

Forton Parish Council

Minutes of the Forton Parish Council Meeting held at

Methodist Church Hall, Hollins Lane on Monday 6th October 2025 at 7pm

Present: Cllrs Janet Huddart, Peter Young, Wes Wilson, Neil Wigglesworth, Andrew Redmayne, S Tresilian, PCSO Denise Creighton, PCSO Hannah Yates, Borough Cllr Charlotte Walker	Note
In attendance: Mrs H Alcock - Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer	Note
2045. Apologies for Absence: Cllr L Dodgson, Cllr J Farebrother, County Cllr Matthew Salter	Note
2046. Notification of Interests There were no declarations of interest nor any request for a dispensation for any item on the agenda.	Note
2047. Minutes of the last Meeting The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1 st September 2025 were confirmed and signed as a true record.	Note
2048. Public Participation There were no members of the public present. PCSO Yates advised there was nothing of note in the Forton area, most issues being dealt with were around Garstang. Cllr Redmayne enquired as to whether there were any updates on a red Toyota Yaris which was reported acting suspiciously on 17 th September, no further updates at the moment. Cllr Huddart updated the Police about concerns raised from a School Lane resident who had recently contacted Stephen Atkinson – LCC Leader and Cat Smith, on 4.10.25, regarding the positioning of the southbound bus stop and an incident which had occurred on 27.9.25 where a JCB tractor and trailer had come up behind the bus overtaking on the opposite side of the road, continuing past the second traffic island. The resident has also asked for LCC to sit at the bus stop for an hour in peak times to experience the dangers of the positioning of the bus stop. PCSO Yates advised that they can only deal with these types of incidents as they happen. Borough Cllr Walker confirmed that Wyre Borough Council are looking at alternative stronger weed sprays following complaints received regarding amount of weeds in footpaths and gutters. Borough Cllr Walker advised residents in Hollins Lane had contacted her with regards flooding which may be caused by a broken private culvert from previous houses, or new pipes going into old pipes and may need digging up, residents had met with planners in August.	Note Note Note Note

Borough Cllr Walker advised that she had made enquiries as to why social housing was being offered to Blackpool residents and was informed that the companies that buy the blocks of housing have waiting lists for families all over the region. Recent discussions with Persimmon Homes confirmed that 24 plots had been sold with 11 of those going to the Housing Association.	Note
2049. Planning Application Number: 25/00746/FUL Proposal: Change of use of agricultural buildings to B8 storage and distribution Location: Clifton Hill, Stony Lane, Clifton Hill, Forton Resolved: Clerk to advise planning the Parish Council object to this application, due to access roads not being suitable for HGV's Application Number: 25/00747/FULMAJ Proposal: Erection of building for use in association with an agricultural contractors depot Location: Norbreck House, Cockerham Road, Forton Resolved: Clerk to advise planning the Parish Council do not object to this application Borough Cllr Walker advised that as of July 2025, no public comments can be viewed on the planning portal to prevent neighbour disputes escalating Cllr Young advised that work on the New Holly Pub may well start soon because progress on satisfying the planning conditions is well advanced.	Clerk Clerk Note Note
2050. New Community Hall Updates Cllr Tresilian confirmed that Committee members of the Community Hall Project had met with the Architect and layout, and storage options were being reviewed which included provision for a Pickle Ball, Paddle Ball and Badminton Hall. Committee Members are reviewing surveys carried out previously to see what community wanted. A stakeholder meeting is due to be arranged before a business plan can be formulated. Next meeting due to take place on 7.10.25 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion.	Note
2051. Community Defibrillators <u>Hollins Lane defibrillator</u> The pads in this machine are due to expire on 19.10.25, the CR Plus was discontinued in 2019, and the manufacturers have slowed down production of the pad/charge stick set, NWS have no stock and suppliers are out of stock nationally. Councillors discussed either removing the machine from the circuit until new pads are available in the future or purchasing a new replacement defibrillator, voting took place and it was agreed a new defibrillator would be purchased same as School Lane model. <u>School Lane cabinet</u> Due to the condition of the cabinet which has been affected by the sunlight, Councillors reviewed prices obtained by the Clerk and agreed to purchase a new cabinet which will remain in same position as existing until new Community Hall is built. Quotes received were in region of £430 to £555 ex Vat. Cllr Tresilian to ask if any of committee members at Village Hall could arrange for a shelter to be	Clerk Clerk Cllr Tresilian

