The meeting ended at 9.56pm

Current Bank A/c

List of Payments made between 01/10/2026 and 31/10/2026

Date Paid	Payee Name	Reference	Amount Paid	Authorized Ref	Transaction Detail
01/10/2026	The Storage Team	DD	142.57	Ongoing Contract	Oct-2026 Storage Rental
13/10/2026	Hutchinson 3G	DD	23.56	Ongoing Contract	Sept-2026 Mobile
16/10/2026	Lloyds Bank Charge Card	TRANSFER	532.87		Sept-2026 Card Purchases & Fee
16/10/2026	Vodafone	DD	52.03	Ongoing Contract	Oct-2026 Mobile & Plan
23/10/2026	Wendy Maddock	BACS	60.95	2026/09/21 - 092.6	July-2026 Staff Expenses
23/10/2026	Wendy Maddock	BACS	60.31	2026/09/21 - 092.6	Aug-2026 Staff Expenses
23/10/2026	One Little Christmas Tree Ltd	260008	1,800.00	PO 26-050	Deposit for Xmas Lights
23/10/2026	Northwich Town Council	9889	120.00	PO 25-001	Sept-2026 Grass Cut x1
23/10/2026	Northwich Town Council	9903	426.00	PO 26-048	Kensington Way Signage
23/10/2026	Caddis Ltd	SI-43197	2,348.40	PO 26-006	Sept-2026 Ponds Contract
23/10/2026	The Landscape Academy	TLA00240	222.30	PO 26-052	1-day LANTRA Basic Tree Survey
23/10/2026	Shires Accountants	SHI-3881	256.20	Ongoing Contract	Oct-Mar Payroll Services
23/10/2026	Telecoms World Plc	DD	22.43	Ongoing Contract	Sept-2026 VOIP Charges
23/10/2026	Wendy Maddock	BACS	2,807.09	Contract	Oct-2026 Staff Salary
23/10/2026	Countrywide Grounds Maint.	714608	7,361.15	PO 26-040	Oct-2026 Contract
23/10/2026	Telecoms World Plc	55858	8.96	Ongoing Contract	Final Invoice
31/10/2026	HMRC	BACS	1,197.70	Statutory Obligation	Oct-2026 PAYE/NI
31/10/2026	Cheshire Pension Fund	BACS	1,005.69	Contract	Oct-2026 Staff Pension
31/10/2026	UNITY TRUST BANK	DD	10.60	Ongoing Contract	Sept-2026 Bank Charges

Total Payments 18,458.81

Kingsmead Parish Council Current Year

Lloyds Bank Charge Card

List of Payments made between 03/09/2026 and 02/10/2026

Date Paid	Payee Name	Reference	Amount Paid	Authorized Ref	Transaction Detail
23/09/2026	Royal Mail	CARD	499.80	2026/09/21 - 092.9	PO Box - 12 month contract
01/10/2026	We Print Lanyards	CARD	30.07	Clerk	New Councillor Lanyards x2
02/10/2026	Lloyds Bank	DD	3.00	Ongoing Contract	Sept-2026 Charge Card Fee
		Total Payments	532.87		

Kingsmead Parish Council

Update: Cheshire and Warrington Combined Authority

Presented by Cllr Syed Ashfak | Meeting date: 23 JULY 2026

Chair, councillors, I recently attended a briefing on the new Cheshire and Warrington Combined Authority and would like to give a short update.

What it is

The Combined Authority was formally established in February 2026, when the Devolution Minister signed the Parliamentary Order. It covers Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester, and Warrington. Until a mayor is elected, its board is made up of the leaders and deputy leaders of those three councils.

Timeline

The first mayoral election is in May 2027, timed to coincide with the local elections to reduce cost and help turnout. Nick Walkley, formerly of Homes England, is the Interim Chief Executive.

Powers and funding

The Mayor and Combined Authority will take on powers over transport, skills and investment. There is a 30-year investment fund worth at least £650 million.

Why it matters locally

Transport is one of the main devolved areas, so it gives us a route to push for better bus and rail connections.

What I raised

At the meeting I asked for improved bus and train connectivity from Northwich to Manchester Airport.

- Northwich is on the Mid Cheshire Line to Manchester, but there is no direct airport service.
- Cheshire East's draft Local Transport Plan already lists better airport links, so there is a policy hook.
- I did not receive a commitment specific to Northwich, so this remains an open request.

Ashfak

Update to Kingsmead Parish Council

Parish and Town Council meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner and Cheshire West and Chester representatives – 6 October 2026

Reported by: Cllr Syed Ashfak **Date:** 19 October 2026

Purpose

I attended the briefing for parish and town councils. It set out the Commissioner's priorities on reducing crime, modernising policing and listening to the public. The key points relevant to our community are summarised below for noting.

1. Neighbourhood policing and technology

- **Officers:** 48 additional full-time officers were added last financial year. Each area has a named contact and direct email address.
- **PCSOs:** Some roles were put at risk in December, but 30 were saved. The Chief Constable will be held to account to maintain a total of 57.
- **New technology:** AI is being used to automate repetitive tasks and reduce error. Drones are being used against anti-social behaviour and illegal e-bike/e-scooter use. A new tethered drone has been introduced and more officers trained; rollout is cautious.

2. Young people and schools

- **Phone-free schools:** Aim is for Cheshire to be the first county with full adoption of lockable phone pouches. Adoption is 92% in state high schools, with 6 schools not yet on board.
- **Summer SWAP:** Up to £2k per project from a £50k pot to keep young people busy over the holidays. 9 projects were funded in Cheshire West and Chester (fishing, sports, wellbeing, canoeing).
- **Water safety:** Open-water safety sessions offered to all schools, with one teacher and two student champions in every state high school.
- **Skills:** 6-month training for NEETs and those known to the Youth Justice Service (Skill Mill; City & Guilds Level 1 electrical installation).

3. Victims, reoffending and public engagement

- **Victim support:** £195k per Commissioner area, 3-year funding from October, linked to the government's prison early-release scheme.
- **Prisoners Building Homes:** Aims to reduce reoffending (national cost £20bn a year), provide meaningful employment and help tackle the housing shortage.
- **Citizens' assemblies:** Already delivered in Crewe, Runcorn, Widnes, Macclesfield and Congleton. One is currently running in Northwich. Chester is scheduled for 2027 and Ellesmere Port & Neston for March 2027.

Ashfa