



WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
on Thursday 12th June 2025 at 7.15pm
in Goosnargh Village Hall – downstairs

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr Dave Hall - Chairman
Cllr Martin Carefoot
Cllr Anthony Eccles
Cllr Dave Price

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

County Cllr Maria Jones
County Cllr Matthew Salter
Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

Mrs Julie Buttle Parish Clerk

APOLOGIES

Cllr Barbara Clarke and Cllr Michelle Woodburn.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22ND MAY 2025.

MIN 25/26.29 Members **RESOLVED** that the Chairman sign the May Minutes as a true record. Members **noted** the draft Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting which will be approved in 2026.

TO ACCEPT DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND TO CONSIDER ANY WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

Cllr Price declared a personal interest in application **06/2025/0182** as the site is in close proximity to his home.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

MIN 25/26.30 Members **RESOLVED** to adjourn the meeting for public participation.

The County Councillors introduced themselves and stated they were still settling in to their roles at County Hall. As a newly elected party in Lancashire, Reform has an opportunity to introduce new ideas and changes which may help the authority break away from current routines and procedures. Cllr Jones noted that the Swainson House Farm application had been deferred and stated that she will work closely with local communities on planning and highway matters.

In response to a question from the Chairman regarding devolution, the Councillors expressed a view that the voice of the people should be taken into account and Reform is asking the government for a legally binding referendum, to ensure the electorate has a democratic say.

Further to a comment at the May Annual Parish Meeting, it was noted that the police have replied that there are no particular concerns on the Whittingham Park estate.

The police were unable to attend the June meeting but emailed the crime stats which included 3 nuisance incidents and 2 damage only road traffic collisions. It was noted that the police speed van has been in use on Halfpenny Lane. It was also noted that a Speed Indicator Device has been erected on Goosnargh Lane near the junction with Midchapel Road. It is believed that LCC Highways have erected it. The Clerk will try to find out what data has been recorded.

As no other members of the public were present, the meeting was reconvened.

LCC SCHOOL UPDATE

Further to the May Annual Parish meeting the Clerk wrote to LCC's school planning team to establish what the long-term strategy is for Goosnargh Oliverson School and if new classrooms can be added to the new school application rather than using temporary accommodation.

MIN 25/26.31 As a reply has not been received, it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should send the request to County Cllr Salter in his role as Cabinet Member for Education and Skills.

WHITTINGHAM DEVELOPMENT / PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

Members **noted** the following updates

- 1) Further to MIN 25/26.05 the Clerk wrote to the Chair of the Trust - set up to develop the Sports & Social Club – and requested that Cllr Woodburn and Cllr Eccles be involved in future discussions. A reply has not yet been received.
- 2) Maintenance issues including an insecure grid over a hole / drain and overgrown shrubs on the cemetery path have been referred to Homes England.
- 3) Barratts have stated that they will not provide dog waste bins on the new estates due to the cost of emptying them which would have an impact on the level of service charge paid by homeowners. Equally, non-residents would use them without paying such a fee. Consequently, dog owners are expected to dispose of dog waste in their own bins.

It was also confirmed that the site manager at Rogerson Gardens is dealing with maintenance issues until the site is transferred to the Residents Management Company. (RMC)

MIN 25/26.32 It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact Barratts again to request more information on the role of the RMC and the future maintenance of the open space.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1st – 31st May 2025

The Chairman verified that the finance and bank statements have been reconciled and Members were informed that the Unity Trust balance, exceeds the financial services compensation scheme levels.

MIN 25/26.33 it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk make enquiries to set up a deposit account and arrange for CIL monies to be transferred to the CCLA account. The amount will be confirmed at the July meeting.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND RECEIPTS

MIN 25/26.34 Further to MIN 24/25.16 Members **RESOLVED** to note and approve the following invoice already paid in accordance with Standing Order 2023 15 (xii)

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT	METHOD
Renewal of Insurance	Clear Insurance	£1,238.62	Ref 32

Members were informed that as the underwriters have changed, Councillors should contact the Clerk if they have been convicted of a criminal offence, county court judgement or are the subject of bankruptcy proceedings.

MIN 25/26.35 Members **RESOLVED** to note and approve the following accounts for payment

DETAILS	PAYEE	AMOUNT	METHOD
Data Protection Renewal	ICO	£47.00*	DD
E-On bill	E-On	£18.23	DD
Clerk Salary June	J Buttle	£1,715.47	BACs
PAYE	HMRC	£85.94	BACs
Employer Nat Ins	HMRC	£215.67	BACs
Pension	NEST	£93.45	DD
Wood for stile repairs	Fox Timber	£37.43	BACs
June Lengthsman hours	M Cornforth	£504.00	BACs

*The Data protection fee has increased from £35 to £47 which includes a £5 reduction for paying by Direct Debit.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY - FINANCES

MIN 25/26.36 Members **RESOLVED** to approve the CIL Finance spreadsheet sheet which includes updates to income and payments.

Members noted the letter of thanks in relation to the clock donation.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY – BUSINESS PLAN

Members **noted** the updates on the June CIL Business Plan.

