

PILLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PILLING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**HELD ON WEDNESDAY
10th DECEMBER 2025 AT 7pm**



Present:

Pilling Parish Councillors:

*Neil Cookson, Chairman
Graham Curwen, Vice Chairman,
Steve Phillipotts,
Alf Whiteside,
Paul McWhirter
Liz Kiersey
Elizabeth Cookson
Dave Ponton
Julia Brewer (Clerk)*

5741 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Lisa Stanger, Cllr John Savage, and Wyre Cllr Adam Leigh.

5742 DECLARATION ON INTERESTS

Cllr G Curwen, Cllr P McWhirter declared their interests as members of Pilling Village Hall Committee.

Cllr S Phillipotts and Cllr A Whiteside declared their interests as members of the Broadfleet Outfall Flood Action Group.

5743 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved: *The minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2025 having been circulated were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.*

5744 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Standing orders were suspended to allow public to speak.

- **PCSO Hannah Yates**

E-Bikes: It was reported that action had been taken with regard to the issue of e-bikes.

Caravan on Head Dyke Lane: With regard to the caravan on Head Dyke Lane, PCSO Yates agreed to check that it had moved on.

- **Wyre Cllr Adam Leigh**

Wyre Cllr Adam Leigh had sent his apologies but sent a written report as follows:

Pilling Amenity Area - the amenity land is owned by the Environment Agency, and the mines and minerals rights are the Duchy of Lancaster confirmed by Land Registry.

Planning Application 25/00809/FUL: Cllr Leigh reported that he had met with the applicant with regard to the above planning application and that the applicant would be attending the meeting in person.

The applicant in question attended under public participation and outlined the background to the planning application and his need to retain the building as an integral part of his plans for future development and occupation of the site.

Resolved: The Parish Council meeting and Standing Orders were resumed.

5745 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk updated the Council on the arrangements over the Xmas period.

Resolved: The Clerk's Report was received.

5746 PARISH COUNCIL POLICIES

There were no policies to be discussed.

5747 CONFIRMATION OF BUDGET FOR 2026-27 AND AMOUNT OF PRECEPT

Following circulation and discussion of the budget it was agreed that the precept should be kept at £80,000 for the following year.

Resolved: The budget for 2026-27 was agreed and the precept set at £80,000.00 for 2026-27.

5748 REQUEST FOR A DONATION FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BROADFLEET OUTFALL FLOOD ACTION GROUP

Noted: Cllrs Phillipotts and Whiteside left the room for this item.

A letter had been received from David Wilkinson, Chair of the Broadfleet Outfall Flood Action Group requesting a donation from the Parish Council to help get the project up and running.

Resolved: The Parish Council agreed to a make donation of £500.00 to the group.

5749 PROPOSED MERGER BETWEEN LUNE VALLEY RHA AND SOUTH LAKES HOUSING

A letter had been received from Lune Valley Rural Housing Association regarding its proposed merger with South Lakes Housing. This was noted by the council but it was not considered that there were any issues of concern.

Resolved: Parish Council noted the letter regarding the proposed merger of Lune Valley RHA with South Lakes Housing.

5750 PILLING VILLAGE HALL: ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

A copy of the Village Hall Annual Report and Accounts had been received from the Parish Hall Committee for the information of the Parish Council.

Resolved: The Report was received by the Parish Council and the financial position of the Village Hall noted.

**5751 CHANGES TO THE FINANCIAL SERVICES COMPENSATION SCHEME:
PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE HINCKLEY & RUGBY
BUILDING SOCIETY TO THE REDWOOD BUSINESS SAVINGS ACCOUNT**

Following receipt of the notification that the limit under the FSCS had been increased from £85,000 to £120,000, it was proposed that funds from the Hinckley & Rugby Building Society be transferred to the Redwood Business Savings Account which was paying a higher rate of interest.

Resolved: The Parish Council agreed to the transfer of £50,000 from the Hinckley & Rugby Building Society to the Redwood Business Savings Account.

5752 COMMUNITY ACTION: DIGITAL DROP-INS

It was noted that the uptake for the Digital Drop-Ins had been poor, despite these being advertised through the website and in the parish magazine. However it was considered that these were very useful to those who had attended and it was therefore suggested that these be held on a less frequent basis and specifically after Christmas as there might be more people who needed help with new tablets/mobile phones they had received as gifts.

Resolved: The Parish Council agreed to continue with the Digital Drop-Ins on a quarterly basis and arrange one for early in the New Year so that people who had received new phones/tablets/laptops and needed assistance could avail themselves of the service.

5753 REQUEST FROM CLLR CURWEN FOR A DONATION TO PILLING SILVER JUBILEE BAND FOR SERVICES PROVIDED AT THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON

Cllr Curwen had made a request for a donation of £100 to be made as a gesture of appreciation for playing on the night of the Christmas Lights Switch-On.

