



*Clerk: Mrs Jane Smith, 3 Old School, School Lane, Melling, L31 1FE
Tel: 07495970005
Lathomsouthpc.clerk@yahoo.com*

Minutes of the meeting of Lathom South Parish Council held at Skelmersdale Cricket Club at 6:30 pm on Wednesday 14th May 2025.

Present: Cllr Andrew Chanter, Cllr Roger Clayton, Cllr Ernie Pallas, Cllr Jacqueline Raeburn, Cllr Darren Steele, Cllr Andy Taylor.

Apologies received from: Ward Councillors Ian Rigby and Linda Webster and County Cllr Adrian Owens

In attendance: No members of the public were in attendance

MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1 To elect Chairman and hear acceptance of office

Cllr Darren Steele was elected Chairman. Declaration of acceptance of office was read out, witnessed and signed.

2 To elect Vice Chairman and hear acceptance of office

Cllr Roger Clayton was elected as Vice Chairman. Declaration of acceptance of office was read out, witnessed and signed.

3 To co-opt a Member to fill a vacancy and to hear declaration of acceptance of office

Karen Fairhurst was formally co-opted as a Parish Councillor to fill a vacant post. The declaration of acceptance of office was read out, witnessed and signed.

4 To record apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Ward Councillors Ian Rigby and Linda Webster and from County Councillor Adrian Owens.

5 To receive declarations of interests

There were no declarations of interest.

6 To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th April 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th April 2025 were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

7 Public Participation

There was no public participation.

8 To confirm Registration of Financial Interests forms

Councillors in attendance confirmed their Registration of Interest Forms were up to date.

9 To confirm representation on outside bodies

There is no representation on any outside bodies.

10 To confirm structure and membership of committees and subcommittees

It was agreed to disband the Human Resources Committee.

11 To consider payment of annual subscriptions

The following memberships were approved

CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) - increase to £50
SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks) - £ 190
Open Spaces Society - £45
OPSTA (Ormskirk, Preston Southport Travellers Association) - £10
LALC / NALC - £220.20

12 To consider insurance cover renewal quotation

The Clerk advised a renewal quote had been received from Zurich for £310.67. This was a reduction of £30 from the previous year.

It was resolved to renew the insurance policy with Zurich.

13 To confirm dates of future meetings

Subject to availability of a meeting room at Skelmersdale Cricket Club the dates of future meetings were agreed for:-

11 th June 2025	14 th Jan 2026
16 th July 2025	11 th Feb 2026
3 rd Sept 2025	11 th Mar 2026
8 th Oct 2025	8 th Apr 2026
12 th Nov 2025	13 th May 2026 AGM/APA
10 th Dec 2025	

14 To ratify and authorise payment of accounts presented

Heartbeat Trust	150425	Defibrillator	b.t	£2,472.00
Santander	160425	Bank charges	d.d	£0.75
Working Woodlands	170425	Site visits / consultations with specialist contractors	b.t	£250.00
NEST	260425	Clerk's pension Apr 25	d.d	162.03
J Smith	290425	Clerk's salary Apr 25	d.d	£750.35
HMRC	290425	Employer NI		
		5 Mar – 5 Apr 25	b.t	£7.21
		6 Apr – 5 May 25	b.t	£58.97
LALC	300425	LALC & NALC subs	b.t	£220.20
Fence & Drain Ltd	300425	Fence & gate Pond & drainage	b.t	£4,890.00
T & W Garner	030525	Padlock	d.c	£3.18
Classic Garden Furniture	090525	Fingerpost	b.t	£460.00
Safety Signs 4 Less	090525	Deep water sign	d.c	£39.59
Talk Mobile	100525	Mobile phone bill	d.d	£5.95
Cricket Club	140525	Room hire	b.t	£50.00
LALC	140525	New Cllr training	b.t	£35.00

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

15 To discuss any current planning issues

Application No: 2025/0425/FUL

Proposal: Variation of Condition 2 of planning permission 2023/0118/FUL in relation to approved plans

Site Location: Land off Firwood Road, Lathom

The Parish Council had no objection to the above application for variation on planning grounds but on building grounds the following issues were raised:

- New surface drainage calculations would be required as the new position for plots 29 and 43 was originally listed as a water meadow.
- The number of trees to be planted in the area had been greatly reduced which will have an impact on the water absorption in the area.
- The recommended stand-off distance to the newly discovered mine shaft appears to have been overlooked with regard to the adjacent properties.

16 To discuss an Easement on Land Registry title LAN277018 (Swells Wood) with National Grid.

The Council considered the difference between signing a Wayleave agreement and an Easement with National Grid. It was resolved to advise National Grid that a Wayleave agreement would be considered.

17 To agree a schedule for the strimming of Public Rights of Way

It was agreed to arrange the strimming of the Public Rights of Way to take place early to mid-June 2025.

18 To discuss the recycling of tree guards and approve costs

A quote had been received for transporting the tree guards from Jacobs Wood to a recycling centre in Carnforth. It was agreed to obtain a second quotation from Working Woodlands.

19 Report from South Lathom Residents' Association (SLRA) for information only

It had been reported that 4 residential caravans had recently been delivered to Shireoaks. It appeared that the caravans were for sale and Shireoaks was being used on a commercial basis. An enforcement officer was due to visit the site to investigate.

20 Exchanges of Information. For information only (no discussion)

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 7.55pm.

**Cllr Darren Steele
Chairman**

11th June 2025