MIN 25/26.37 Members **RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact LCC to ask if the insurance claim relating to the damaged SPID equipment has been processed and contact the Police Crime Commissioner to ask if he has a view on the use and installation of new GATSO cameras.

Village Green Gym Equipment

The Clerk and Proludic have been in contact with the City Council regarding the lack of progress on the proposed gym equipment resulting in the City Council stating that the project needs to go through a procurement process, due to the cost involved.

Members **noted** that the Clerk has challenged the information, partly because the City Council have known the costs since April and partly because the equipment is a bespoke design and alternative quotes will not be available.

Cumeragh Bend Cobbles

Members **noted** that as LCC Highways have stated that they will inspect and carry out any remedial action to the cobbles on Cumeragh bend, the matter was not added to the CIL business plan.

PLANS TO UPDATE BEACON DRIVE MEMORIAL

At the May meeting, Members expressed a desire to enhance the area around the Memorial on Beacon Drive.

MIN 25/26.38 Members **RESOLVED** to add the item to Category 2 of the Business Plan so that the proposal can be considered further. As Members wish to involve residents in the plans it was **noted** that alterations will not be determined and completed by November.

REPLACEMENT SIGN BOARD – PARISH WALKS

MIN 25/26.39 Members **RESOLVED** to replace the vandalised board at a cost of £95 + VAT. The new board will be installed on the side wall of the bus shelter rather than inside.

ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Members **noted** that Homes England will be hosting an open day for clients interested in submitting renovation tenders as stated in the May Minutes. Cllr Eccles and Cllr Price expressed an interest in attending to get a feel for any projects discussed. The Clerk will request dates and further information to enable them to attend.

Members **noted** that the Feasibility Study to work with the Parish Council to renovate the building has been added to the City Council Procurement Portal. Companies have until the 29th July to submit any quotes. Thanks were expressed to the Procurement Officer for his help in progressing the matter.

MIN 25/26.40 Members **RESOLVED** that the Clerk and Cllr Price respond to any enquiries or requests for further information in consultation with him.

NORTH LODGE GATEHOUSE

Members were made aware that North Lodge Gatehouse is on the market for £249,950 and they considered whether the building has the potential to be used as community asset.

MIN 25/26.41 Members **RESOLVED** that the Clerk arrange a viewing to assess the potential of the building for community use.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS - CONSIDERED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Members confirmed that they had no objections to the delegated representations on the following summarised applications

06/2025/0544 1no. Agricultural Building on at Back Lane Farm, Back Lane, Preston

06/2025/0551 Amended plans to a two storey 14-bed acute mental health inpatient unit for adults on Land South of Guild Park, Whittingham, Preston.

MIN 25/26.42 Members **RESOLVED** to object to **06/2025/0422** Permission in Principle for up to 9 dwellings on land off Halfpenny Lane as the site is in the open countryside and is contrary to the Policies in the Local Plan.

It was stated that a public notice has been displayed advertising a housing application off Churchgate. It is assumed this relates to the Gladman consultation issued in April. The Clerk will contact them for further information.

SWAINSON HOUSE FARM

Application **06/2025/0182** went to Planning Committee on the 29th April with a recommendation to approve. Committee members voted against the recommendation but deferred the application for a site visit. The Director of Planning was requested to clarify the events and as stated in 22nd May Minutes, it was resolved that the Clerk, Cllr Eccles and Cllr Price discuss the decision-making process and the content of the officer's report.

Following a discussion on the 30th May, the Clerk sent a letter to the Director of Planning confirming our belief that the decision-making process was unconstitutional and setting out our expectations for the next planning committee meeting on 5th June.

A 'late changes' report was issued prior to the 5th June meeting, confirming that the Council now has a 5-year supply. As this is contrary to the position stated in the committee report, it was recommended that the application be deferred to the 3rd July committee meeting. An email was sent to the Director of Planning seeking confirmation that the recommendation will change to a refusal.

MIN 25/26.43 As there are concerns that the recommendation won't change, and as there are still many unanswered questions regarding the decision-making process and the content of the officer's report, it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk, Cllr Price and Cllr Eccles continue to question the decision-making process and the content of the report, with the aim of clarifying the situation prior to the committee report being published for the July meeting.

GLEADALE TREE ENFORCEMENT

The tree felling at Gleadale was referred to the City Council under ref **E/2025/00095**. As there has been no progress, Members **noted** that Cllr Whittam has taken the matter up with the Enforcement officer and will be sent any updates.

NOTE NEW CORRESPONDENCE

Members **noted** the following items

- A concern regarding the alleged unlicensed removal of soil from a site in Broughton to Eaves Green Lane has been referred to planning officers, Wain Homes and the Environment Agency.
- The mayor has invited Members of the Parish Council to visit the Town Hall. Members are requested to contact Cllr Eccles with a date and time if they wish to attend.
- The next Preston Area Committee meeting will be on the 25th June at Toll Bar Cottage and will include an update on Devolution.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 10th July 2025 at 7.15pm in Goosnargh Village Hall.