constructed above machine to prevent bird droppings having to be cleaned from the casing.	
<u>Maintenance cabinet options</u> The Clerk confirmed she had explored options for a maintenance contract, NWS advised the defibs carry out their own regular self tests and alert the user by means of various display symbols, as we have two reliable Guardians checking the machines regularly, it isn't necessary, coupled with the fact both machines have a five year warranty.	Note
2052. Request from Garstang Town Council – Christmas Lights Contribution Councillors confirmed they did not wish to make a contribution this year. Clerk to inform Garstang Town Council. Garstang Christmas Lights – Big Switch on is taking place on 24.11.25 at 6.30pm.	Clerk
2053. Timescale to repair the bridge on Cockerham Road Cllr Young advised that the temporary road closure on Cockerham Road to enable repair works following bridge strike was due to end on 19.12.25, residents have raised concerns over the volume of traffic now using Ratcliffe Wharf Lane. The Clerk was asked to contact County Cllr Salter to ask if he can discuss timescales with Highways and see if it can be reduced.	Clerk
2054. Finance The following payments for July were checked and agreed: - • Easy Website - £58.08 • Frances Forestry - £2142.00 • Ron Smith, bench repairs - £37.96 • Colin Cross - £57.60 • Clerks Wages - £418.08 • Clerks expenses - £26.00 The Clerk requested approval for the purchase of plastic timber for repairs to the picnic bench at the Pavilion, at a cost of £57 plus £55 delivery. Cllr Redmayne to obtain a price from Collinson's to avoid steep delivery charges.	Note Cllr Redmayne
2055. Parish Reports / Issues from Councillors <u>Parish Maintenance</u> Litter picking 20½ bags were picked in September. <u>SPID</u> Cllr Tresilian confirmed the SPID camera is not working, instructions have been received to change the settings and will advise when this has been done. <u>Flower Tubs</u> It was agreed that Julie McLoughlin would order plants for the tubs around village and Cllr Wigglesworth will arrange for war memorial plants to be ordered.	Note Note Note
2056. Cllr Huddart updates <u>Hedge on Hollins Lane</u> James Pickering to carry out a maintenance check on hedge in Hollins Lane.	Note

<u>Pumping Station</u> The Clerk was asked to contact UU about the works to the School Lane pumping station to clarify when their programme of work is planned.	Clerk
<u>Crickets nets</u> Holes have started to appear in the nets in between the cricket club and Chapel Close, Cllrs agreed to contact residents of neighbouring properties, landowners and Wyre Planners to establish who is responsible for maintaining.	Note
<u>New Food Waste Collection bins -Easter 2026</u> Cllr Huddart circulated leaflets on a new food waste collection initiative which is due to be rolled out Easter next year.	Note
<u>Tree planting on School Lane / A6 junction</u> LCC advised that tree planting could not be permitted at the junction of A6 and School Lane due to:- • Sight lines being affected • Potential presence of utilities in area Cllr Wigglesworth to contact LCC to discuss further.	Cllr Wigglesworth
<u>Parish Champion Grant towards defibrillator cost</u> The Clerk confirmed she had received an acknowledgement from Parish Champion for a grant towards the cost of the new defibrillator purchased. Application has been accepted and reference number CHAMP 145827 given.	Note
2057. Clerks updates Clerk advised she was waiting for two Councillors to complete the notification of disclosable pecuniary interest forms using new template for Wyre Councils democratic Services and asked for these to be returned asap. The Clerk asked for final numbers for the upcoming Lancashire Parish and Town Council Conference to be held on 1.11.25 at County Hall, Clerk to book a place for Cllr Huddart.	Note Clerk
2058. Date & Time of Next Meeting(s) The date of the next meeting is Monday 3rd November 2025 at 7pm. Items for the agenda and reports, to reach the Clerk before 25th October 2025.	Note
There being no other business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.25pm	Note

Minutes prepared by: Hilary Alcock (Clerk)

Approved by: Janet Huddart (Chairman)

Date: