



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 8 April 2026.

Councillors in attendance: Cllr Andrew Chanter, Cllr Darren Steele (Chairman) and Cllr Andy Taylor

Apologies: Cllr Ernie Pallas

In attendance: One member of the public and Ward Cllr Linda Webster

MINUTES

1 To record apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Ernie Pallas.

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 11 March 2026

The minutes of the meeting of 11 March 2026 were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

4 Public Participation

No matters were raised by the public.

5 To ratify and authorise payment of accounts presented

Lloyds Bank	160326	Corporate Card payment Farm signs £65.70 + Safety signs £12.98 + Monthly fee £3	d.d	£81.68
Classic Benches	250326	Fingerpost repair	b.t	£610.00
NEST	260326	Clerk's Pension Mar 26	d.d	£167.23
J Smith	310326	Clerk's salary Mar 26	s.o	£774.27
Unity Trust Bank	310326	Fees	b.t	£8.05
Cricket Club	080426	Room hire	b.t	£50.00
Talk Mobile	090426	Mobile phone bill	d.d	£5.95

It was noted that the December 2025 room hire fee authorised for payment at the December 2025 meeting had not been made due to the change of bank accounts at that time. A payment adjustment had been made on 2 April 2026 to rectify the error.

Resolved: The accounts listed above be ratified and authorised for payment.

6 To receive income and expenditure figures for the financial year 2025/26

Balances as at 31 March 2026

Current account	£2,706.97
Instant access account	£53,290.81
CCLA	£249,359.14

TOTAL £305,356.92

Total opening balance as at 1 April 2025:	£298,547.60
Income	£53,621.66

Expenditure	£46,812.34
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Resulting balance on 31 March 2026 £305,356.92

It was noted that the balance included circa £284,000 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds, which were ringfenced for specific CIL projects in accordance with relevant statutory requirements.

7 To discuss any planning issues

No relevant planning applications had been received for discussion.

8 To approve the review of the Risk Management Register

It was agreed that the risk management register highlighted potential risks and the measures in place to mitigate or control them.

Resolved: The Clerk is to add reference numbers to the document. The Risk Management Register was approved.

9 Update on the Firwood Road Bridge Project

The Certificate of Estimated Costs, which should have been received by the end of January 2026, had still not been received. The LCC solicitor had been advised by Highways that they were now expected to be available by mid-April.

10 To review asbestos removal quotations

The Clerk advised that three new quotations had been requested for the estimated costs of removing the asbestos from Swells Wood. To date, only one company had provided a list of costs.

The Clerk has made further enquiries with the West Lancashire Borough Council Environmental Health Officer regarding the position of the Parish Council if the quotations received were beyond the financial capability of the Parish Council. A response had not yet been received.

It was agreed that once the quotations had been received, the Parish Council would contact Lancashire County Council to request financial support with the project.

11 To plan for Parish Council representation at the cricket club on 7 May 2026

Councillors discussed manning a Parish Council promotion stand outside the cricket club on 7 May to highlight the work of the Parish Council and encourage resident involvement.

It was agreed to purchase a customised Parish Council roller banner, to be designed by the Chairman, and to produce 200 flyers advertising the Annual General Meeting and Annual Parish Assembly, to be designed by the Clerk. It would not be possible to staff the stand continuously throughout the day. It was agreed that 3.30pm onwards would be the most productive time to have Parish Council representation.

12 To plan the biennial maintenance check on Parish Council assets

This item was deferred to the following meeting for a larger number of councillors to be available.

13 To discuss possible action to tackle littering and fly tipping on Statham Road

During the recent Parish Council Community Litter Pick event, it was noted that Statham Road was particularly vulnerable to fly-tipping and general litter.

Resolved: The Clerk will write to DHL, Asda, West Lancashire Borough Council and the land owner of the unoccupied development, requesting that a coordinated clear-up programme be implemented.

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

- When the new printer was purchased, HP were doing a cash back promotion. The clerk had received confirmation that the Parish Council cashback application had been approved and £40 would be credited straight into the bank account.
- Update on annual pay negotiations - National local government employers have offered a full and final offer of 3.3%. Unions have not yet accepted the offer.
- A Friends of Jacobs Wood meeting had been organised for Saturday, 18 April, meeting at 10am at the benches in Jacobs Wood.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.38pm.

D Steele

**Cllr Darren Steele
Chairman**

13 May 2026