

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 4th June 2025 at 7.00pm at St Paul's Parish Hall, Scotforth

Present: Councillor Nick Webster (Chairman)
Councillors Tim Dant, Kevan Walton and Heather Ward.
County Councillor Gina Dowding
Derek Whiteway, Parish Clerk

25/026 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Parrett and City Councillors Abi Mills and Tim Hamilton-Cox.

25/027 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council's Annual Meeting held on 7th May 2025 were approved without further amendment.

25/028 Declarations of Interest

No changes or new declarations were made.

25/029 Public discussion.

None.

25/030 Planning Applications

1) Planning Consultations

Application No	Description
None Received	

2) Update on Previous Planning Applications

The Clerk introduced an update on previous applications and planning issues. No new decisions had been made since the previous Council meeting

Planning application 22/0209/TPO - Proposed works to various trees... Aldcliffe Hall Drive. Councillors resolved to follow up with the City Council's Tree Officer the planting of replacement trees included in the approved application.

3) Other Planning Matters

Councillor Ward gave a verbal update on matters discussed at a recent City Council Planning Forum meeting. The Government's Planning and Infrastructure Bill is aiming to speed up construction. Local councils are to be given around 30 months for completing Local Plans, probably timed to coincide with the implementation of local government restructuring. The City Council's Local Plan is therefore scheduled for public examination in December 2027 and adoption in 2028.

For AwSPC and other areas with Neighbourhood Development Plans, the NDPs will continue, with local review. NDPs will in future need to adapt to new Local Plan when adopted. Councillors agreed to discuss proposals for reviewing the NDP at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

25/031 Clerk and Councillor Updates

1) City and County Councillor's Report:

Councillors discussed with County Councillor Dowding progress with several issues. Updates and further actions agreed are set out in the Clerk's Report (minute 25/031(2)).

Councillor Dowding also advised Councillors of changes being made to the County Council's issue reporting system, which would soon be introduced for Parish Councils.

2) Clerk's Report:

The Clerk presented a 'Decisions and Issues Tracker' report which had been previously circulated to Councillors.

Following discussion, Councillors agreed the following:

Ref	Decision/Issue	Update / Action
4	Aldcliffe Road fly-parking	County Councillor Dowding is to take up the issue again with Lancashire County Council.
6	Stodday hedgerows	County Highways have agreed to cut back the overgrowth that hides the full width of the carriageway on Stodday Lane. This had not yet been done. The Clerk will request an update.
11	Road surfacing works on Lunecliffe Road	Resurfacing works have been deferred indefinitely during construction works at the Stodday WwTW. County Councillor Dowding is to report to Lancashire County Council local concerns about the delay and ongoing safety issues

Ref	Decision/Issue	Update / Action
31	Website domain, emails addresses and IT Policy.	The SAPPP Practitioners Guide has raised expected standards for Parish Councils. The Clerk is to report to the July meeting on a draft IT Policy and an assessment of website and email standards.
32	Excessive cutting back of verges on the Greenway (estuary multi-use path).	County Councillor Dowding is to take up the matter with Lancashire County Council.
33	Issues re Japanese Knotweed and other invasive species along the Lune estuary.	The Clerk is to make further enquiries with relevant landowners and farmers.

Members' Updates

3) Highways (Chairman)

Nothing further to report.

4) Amenity, including the Lengthsman (Chairman)

Nothing further to report.

5) Stakeholder Liaison.

Nothing further to report.

6) Broadband.

Nothing further to report.

7) NDP.

Nothing further to report.

8) Other Matters

Councillors discussed reported concerns over inconsiderate and potentially dangerous driving by contractors using the Parish's highways. No action was identified at this stage, but Councillors agreed to remain vigilant to the problem.

25/032 Consultations

None received.

25/033 Finances

The Clerk introduced a report setting out the General Account budget position, Earmarked Reserve balances and Bank Reconciliation as at 28th May 2025. There were no extraordinary matters to report at this early stage in the financial year.

Resolved: That the report is noted

25/034 Payments

Payee & Detail	£
St Paul's Parish Hall – Meeting on 4 th May 2025 (Note 1)	25.20
Derek Whiteway – Parish Clerk salary and expenses, May 2025	192.53
HMRC – PAYE deductions, May 2025	48.00

Note 1. St Paul's Parish Hall Invoices for PC meetings are approved in advance and paid at the end of each calendar month.

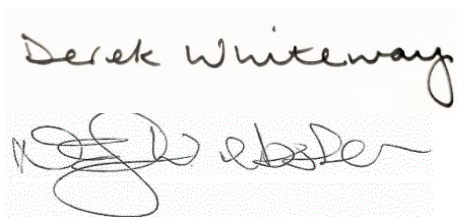
It was proposed by Councillor Ward, seconded by Councillor Walton and carried unanimously that the above payments be approved.

Resolved: That the above accounts be approved for payment.

25/035 Date and venue for next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 2nd July 2025 at St Paul's Parish Hall, Scotforth, commencing at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9:00pm



Clerk of the Council

Chair

Date: 2nd July 2025