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**Minutes of the meeting of Lathom South Parish Council held at the Cricket Club, Blaguegate Lane, Lathom, WN8 8TY at 7:30 pm on Wednesday 9th April 2025.**

**Councillors in attendance:** Cllr Andrew Chanter, Cllr Roger Clayton (Chairman), Cllr Jacqueline Raeburn and Cllr Darren Steele.

**Apologies:** Apologies received from Cllr Andrew Beeston, Cllr Andy Taylor and Ward Cllr Linda Webster

**In attendance:** One member of the public and Cllr Adrian Owens attended

## MINUTES

### 1 To record apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Andrew Beeston and Cllr Andy Taylor.

### 2 To receive declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

### 3 To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025 were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

### 4 Public Participation

Borough Cllr Adrian Owen provided an update on the WLBC money saving proposals which included:

- Removing half of the public litter bins (400),
- Street sweeping reduced to twice yearly and grass cutting to be reduced by 25%.

- Charges to be made to Parish Councils for WLBC to empty any litter bins which are owned by the Parish Council.
- Proposal to put in 3 weekly grey waste collections (to go to consultation). The Borough Council has to bring in food waste collection from 2026.

Discussions are ongoing regarding the new unitary council but West Lancs is likely to join Chorley and South Ribble.

## 5 To ratify and authorise payment of accounts presented

John Lewis	160325	Mobile phone purchase	d.c	£159.00
Santander	160325	Bank charges	d.d	£0.15
Waterside Nursery	230325	Pond plants	d.c	£303.00
J Smith	310325	Clerk's salary March 25	d.d	£750.35
J Services	310325	Annual litter pick	b.t	£855.00
Working Woodlands	310325	Ditch/fence pre work	b.t	£600.00
HMRC	310325	Employer NI payment	b.t	£7.20
NEST	030425	Clerk's pension Mar 25	d.d	£162.03
Talk mobile	090425	Mobile phone air time	d.d	£7.68
Cricket Club	090425	Room hire	b.t	£50.00

The above accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

It was noted that an adjustment CIL credit of £8,122.77 is to be received by the end of April. The cap which is initially based on the previous financial year had been adjusted for financial year 2024/25 as the Council Tax department had confirmed that as of April 2024, there were 486 taxed dwellings within Lathom South.

Therefore, the Lathom South annual cap for the period April 2024 – March 2025 is calculated as a total of £84,833.04 (£76,710.27 already received).

## 6 To discuss any planning issues

**Application No:** 2025/0226/PNH

**Proposal:** Application for determination as to whether prior approval of detail is required - extension of dwellinghouse. Extension extends beyond the rear wall of the original dwellinghouse - by 7m. Maximum height of the extension - 3.6m. Height of eaves of the extension - 2.3m.

**Location:** Woodview, Vale Lane, Lathom, Ormskirk, Lancashire.

Although there were no objections to the above application, it was resolved to make a comment on the Planning Portal that the property backs onto greenbelt and an area of Regional Importance for Landscape History.

#### **7 To organise the distribution of the Spring newsletter**

The Spring newsletters were divided between the Councillors in attendance at the meeting for delivery to households as soon as possible.

#### **8 Update on Jacobs Wood and Swells Wood**

A small pond had been created in Swells Wood. This had been more difficult than anticipated due the ground being boggy which caused the digger to become stuck.

Some drainage channels had been dug out to help to dry out the ground. At a later stage drainage pipes could be laid in these and then back filled.

The biodiversity grant had been used to purchase plants for the new pond and arrangements were to be made for them to be put in place. It was agreed that a 'danger, deep water' warning sign should be purchased for display by the new pond.

A section of fencing and a gate had been installed between Swells Wood and the farm field to try to limit unauthorised access into the woods, especially by cycles and motorcycles. It was agreed to purchase a chain and combination padlock to lock the gate. It was agreed that the clerk would place an order with Woodland Trust for hedging which would be planted along the length of the new fencing.

It had been planned to recycle the tree protectors which had been removed during the Friends of Jacobs Wood work party. However, the Tubex recycling centre only accept tree proctors from 1<sup>st</sup> May. Enquiries were being made with a different recycling centre in Rainhill (St Helens) which may be able to take them.

#### **9 Update on the community defibrillator**

A meeting had been held with a representative from the Skelmersdale Cricket Club to agree a location for the community defibrillator. A further meeting was being arranged with an electrician to obtain a quote for the electrical installation. The Clerk could now process the order for the defibrillator.

#### **10 Report from South Lathom Residents' Association (SLRA) for information only**

There was no update from SLRA.

**11 Exchanges of information. For information only (no discussion)**

It was requested that the next meeting agenda should include a proposal for a noticeboard at Jacobs/Swells Wood.

Following the suggestion of having LSPC/ Friends of Jacobs Wood business cards printed, the clerk was making enquiries regarding costs.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.25pm.

**Chairman**

**14<sup>th</sup> May 2025**