Resolved: The Parish Council agreed to the request from Cllr Curwen for a donation to the Pilling Silver Jubilee Band.

5754 RESPONSE FROM LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL TO LETTER TO DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS

Councillors noted the response from Lancashire County Council Highways to the letter regarding outstanding issues within Pilling, specifically those of pedestrian crossings. It was agreed that this was not a satisfactory response and the Clerk together with the Chair of the Parish Council would prepare an appropriate response.

Resolved: Clerk and Chair to the Council to draft a response to Lancashire County Council Highways regarding the outstanding issues and previous agreements

5755 FOOD WASTE COLLECTIONS 2026

It was noted that Food Waste Collections would begin from April 2026 and Wyre Council had been in touch regarding opportunities to promote the issue and engage with residents.

Resolved: It was suggested that Wyre Council could be invited to attend the Village Hall on a Saturday when the café was open to engage with residents.

5756 EMAIL FROM A JENKINSON REGARD FLOODING ISSUES

An email had been received regarding flooding issues at Wormpool. The Parish Council were aware of the longstanding issues and steps had been taken to report blocked drains to Lancashire County Council. However it was noted that flooding

within Pilling was one of the issues Pilling Parish Council had been active in lobbying the Environment Agency and Lancashire County Council to take action on, and as a result of this, the Broadfleet Outfall Flood Action Group, chaired by David Wilkinson, had been formed to take things forward.

Resolved: Clerk to ensure that blocked drains were reported to Lancashire County Council and situation to be monitored by the Parish Lengthsman.

5757 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application Number: 25/01009/OUT

Proposal: Proposed outline application for the erection of 1 no. self-build agricultural worker dwelling.

Location: Northwoods Hill Farm New Lane Eagland Hill Pilling Preston

Resolved: It was felt that that there was insufficient information to consider the proposal and further information from Planning was to be requested.

Application Number: 25/00967/AGR

Proposal: Prior approval for erection of agricultural storage (midden)

Location: Orchard End New Lane Eagland Hill Pilling Preston

Resolved: The Parish Council had no objections to this proposal.

5758 FINANCE

Income:

St. John's Church	25.00	Grounds Maintenance
Pilling Village Hall	340.00	Monthly Loan Repayment
Lune Valley RHA	557.60	Grounds Maintenance
Lancashire County Council	704.00	Grounds Maintenance

Payments

Payment Type	Inv No	Date	Payee	Amount £	Reason
BACS		November 2025	HMRC	843.83	PAYE/ NI
BACS	2092	30/11/2025	Houghtons	45.00	Diesel/Petrol
DD		31/10/2025	Unity Trust	8.70	Bank charges
BACS			Salaries*	4788.60	Payroll/Pensions
DD		01/10/2025	Easy Websites	72.60	Website/Admin
SO		01/10/2025	PVH	100.00	Rental
DD	V024042542925	02/11/2025	EE	42.94	Mobile Phones
BACS	3982	14/11/2025	DFX Systems	60.00	Community Action (November)
BACS	249874	20/11/2025	StockSigns Ltd	3304.52	SPID
CP	PVH-0659	17/11/2025	Pilling Village Hall	35.00	Community Action
BACS	3996	4/12/2025	DFX Systems	70.00	Community Action (December)

BACS	SIN0254992	26/11/2025	C&C Supplies	46.46	Parish Maintenance
<i>*Including Pensions payment of £1152.01</i>					

Resolved: Councillors noted the income and approved the payments.

Bank Reconciliation to 30th November 2025

Unity Trust Bank	£14,437.83
Redwood Business Savings	£61,701.21
Hinckley & Rugby Building Society	£60,000.00

Resolved: Councillors accepted bank reconciliation and budget monitoring to 30th November 2025

5759 VERBAL REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

- **Chairman's Report**
Cllr Neil Cookson reported that he had met with Wyre Planning Enforcement Officer at Stakepool Drive regarding breach of planning regulations.
- **Over 60's Afternoon Tea**
Cllr E Cookson had agreed on the entertainment but just needed to check the dates.
- **Pilling Village Hall**
Nothing to report.
- **Wyre Area Lancashire Association of Local Councils**
Nothing to report.
- **Pilling in Bloom**
Cllr Neil Cookson reported that it was anticipated that the parish would be taking part in the competition next year.
- **Our Future Coast Working Group/Flooding Issues**
Cllr Whiteside reported that the contractors had to abandon their plans due to the bad weather but that they planned to return to complete the job in the Spring.
- **Create Homes/St Williams Gate**
Cllr Ponton reported that no progress had been made regarding his request for a meeting.

5760 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm.

Chairman

Date