

Minutes of Meeting 17th March 2026

Present: Cllr. Mr T. Butterfield, Cllr. Mr J. Metcalfe, Cllr. Mr D. Wood, Co. Cllr. Mr H. Hartley, Clerk & RFO P. Rosthorn

Apologies: Cllr. Mrs D. Perrin, Cllr. Mrs S. Hutchinson, Cllr. Mr M. Metcalfe

Absent: Boro. Cllr. Mr B. Newman

Vacancies: 2

Members of the Public Present: 1

No	Minute Heading	Action								
6222	Welcome and Public Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Wood proposed Cllr Metcalfe as Chairperson, this was seconded by Cllr Butterfield. Cllr Metcalfe opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance 									
6223	Declaration of Councillors Interests / Code of Conduct <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No interests were declared this month 									
6224	Minutes of the last meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of the Council meeting, held on Tuesday 17th February 2026 were signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record, (Proposed by Cllr Butterfield and seconded by Cllr Wood) 									
6225	Councillor Vacancies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The vacancies have been advertised again on Facebook; however, no interest has been received 									
6226	Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Payments for expenditure considered and agreed by all <table style="margin-left: 20px; border: none;"> <tr> <td>Village Hall monthly direct debit</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk/RFO salary and expenses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£429.54</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lancashire Association of Local Councils</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£450.00</td> </tr> </table> Income <table style="margin-left: 20px; border: none;"> <tr> <td>Bank Interest</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£68.33</td> </tr> </table> 	Village Hall monthly direct debit	£50.00	Clerk/RFO salary and expenses	£429.54	Lancashire Association of Local Councils	£450.00	Bank Interest	£68.33	
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6227	Planning Applications and Decisions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 26/0125/CEA Certificate of Lawful Use (S.192 Proposed Development) Installation of 12 no. roof-mounted solar panels to front and rear roof slopes at 8 Gawthorpe View Higham, for Mr Nick Saunders - for information only 	<i>No comments needed at this time</i>								
6228	Clerk's Report and Correspondence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The report was distributed before the meeting Matters noted: The advertising boards have finally been removed, and it was resolved by Councillors that no further boards be permitted in future 									

6229	Barrowford & Western Parishes Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr J Metcalfe attended the BWPC meeting and reported that no matters relevant to Higham were raised or discussed 	
6230	Village Hall Committee Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Perrin attended the Village Hall Committee meeting and provided an update prior to this meeting Matters noted: The extension remains on schedule for completion in mid-April. Consequently, an open day has been proposed for Saturday 25 th April. It would be appreciated if all members of the Parish Council could attend to support the Village Hall Committee	
6231	Borough Councillors Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report this month 	
6232	County Councillors Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was reported that delays in the completion of repairs logged via the Love Clean Street App are due to staff sickness • The Ginnel at Laneside Ave leading onto Higham Hall Road has been reported and photographs have been submitted in the hope that a barrier will be installed 	
6233	Village Maintenance Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benches – Cllr Wood and Cllr Butterfield will compile a plan detailing all benches requiring power washing and treatment and will pass this to the handyman for completion • Spout and Drain – this remains in hand with the handyman • Shed rendering – this remains in hand with the handyman • Trees/Shrubbery overhanging from Chapel Grounds – the handyman has removed a lot of the overhanging brambles and cut back the trees that had started growing through the walls • Copthurst – Cllr Butterfield has spoken to the handyman who will assess the area and consider potential solutions. He may need to drain the land into the main drain and once completed install a short pathway 	
6234	Playground Maintenance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Wood contacted both Playdale and Wicksteed to seek ideas for potential playground updates. Only Playdale responded, and Cllr Wood met with the representative on site to discuss options. Measurements were taken and several suggestions were provided (including a rota-bounce and a mini slide/climbing frame). A quote is now awaited • Cllr Wood reviewed the amber safety ratings, and he, along with Cllr Butterfield, will work through them and formulate a plan of action. The zipline requires a replacement seat, and a price has been sourced at approximately £100 • Six of the log steps need replacing and Cllr Wood has requested a price for these. He will compare the quoted cost with the option of purchasing the logs and completing the work in-house 	
6235	Parish Matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spout Magazine Distribution List – the list has been updated with the help of Robin Willoughby • Biodiversity – no update • Neighbourhood Watch Consideration – after discussion it was agreed that this is not a project the Parish Council wishes to pursue at this time • Speeding Awareness Competition – no update • Red Telephone Box – Cllr Butterfield proposed that we try and source a red telephone box for placing in the Threepenny Bit for use as a library. He will investigate the possibility 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Lights – it has been reported that the new school lights are extremely bright and shining into the houses opposite. Councillors will inspect the issue, although it is unclear whether any action can be taken 	
6236	Items for consideration for next Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Parish Village Meeting Speeding Awareness Competition Spout Magazine 	
6237	Date of next meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday 21st April 2026 at 7.00pm <p>~~~~~</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting closed at 19:51 	

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