## **Forton Parish Council**

## Minutes of the Forton Parish Council Meeting held at

## Methodist Church Hall, Hollins Lane on Monday 1st September 2025 at 7pm

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Present:	
Cllrs Janet Huddart, Peter Young, Wes Wilson, Neil Wigglesworth, Lesley Dodgson,	
Andrew Redmayne, Borough Cllr Charlotte Walker, County Cllr Matthew Salter.	Note
In attendance:	
Mrs H Alcock - Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer.	Note
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2032. Apologies for Absence:	
Cllr S Tresilian, Cllr J Farebrother, PCSO Denise Creighton.	Note
2033. Notification of Interests	
There were no declarations of interest nor any request for a dispensation for any item	Note
on the agenda.	
2034. Minutes of the last Meeting	
The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2025 were confirmed and	Note
signed as a true record.	
2035. Public Participation	
There was 1 member of the public present.	
Cricket Club Funding	
Borough Councillor Walker provided an update on the proposed works at the cricket	Note
club, informing the meeting that funding for the project is currently at a standstill.	
She reassured members that alternative funding opportunities are being actively	
pursued.	
Engagement with Parish Councils	
County Councillor Salter noted that engagement with parish councils is expected to	Note
take place in February regarding budget discussions for the upcoming year.	
Park & Ride Charges Consultation	
Councillor Salter also advised that the consultation period for the proposed park &	
ride charges north of Lancaster ended on 28th August. However, he offered to	Note
present any views or feedback from the Parish Council if submitted.	
process any news or reconstruction and rather each continuous	
Methodist Church Contact	
Councillor Dodgson agreed to send the contact details for the Methodist Church to	
County Cllr Salter to facilitate discussions about potential future plans for the	Note
building.	
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Report of Unwanted Attention in the Area	(:IIr
Report of Unwanted Attention in the Area  Councillor Redmayne agreed to contact Lancashire Police regarding reports of	Cllr Redmayne

incidents involving Asian men allegedly following girls in Longridge and Goosnargh	
and had been spotted in Forton village recently.	
2036. Planning	
Application Number: 25/00679/LBC	
<b>Proposal:</b> Listed Building Consent for a two-storey rear extension and further	
single storey rear and side extensions to main dwelling including internal re-	Clerk
configuration.	
<b>Location:</b> Ratcliffe Wharfe, Ratcliffe Wharf Lane, Forton	
<b>Resolved:</b> Clerk to advise planning the Parish Council do not object to this	
application	
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2037. New Community Hall Updates	
No written update received, verbal update provided by a member of the Village Hall	Note
Committee as follows:-	NOLE
Meeting has taken place between Architect and M&E consultant, awaiting further	
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updates from M&E report / survey. Next Village Hall Committee Meeting due to take	
place on 23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025 in the Pavilion.	
2038. Defibrillator Purchase	
Councillor Young contacted Peter Bond at Northwest Ambulance Service for	
recommendations regarding the replacement of the current defibrillator at the	
Village Hall. Following this, Councillor Young sent an email to all Councillors on 21st	
July 2025 requesting approval to purchase a replacement unit. The request was	Note
agreed upon, and the Clerk was instructed to proceed with the purchase of a	
Mediana Hearton A15 defibrillator at a cost of £1,080. This new machine will be	
placed on the war memorial wall.	
The Clerk was asked to contact the Parish Champion James Tomlinson about the	Clerk
possibility of any funding towards the purchase and to look into the possibility of	
taking out an insurance for future maintenance / replacement items.	
	Cllr
Cllr Dodgson to check expiry date of pads on Hollins Lane defib machine.	Dodgson
2039. Finance	
The following payments for July were checked and agreed: -	
Easy Website - £58.08	
• Ron Smith - £90.31	
SP Maison Garden - £838.00	
Mason Gillibrand - £544.95	
Hollins Lane Methodist Church - £60.00	Note
• Clerks Wages - £324.08	
Clerks expenses - £36.80  The following payments for August were checked and agreed:	
The following payments for August were checked and agreed:-	
• Easy Website - £58.08	
Euro Office - £14.10	
• Defib World - £1080.00	
Clerks Wages (inc backpay following recent local government pay	
negotiations) - £375.28	
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Clerks expenses - £26.00	
The Clerk requested approval for the following payments: -	
Ron Smith – materials used for installation of 2 x new benches positioned at	
war memorial £37.96	
Colin Cross Printers £57.60      Transact and acquire 20.140.00	
Frances Landscaping - £2,142.00	
2040. Parish Reports / Issues from Councillors	
Parish Maintenance	
Litter picking – 18.85 bags were picked in July, and 9.75 bags were picked in August.	
A new volunteer litter picker has been supplied with equipment and is helping every	Cllr Wilson
fortnight. Cllr Wilson was asked to pass on our thanks.	
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Data sheets for August were handed out to Councillors at the meeting for review.	Note
2041. Cllr Huddart updates	
Bench locations	
Two new benches have now been sited at the war memorial, the existing bench from	
the village hall is to be placed on the playing fields, exact location to be discussed at	
the next committee meeting.	
Frances Forestry have been asked to cut the grass at the war memorial and Cllr	
Wigglesworth will continue watering. Concerns were raised over number of weeds in	Borough Cllr Walker
gutters and around village hall, Borough Cllr Walker to discuss with Wyre Council as	vvalker
currently only two maintenance visits per year are carried out.	
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Community banking	
A new banking hub (Cash Access UK) is now operational in the old council offices on	
the High Street in Garstang, banker availability includes Barclays, Natwest,	Note
Santander, Halifax and Lloyds.	
Government national emergency alarm test (7.9.25 at 3pm)	
Reminder that the test will be carried out on Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> September.	Note
Future of meetings at Hollins Lane Methodist Church	
No further updates provided.	Note
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Leaflets on special plants – Cllr Dodgson	
Cllr Dodgson reported having ordered copies of the Wyre Rivers Trust – Guide to	
Invasive Non-Native Species leaflets, having seen them at the Garstang Show. The	Note
Clerk was instructed to add the information to the council's website.	
2042. Clerks updates	
Notification of disclosable pecuniary and other interests to be completed using new	
template	
Copies of the new template to be completed and returned to the Clerk asap.	Note
Lancashire Parish and Town Council Conference – 1.11.25 at County Hall	Note

Cllrs were asked to note the date in their diaries.	
2043. Any Other Business	
Cllr Dodgson gave her apologies for next month's meeting.	Note
2044. Date & Time of Next Meeting(s)	
The date of the next meeting is Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 at 7pm. Items for the	Note
agenda and reports, to reach the Clerk before 26 <sup>th</sup> September 2025.	
There being no other business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.10pm	Note

Minutes prepared by:	Hilary Alcock (Clerk)
Approved by:	Janet Huddart (Chairman)
Date:	