MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF LITTLE BOLLINGTON with AGDEN

held at 7:00pm on **Tuesday 22nd October 2026**

at the Holy Trinity Church, Lymm Rd, WA14 4SZ

Present Cllr W Blackburn Cllr T Britton Cllr R Taylor Lucy Merry – Clerk

12 members of the public were in attendance.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr A Blackburn, Cllr P Cassidy, and K Hague sent their apologies, it was noted that no apologies were received from Cllr R Palmer.

2. To approve and authorise the signing of the minutes from meetings held previously.

The minutes from the 15th September 2026 were approved.

3. Declaration of Interests - None

4. Matters Arising

= Update on compound – Two appeals have been lodged with the inspectorate against the enforcement notice that was raised by Cheshire East Council. Both appeals are noted at agenda item 6.1. The Council **RESOLVED** to object to both appeals. A template provided by the Data Centre Action Group will be used.

= Update on canal – To discuss at agenda item 7.3

= The proposed data centre – There was a public consultation with INNOVA at High Legh Village Hall on Wednesday 30th September at 4pm – 8pm. A councillor drop-in session was also held at the same location and day at 2pm -3pm. Cllr Will Blackburn attended the event and was surprised to learn that INNOVA were unaware of the flooding issues that the site experiences. There are no planning applications that have been submitted at this time, but the Council have been active in raising awareness with Cllrs, and local landowners, such as The National Trust.

Cllr K Hague requested that her comments be passed – '*From what Innova has put out so far, I'm against it. It's 60 hectares of Green Belt farmland, and our neighbourhood plan is clear the whole parish is Green Belt. Residents are right to be worried about flooding, noise and light, and Innova still hasn't said how much power it needs or whether the 350 jobs are even permanent. I'll keep backing residents on this and push for it to be thrown out through the Local Plan and at planning if it gets that far.'*

The Council decided that they will provide a representative to join the Data Centre Action Group. The representative is to be determined after correspondence with the whole Council. Two members of the Council have joined the what's app group. It was discussed that the Council want to have a close working relationship between the Council and the Group. It was noted that planning decisions such as comments and objections can be made in between meetings by the planning committee, but that any financial decisions need to be made at a Council meeting.

= Land at Spode Green Lane – Unpermitted works on the site continue. Clerk to report again with enforcement and raise with the ward Cllr.

5. Public forum

The proposed data centre was discussed with many residents concerned on the impact the plans will have. The formation of the Data Centre Action Group was discussed. They have 12 people on the working group and at least 80 people on the What's app group. Letters have been delivered to residents of Little Bollington, High Legh, Agden and Bowdon advising how to object to the

appeals raised by Millington Trust and SP Energy. There has been correspondence with High Legh Ward Cllr Kate Hague and Bowdon Ward Cllr Phil Eckersley.

6. Planning matters

12.1 To consider planning applications received and other planning matters

- **Millington Trust appeal ref 6015742 – deadline 28th October – LBwACC object**
- **SP Energy appeal ref 6015490 – deadline 6th November - LBwACC object**

12.2 To note updates on planning applications received – none

7. Reports from the Clerk and the Councillors

7.1 To consider donating financial aid to the Data Centre Action group (DCAG) – P Cassidy

A request was received by DCAG for financial support on upcoming expenses. It was **RESOLVED** that the full £405 requested would be donated to the group as and when needed. These funds would be reallocated in the 26/27 budget from green space maintenance £290 (which will receive funds from the CIL money), Clerk training £35, and Clerk expenses £80

7.2 To consider the donation to the church for hall hire – Clerk

For the use of the church for the extraordinary meeting, it was **RESOLVED** that the same hire fee as the school be offered - £50. This would be reallocated from bank charges £50 in the 26/27 budget.

7.3 Local flooding and canal breach update – T. Britton

A meeting of Bollington Mill residents took place at Dunham Massey at 12:00 noon on Friday 16th October and was attended by Cllr Tom Britton. The Environment Agency (EA), which had been due to attend, was unable to do so but provided a statement in advance. The statement advised that the Agency accepted no responsibility for the issues and had instructed the Bridgewater Canal Company to reinstate the canal to its previous condition; otherwise, the company could be held liable. The Parish Council believes that the EA do have obligations to residents as do the Local Council. This item is ongoing and will be a standing item on the agenda.

16 To note the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 8th December 2026 at 7:00pm in the Sports hall at Little Bollington C of E Primary School.

The date was noted as Tuesday 8th December 2026 at 7:00pm.

The meeting closed at 8:22pm

DRAFT