



Clerk: Mrs Jane Smith
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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 16th July 2025.

Councillors in attendance: Cllr Roger Clayton, Cllr Karen Fairhurst, Cllr Ernie Pallas, and Cllr Andy Taylor

Apologies: Apologies received from Cllr Andrew Chanter, Cllr Jacqueline Raeburn, Cllr Darren Steele, Ward Cllr Linda Webster and Ward Cllr Ian Rigby

In attendance: Tree Warden Mr Andrew Beeston was in attendance

MINUTES

1 To record apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Andrew Chanter, Cllr Jacqueline Raeburn, Cllr Darren Steele, Ward Cllr Linda Webster and Ward Cllr Ian Rigby.

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 11th June 2025

Following a minor amendment, the minutes of the meeting held on 11th June 2025 were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

4 Public Participation

There were no items raised by the public

5 To ratify and authorise payment of accounts presented

Amazon	120625	First aid kit and clipboard	d.c	£20.97
Santander	180625	Bank charges	b.t	£0.85

OPSTA	200625	Subscription	b.t	£10.00
J Services	200625	Footpath strimming	b.t	£2,400.00
Vistaprint	200625	Business cards	d.c	£27.86
NEST	250625	Clerk's Pension Jun 25	d.d	£162.03
A Vaight	270625	Defibrillator installation	b.t	£300.00
J Smith	300625	Clerk's salary Jun 25	d.d	£750.35
HMRC	300625	Employer NI payment	b.t	£58.97
Talk Mobile	090725	Mobile phone bill	d.d	£5.95
Cricket Club	160725	Room hire	b.t	£50.00
Santander	160725	Bank charges	b.t	£0.50
LALC	180725	Training Cllr Fairhurst	b.t	£35.00

The above accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

Details of income for 1st April 2025 to 30 June 2025 were noted as below

Precept 1 st payment	£ 6,817.00
Santander interest	£ 649.71
CIL	£15,417.86
VAT refund	£ 337.41
National Grid	£ 4.34
CCLA	£ 2,510.60

6 To discuss any planning issues

Application 2025/0508/LDP, for lawful development at Salendine Nook, Hollands Lane, was noted.

7 To discuss policies for future adoption by LSPC

Two Councillors had formed a working party and produced an Appraisal Policy and a Disciplinary Policy for adoption by the Parish Council.

The Clerk requested that it be noted that a Grievance policy should be adopted in addition to the Disciplinary Policy to provide a fair and balanced approach to managing workplace issues and to promote both organisational efficiency and employee well-being.

It was noted that a Recruitment Policy was required as outlined in the Standing Orders.

8 Update and discussion on the Firwood Road Bridge Project

A 'clients consent letter' had been received from Napthens Solicitors which required a Parish Council signature to enable Napthens to act on behalf of LSPC for legal matters relating to the Firwood Road Bridge Project.

It was resolved that the Clerk would sign the Clients consent letter.

As the Clerk was the main point of contact, Napthens were required, under standard Anti Money Laundering requirements, to complete an ID check on the Clerk. Councillors noted this and agreed the charge of £20 for the ID check to be completed.

9 To consider the Government's open consultation on the reform of Planning Committees

Councillors discussed the proposed reforms of Planning Committees and considered suggested responses to the questions in the Government's open consultation on line survey.

Councillors agreed responses to the questions in the consultation and resolved that the Clerk should email the replies to the email address provided.

10 Update on Jacobs Wood and Swells Wood

a) Discussion on initial design options for notice boards

Councillors highlighted 2 versions of noticeboards and requested more detailed information.

It was agreed to hold a site meeting with local illustrator, Angie Thompson, to discuss creating a map of the site and producing the digital artwork.

b) Consideration for continued control of invasive weeds

It was resolved to fund an invasive weed spraying programme in Jacobs Wood and Swells Wood for a further two years at which point the situation will be reviewed.

c) Wayleave agreement

It was resolved to complete a Wayleave agreement with National Grid relating to Land Registry title: LAN277018.

It was noted that an asbestos removal company had been booked to remove the partially buried asbestos from an area in Swells Wood w/c 8th Sept.

Tree Wardens Report

The tree warden reported that the Community Orchard had a reasonable crop of apples but there were only a few plums this year. Westhead Primary School had been active with planting trees around the school field.

There continued to be grants and funding available for Hedgerow planting if any areas could be identified. It was noted that free hedgerow saplings had been ordered from The Woodland Trust for planting in November along a section of the boundary of Swells Wood.

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

SLRA was at stage 2 of the WLBC Planning Enforcement complaints procedure regarding the handing of issues raised with the enforcement team in relation to Shireoaks.

12 Exchanges of information. For information only (no discussion)

A dangerous log left at the edge of Plough Lane, as a result of the removal of a fallen tree in January, had now been removed by Highways.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Chairman

3rd September 2025