

Forton Parish Council

Minutes of the Forton Parish Council Meeting held at

Methodist Church Hall, Hollins Lane on Monday 3rd November 2025 at 7pm

Present: Cllrs Janet Huddart, Peter Young, Neil Wigglesworth, Andrew Redmayne, Lesley Dodgson, Wes Wilson	Note
In attendance: Mrs H Alcock - Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer	Note
2059. Apologies for Absence: Cllr J Farebrother, Cllr S Tresilian, County Cllr Matthew Salter, PCSO Denise Creighton, Borough Cllr Charlotte Walker	Note
2060. Notification of Interests There were no declarations of interest nor any request for a dispensation for any item on the agenda.	Note
2061. Minutes of the last Meeting The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6 th October 2025 were confirmed and signed as a true record.	Note
2062. Public Participation There were two members of the public present. A member of the public raised the following concerns:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motor vehicles being parked on lay by outside services and being lived in for circa two years – Environmental crime stickers had been placed on the vehicles but then removed, Clerk to report this to PCSO Creighton for her action. Glass window smashed at North bound bus stop opposite BT property. Clerk to report to Love Clean Streets. Cllr Redmayne stated that the bus stop at the top of School Lane is not fit for people to wait at when it rains as there is nowhere dry to stand, Clerk was asked to contact County Cllr Salter and Borough Councillor Walker for their comments.	Clerk Clerk Clerk
2063. Planning Cllr Young advised that majority of planning conditions relating to the New Holly Pub have now been discharged, so works are expected imminently. Cllr Huddart advised that 27 plots have been sold on the Cricketers Green site to date.	Note Note
2064. New Community Hall Updates Minutes of the Forton Village Hall and Recreation Ground Meeting which took place on 7.10.25 were circulated to all Councillors, members were concerned with content and asked to provide comments at our next meeting. The Clerk was asked to provide a total of expenditure on New Community Hall and existing Village Hall by Parish Council and Village Hall Committee.	Note Clerk

<p>2065. War Memorial Maintenance</p> <p>The cleaning of the war memorial was carried out by Tony Holmes War Memorials. Efforts were also made to level the raised paving stones that had been displaced by underlying tree roots. The roots have now been cut back, and the joints have been filled with stone dust to help prevent weed growth.</p> <p>Cllr Huddart has confirmed she would collect this year's Remembrance Sunday wreath but would like a volunteer to lay wreath at service.</p>	<p>Note</p> <p>Note</p>
<p>2066. Maintenance of Cricket nets between Shireshead Cricket Club and Chapel Close</p> <p>Clerk confirmed she had raised a query with Planning team regarding who has overall responsibility for the nets. Homeowners in Chapel Close confirmed there is nothing in their maintenance agreements.</p>	<p>Note</p>
<p>2067. Proposed tree planting at junction of School Lane / A6</p> <p>Cllr Wigglesworth reported that he had spoken with LCC regarding their concerns about the potential presence of underground utilities in the area. He advised that the project may proceed in the spring using tub planters, ensuring that utilities will not be affected. Sight lines will be reviewed early next year prior to the commencement of planting.</p>	<p>Note</p>
<p>2068. Finance</p> <p>The following payments for October were checked and agreed: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy Website - £58.08 • Defib World - £1642.99 • Clerks Wages - £418.08 • Clerks expenses - £26.00 <p>The Clerk requested approval for the following invoices:-</p> <p>Laburnum Nurseries £56.10</p> <p>Cllr Redmayne expenses – bench repairs £55.28</p> <p>Tony Holmes Stone Mason - £216.00</p> <p>James Pickering - £300.00</p> <p>The Clerk reported that the Parish Council printer is becoming increasingly temperamental, with the paper feeder experiencing difficulty pulling paper through. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should obtain quotations for a replacement printer of a similar model.</p>	<p>Note</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>2069. Parish Reports / Issues from Councillors</p> <p><u>Parish Maintenance</u></p> <p>Litter picking 24½ bags were picked in October. Cllr Wilson to ask Lesley (volunteer litter picker) if she would like to share how many bags she is collecting so her picks can be included in monthly totals. Dave & Ros advised that White Carr Lane is problematic currently with wine and cider bottles discarded in hedgerows, Spout House Hill and the area around services continues to be littered heavily.</p> <p><u>Christmas Trees</u></p> <p>A tree is to be provided next to Village Hall, but Methodist Church have advised they do not want one this year.</p>	<p>Note</p> <p>Note</p>

<p><u>TPO's</u> Permission gained and works carried out to remove ash tree and pruning to oak tree to TPO protected trees in Cleveley Drive. A temporary TPO has been placed on the oak tree at 'The Meadows' Bungalow whilst building works are being carried out.</p> <p><u>Defibrillators</u> Replacement defibrillator for Hollins Lane has been delivered along with a new cabinet for the machine in School Lane. Cllr Dodgson to contact Peter Bond for support installing and the Clerk to contact Michelle Weir with regards cabinet for Village Hall.</p> <p><u>Cricketers Green site traffic</u> The Clerk was asked to invite County Cllr Salter to visit the entrance and surrounding roads to Cricketers Green to see the mud and loose stone on roads.</p> <p><u>SPID</u> No updates.</p>	<p>Note</p> <p>Cllr Dodgson</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Note</p>
<p>2070. Cllr Huddart updates <u>LALC Conference</u> Cllr Huddart provided an updated on last weekend's conference including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Love Clean Streets App to be revised • Police and Crime Commissioner – Clive Grunshaw in attendance • Wyre Council will not be responsible for removal of wasps nests. <p><u>Bench repairs</u> Cllr Huddart thanked Cllr Redmayne for carrying out repairs to the bench in the playing fields.</p> <p><u>UU works</u> Cllr Huddart advised that trees had been cut down between Willow Close and Bowland Gardens in advance of overflow tanks being installed in School Lane early December.</p>	<p>Note</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Note</p>
<p>2071. Clerks updates Proposed meeting dates for 2026 were circulated for Councillors to review, location of future meetings to be confirmed.</p> <p>Clerk confirmed the Parish Champion has supported our grant application and has agreed to pay £850 towards the cost of defibrillator purchases, funds will be paid into our account in next 3 – 4 weeks.</p>	<p>Note</p> <p>Note</p>
<p>2072. Any Other Business Cllr Dodgson confirmed there is a Remembrance Service taking place at St James' Church on Sunday 9th October at 6pm.</p> <p>Cllr Dodgson confirmed she has now signed an agreement to retain post office services in Methodist Church for a further six months</p>	<p>Note</p> <p>Note</p>

2073. Date & Time of Next Meeting(s) The date of the next meeting is Monday 1 st December 2025 at 7pm. Items for the agenda and reports, to reach the Clerk before 22 nd November 2025.	Note
There being no other business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.15pm	Note

Minutes prepared by: Hilary Alcock (Clerk)

Approved by: Janet Huddart (Chairman)

Date: